

Quality Measures Fact Sheet

STK-06: Discharged on Statin Medication (NQF #0439)

National Quality Strategy Domain: Effective Communication and Care Coordination

Quality Measures Set: Alternate

Data Source: Registry

BPCI Advanced and Quality

The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation's (the CMS Innovation Center's) BPCI Advanced Model rewards health care providers for delivering services more efficiently, supports enhanced care coordination, and recognizes high quality care. Hospitals and clinicians should work collaboratively to achieve these goals, which have the potential to improve the BPCI Advanced Beneficiary experience and align to the CMS Quality Strategy goals of promoting effective communication and care coordination, highlighting best practices, and making care safer and more affordable. A goal of the BPCI Advanced Model is to promote seamless, patient-centered care throughout each Clinical Episode, regardless of who is responsible for a specific element of that care.

Background on Stroke and Statin Medications

Strokes result when part of the brain is damaged because of an interruption of normal blood flow. They may result in significant morbidity and /or reduced quality of life and may be fatal. Statin medications lower cholesterol levels and stabilize existing atherosclerotic plaques. Unless there is a contraindication, clinicians should prescribe statin medications to stroke patients to prevent further strokes. Statins are important for secondary prevention of strokes in patients with clinically evident atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD), including:

- individuals with ischemic stroke due to large artery atherosclerosis;
- individuals with ischemic stroke due to intrinsic small vessel disease, and
- individuals with ischemic stroke not directly due to atherosclerosis, but with clinically evident atherosclerotic disease in an uninvolved cerebral or noncerebral bed.⁶⁰

⁶⁰ Stone, N. J., Robinson, J., Lichtenstein, A. H., Merz C. N. B., Blum, C. B., Eckel, R. H., Goldberg, A. C., Gordon, D., Levy, D., Lloyd-Jones, D.M., McBride, P., Schwartz, J. S., Shero, S. T., Smith, S. C., Watson, K., Wilson, P. W (2013), Guideline on the Treatment of Blood Cholesterol to Reduce Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease in Adults: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines, *Circulation*, 11, 1-84. Retrieved from: <https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1161/01.cir.0000437738.63853.7a>.

CMS Innovation Center Rationale for Including the STK-06: Discharged on Statin Medication Measure in BPCI Advanced

Patients who have already suffered a stroke are at increased risk of suffering a subsequent stroke. The CMS Innovation Center included the STK-06: Discharged on Statin Medication measure for BPCI Advanced because it encourages providers to prescribe statin medications to stroke patients, which reduces the likelihood of further ASCVD events.⁶¹

Applicable Clinical Episodes

The STK-06: Discharged on Statin Medication measure is included in the Alternate Quality Measures Set and applies to the following inpatient Clinical Episode⁶²:

- Stroke: Medicare Severity–Diagnosis-Related Groups (MS-DRG) 061, 062, 063, 064, 065, and 066

Measure Specifications

The STK-06: Discharged on Statin Medication measure selected for BPCI Advanced follows National Quality Forum (NQF) #0439 measure specifications. The registry will calculate Acute Care Hospital (ACH) level performance for all patients included in the denominator. The term “patients” refers to people 18 years and older who undergo a procedure at the hospital associated with the Clinical Episodes from the “Applicable Clinical Episodes” section, not limited to Medicare beneficiaries or BPCI Advanced Beneficiaries. For Physician Group Practices (PGPs), the registry will calculate the measure as specified at individual hospitals, then the CMS Innovation Center will weight measure performance based on PGP Clinical Episode volume for each ACH where a PGP triggers an episode.

Denominator

The denominator for the STK-06: Discharged on Statin Medication measure includes all patients 18 or older whose health care teams discharged them alive from the hospital following treatment for a stroke. This measure is not limited to Medicare beneficiaries or BPCI Advanced Beneficiaries.

The exclusions for this measure include patients:

- younger than 18 years of age
- whose length of stay greater than 120 days
- with ‘Comfort Measures Only’ documented
- enrolled in clinical trials
- admitted for elective carotid Intervention
- discharged to another hospital
- discharged against medical advice
- who expired during the hospital stay
- discharged to home for hospice care
- discharged to a health care facility for hospice care

⁶¹ The Joint Commission (2018), Specifications manual for Joint Commission national quality measures, stroke STK. Retrieved from: <https://manual.jointcommission.org/releases/TJC2018B1/MIF0131.html>.

⁶² MS-DRGs are up to date as of Model Year 3 (2020) and will be updated for Model Year 4 as needed.

- who have a Reason for Not Prescribing Statin Medication at Discharge

Numerator

The numerator includes individuals in the previously defined denominator for whom providers prescribed statin medication at hospital discharge.

Measure Submission

BPCI Advanced Participants may submit this measure through the American Heart Association® (AHA) Get With The Guidelines (GWTG)®-Stroke Registry.

Revisions to the Published Specifications

There are no revisions to the current published specifications.

Composite Quality Score

The STK-06: Discharged on Statin Medication measure is one component of the BPCI Advanced Composite Quality Score (CQS) calculation. The CMS Innovation Center uses the CQS to adjust a portion of any Positive Total Reconciliation Amount and any Negative Total Reconciliation Amount. The CQS adjustment will not adjust the Positive Total Reconciliation Amount down by more than 10 percent, nor will it adjust the Negative Total Reconciliation Amount up by more than 10 percent. More information is available at the BPCI Advanced website provided below.

Other Resources

Organization/Resource	Website Address
NQF #0439 specifications	https://www.qualityforum.org/QPS/0439
BPCI Advanced	https://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/bpci-advanced
The Joint Commission measure specifications	https://manual.jointcommission.org/releases/TJC2018B1/MIF0131.html
AHA® GWTG®	https://www.heart.org/en/professional/quality-improvement
AHA® GWTG®-Stroke Registry	https://www.heart.org/en/professional/quality-improvement/get-with-the-guidelines/get-with-the-guidelines-stroke