

Why it Matters

The concurrent use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines increases the risk of dangerous drug interactions that can lead to respiratory depression, overdose and other severe complications. These drugs should be prescribed cautiously with close monitoring.

Definition

Percentage of patients 18 or older with concurrent use of prescription opioids and benzodiazepines.

Note: Patients are in the numerator when at least 2 fills of an opioid and 2 fills of a benzodiazepine and an overlapping days' supply for at least 30 cumulative during the measurement year. Lower rates represent better performance.

Compliance

Patients are considered compliant with this measure when concurrent use of opioids and benzodiazepines are limited to less than 30 cumulative overlapping days during the measurement year.

Drug Classes

Drug Class	Medication		
Opioids	Benzhydrocodone	Hydrocodone	Opium
	Buprenorphine	Hydromorphone	Oxycodone
	Butorphanol	Levorphanol	Oxymorphone
	Codeine	Meperidine	Pentazocine
	Dihydrocodeine	Methadone	Tapentadol
	Fentanyl	Morphine	Tramadol
Benzodiazepines	Alprazolam	Diazepam	Oxazepam
	Chlordiazepoxide	Estazolam	Quazepam
	Clobazam	Flurazepam	Temazepam
	Clonazepam	Lorazepam	Triazolam
	Clorazepate	Midazolam	

Gap Closure Methods

CPT II Codes	Structure Data	Documentation Submission
No	No	No

*Pharmacy claims only



Concurrent Use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines (COB)

Tips and Best Practices for COB

- Review concurrent use and consider discontinuing one of the medications or use alternative therapies
- Assist patients in explore alternative options for managing pain
- Coordinate care with all the patients entire care team to avoid co-prescriptions
- Educate patients on the risk of taking opioids and benzodiazepines concurrently

Concurrent Use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines Exclusions

Required Exclusions

Exclusion	Timeframe for Exclusion
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patients with at least 1 day of hospice care• Patients diagnosed with:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cancer• Sickle Cell Disease• Palliative care	Any time during the measurement year

The information provided by Oasis Health is for educational purposes only and does not constitute medical advice or care. Always consult a healthcare professional for medical concerns. Oasis Health assumes no responsibility for actions taken based on this information. HEDIS® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). Use of NCQA content requires appropriate licensing. Oasis Health's use of these materials does not imply endorsement by NCQA.