

## Potentially Harmful Drug-Disease Interactions in Older Adults (DDE)

| Measure title                                | Potentially Harmful Drug-Disease Interactions in Older Adults                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Measure ID | DDE |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----|
| Description                                  | <p>The percentage of persons 67 years of age and older who have evidence of an underlying disease, condition or health concern and who were dispensed an ambulatory prescription for a potentially harmful medication, concurrent with or after the diagnosis. Three rates are reported:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A history of falls and a prescription for anticholinergic agents, antiepileptics, antipsychotics, benzodiazepines, nonbenzodiazepine hypnotics or antidepressants (SSRIs, tricyclic antidepressants and SNRIs).</li><li>2. Dementia and a prescription for antipsychotics, benzodiazepines, nonbenzodiazepine hypnotics, tricyclic antidepressants or anticholinergic agents.</li><li>3. Chronic kidney disease and prescription for Cox-2 selective NSAIDs or nonaspirin NSAIDs.</li></ol> |            |     |
| Measurement period                           | January 1–December 31.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |            |     |
| Copyright and disclaimer notice              | <p>Refer to the complete copyright and disclaimer information at the front of this publication.</p> <p>NCQA website: <a href="http://www.ncqa.org">www.ncqa.org</a>.</p> <p>Submit policy clarification support questions via My NCQA (<a href="https://my.ncqa.org">https://my.ncqa.org</a>).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |            |     |
| Clinical recommendation statement/ rationale | <p>This measure is based on recommendations in the American Geriatrics Society (AGS) 2023 Updated Beers Criteria for Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use in Older Adults. The AGS Beers Criteria are one of the most widely used sources about the safety of medication prescribing in older adults. They include evidence-based recommendations on medications that are potentially harmful in all older adults and those with specific diseases or conditions.</p> <p>Refer to the <a href="#">HEDIS Measure Library &amp; Historical Data</a> measure web page for additional information about the clinical rationale.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                               |            |     |
| Citations                                    | <p>2023 American Geriatrics Society Beers Criteria Update Expert Panel. 2023. “American Geriatrics Society 2023 Updated Beers Criteria for Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use in Older Adults.” <i>Journal of the American Geriatrics Society</i> 71(7): 2052–81.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |            |     |
| Characteristics                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |            |     |
| Scoring                                      | Proportion.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |            |     |
| Type                                         | Process.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |            |     |
| Product lines                                | Medicare.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |            |     |

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| <b>Stratifications</b>      | None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Risk adjustment</b>      | None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Improvement notation</b> | Decreased score indicates improvement.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Guidance</b>             | <p><b>Data collection methodology:</b> Administrative. (Refer to <a href="#">General Guideline Data Collection Methods</a> for additional information.)</p> <p><b>Date specificity:</b> Dates must be specific enough to determine the event occurred in the period being measured.</p> <p><b>Which services count?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include all paid, suspended, pending and denied claims to identify the initial population and denominator exclusions.</li> <li>• Do not include denied claims when identifying numerator events; only include claims the organization paid for or expects to pay for (i.e., claims incurred but not paid).</li> </ul> <p><b>Supplemental data exceptions:</b> Supplemental data may not be used for this measure, except for denominator exclusions.</p> <p><b>Medication lists:</b> If an organization uses both pharmacy data (NDC codes) and clinical data (RxNorm codes) for reporting, and there are both NDC and RxNorm codes on the same date of service, use only one data source for the date of service.</p> <p><b>Other guidance:</b> Persons with more than one disease or condition may appear in the measure multiple times (i.e., in each indicator for which they qualify).</p> |
| <b>Definitions</b>          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>IESD</b>                 | <p>Index episode start date. The earliest diagnosis, procedure or prescription between January 1 of the year prior to the measurement period and December 1 of the measurement period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For an outpatient or ED visit, the <i>IESD is the date of service</i>.</li> <li>• For an inpatient discharge, the <i>IESD is the discharge date</i>.</li> <li>• For an acute or nonacute inpatient encounter identified only by a professional claim (where the discharge date cannot be determined), the <i>IESD is the date of service</i>.</li> <li>• For dispensed prescriptions, the <i>IESD is the dispense date</i>.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Initial population</b>   | <p><b>Measure item count:</b> Person.</p> <p><b>Attribution basis:</b> Enrollment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Benefits:</b> Medical and pharmacy.</li> <li>• <b>Continuous enrollment:</b> Measurement period and year prior to the measurement period.</li> <li>• <b>Allowable gap:</b> No more than one gap of ≤45 days during each year of the continuous enrollment period. No gaps on the last day of the measurement period.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

Ages: 67 years of age and older as of the last day of the measurement period.

**Event: Persons with at least one disease, condition or procedure in the measurement period or year prior to the measurement period.**

Refer to additional initial population criteria for each rate.

***Additional Initial Population Criteria***

**Initial population 1: Drug-disease interactions—History of falls and anticholinergic agents, antiepileptics, antipsychotics, benzodiazepines, nonbenzodiazepine hypnotics or antidepressants (SSRIs, Tricyclic antidepressants and SNRIs).**

An accidental fall or hip fracture on or between January 1 of the year prior to the measurement period and December 1 of the measurement period.

**Note:** Hip fractures are used as a proxy for identifying accidental falls.

Identify persons who had an accidental fall or a hip fracture. Persons with any of the following on or between January 1 of the year prior to the measurement period and December 1 of the measurement period meet criteria:

- An accidental fall (Falls Value Set\*).
- An outpatient visit, ED visit, acute inpatient encounter or nonacute inpatient encounter (Outpatient, ED, Acute Inpatient and Nonacute Inpatient Value Set) with a hip fracture (Hip Fractures Value Set).
- An acute or nonacute inpatient discharge with a hip fracture (Hip Fractures Value Set) on the discharge claim. To identify acute and nonacute inpatient discharges:
  1. Identify all acute and nonacute inpatient stays (Inpatient Stay Value Set).
  2. Identify the discharge date for the stay.

Identify the IESD for each person.

**Initial population 2: Drug-disease interactions—Dementia and antipsychotics, benzodiazepines, nonbenzodiazepine hypnotics, tricyclic antidepressants or anticholinergic agents.**

Identify persons with a diagnosis of dementia (Dementia Value Set\*) or a dispensed dementia medication (Dementia Medications List) on or between January 1 of the period prior to the measurement period and December 1 of the measurement period.

Identify the IESD for each person.

**Initial population 3: Drug-disease interactions—Chronic kidney disease and Cox-2 selective NSAIDs or nonaspirin NSAIDs.**

Identified chronic kidney disease by any of the following on or between January 1 of the period prior to the measurement period and December 1 of the measurement period:

- ESRD (ESRD Diagnosis Value Set\*).
- Stage 4 chronic kidney disease (CKD Stage 4 Value Set\*).
- Dialysis (Dialysis Procedure Value Set).

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|                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nephrectomy (<u>Total Nephrectomy Value Set</u>).</li> <li>• Kidney Transplant (<u>Kidney Transplant Value Set</u>).</li> </ul> <p>Identify the IESD for each person.</p> <p><b>Coding Guidance</b></p> <p>*Do not include laboratory claims (claims with POS code 81).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Denominator exclusions</b> | <p><b><i>The following exclusions apply to all denominators.</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Deceased persons.</b><br/>Persons who died any time on or before the last day of the measurement period, identified using data sources determined by the organization. Method and data sources are subject to review during the HEDIS audit.</li> <li>• <b>Persons in hospice or using hospice services.</b><br/>Persons who use hospice services (<u>Hospice Encounter Value Set</u>; <u>Hospice Intervention Value Set</u>) or elect to use a hospice benefit any time during the measurement period. Organizations that use the Monthly Membership Detail Data File to identify these persons must use only the run date of the file.</li> <li>• <b>Persons receiving palliative care.</b><br/>Persons receiving palliative care (<u>Palliative Care Observations Value Set</u>; <u>Palliative Care Procedures Value Set</u>) or who had an encounter for palliative care (ICD-10-CM code Z51.5*) any time during the measurement period.</li> </ul> <p><b>Additional denominator 1 exclusions.</b><br/>Persons with at least one of the following diagnoses on or between January 1 of the year prior to the measurement period and December 1 of the measurement period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psychosis (<u>Psychosis Value Set*</u>).</li> <li>• Schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder (<u>Schizophrenia Value Set*</u>).</li> <li>• Manic episodes or bipolar disorder (<u>Manic Episodes and Bipolar Disorders Value Set*</u>).</li> <li>• Major depressive disorder (<u>Major Depression or Dysthymia Value Set*</u>).</li> <li>• Seizure disorder (<u>Seizure Disorders Value Set*</u>).</li> </ul> <p><b>Additional denominator 2 exclusions.</b><br/>Persons with at least one of the following diagnoses on or between January 1 of the year prior to the measurement period and December 1 of the measurement period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psychosis (<u>Psychosis Value Set*</u>).</li> <li>• Schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder (<u>Schizophrenia Value Set*</u>).</li> <li>• Manic episodes or bipolar disorder (<u>Manic Episodes and Bipolar Disorders Value Set*</u>).</li> </ul> <p><b>Coding Guideline</b></p> <p>*Do not include laboratory claims (claims with POS code 81).</p> |

| Denominator          | <p><b>Denominator 1:</b> The initial population and additional initial population 1 criteria minus denominator exclusions and additional denominator 1 exclusions.</p> <p><b>Denominator 2:</b> The initial population and additional initial population 2 criteria minus denominator exclusions and additional denominator 2 exclusions.</p> <p><b>Denominator 3:</b> The initial population and additional initial population 3 criteria minus denominator exclusions.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                        |              |                        |                |         |          |          |                   |                 |                      |            |                 |  |             |                 |  |                  |                 |  |      |           |
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| Numerator            | <p><b>Numerator 1: Drug-Disease Interactions—History of Falls And Antiepileptics, Antipsychotics, Benzodiazepines, Nonbenzodiazepine Hypnotics or Antidepressants (SSRIs, Tricyclic Antidepressants and SNRIs).</b><br/>Dispensed an ambulatory prescription for an antiepileptic, SSRI, SNRI, anticholinergic agent, antipsychotic, benzodiazepine, nonbenzodiazepine hypnotic or tricyclic antidepressant (<u>Potentially Harmful Drugs for Older Adults With a History of Falls Medications List</u>) on or between the IESD and the last day of the measurement period.</p> <p><b>Numerator 2: Drug-Disease Interactions—Dementia and Antipsychotics, Benzodiazepines, Nonbenzodiazepine Hypnotics, Tricyclic Antidepressants or Anticholinergic Agents.</b><br/>Dispensed an ambulatory prescription for an antipsychotic, benzodiazepine, nonbenzodiazepine hypnotic, tricyclic antidepressant or anticholinergic agent (<u>Potentially Harmful Drugs for Older Adults With a History of Dementia Medications List</u>) on or between the IESD and the last day of the measurement period.</p> <p><b>Numerator 3: Drug-Disease Interactions—Chronic Kidney Disease and Cox-2 Selective NSAIDS or Nonaspirin NSAIDS.</b><br/>Dispensed an ambulatory prescription for a Cox-2 selective NSAID or nonaspirin NSAID (<u>Potentially Harmful Drugs for Older Adults With a History of Chronic Kidney Disease Medications List</u>) on or between the IESD and the last day of the measurement period.</p> |                        |              |                        |                |         |          |          |                   |                 |                      |            |                 |  |             |                 |  |                  |                 |  |      |           |
| Summary of changes   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No changes to this measure.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                        |              |                        |                |         |          |          |                   |                 |                      |            |                 |  |             |                 |  |                  |                 |  |      |           |
| Data element tables  | <p>Organizations that submit HEDIS data to NCQA must provide the following data elements.</p> <p><b>Table DDE-3: Data Elements for Potentially Harmful Drug-Disease Interactions in Older Adults</b></p> <table><tr><th>Metric</th><th>Data Element</th><th>Reporting Instructions</th></tr><tr><td>HistoryOfFalls</td><td>Benefit</td><td>Metadata</td></tr><tr><td>Dementia</td><td>InitialPopulation</td><td>For each Metric</td></tr><tr><td>ChronicKidneyDisease</td><td>Exclusions</td><td>For each Metric</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Denominator</td><td>For each Metric</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>NumeratorByAdmin</td><td>For each Metric</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Rate</td><td>(Percent)</td></tr></table>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Metric                 | Data Element | Reporting Instructions | HistoryOfFalls | Benefit | Metadata | Dementia | InitialPopulation | For each Metric | ChronicKidneyDisease | Exclusions | For each Metric |  | Denominator | For each Metric |  | NumeratorByAdmin | For each Metric |  | Rate | (Percent) |
| Metric               | Data Element                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Reporting Instructions |              |                        |                |         |          |          |                   |                 |                      |            |                 |  |             |                 |  |                  |                 |  |      |           |
| HistoryOfFalls       | Benefit                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Metadata               |              |                        |                |         |          |          |                   |                 |                      |            |                 |  |             |                 |  |                  |                 |  |      |           |
| Dementia             | InitialPopulation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | For each Metric        |              |                        |                |         |          |          |                   |                 |                      |            |                 |  |             |                 |  |                  |                 |  |      |           |
| ChronicKidneyDisease | Exclusions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | For each Metric        |              |                        |                |         |          |          |                   |                 |                      |            |                 |  |             |                 |  |                  |                 |  |      |           |
|                      | Denominator                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | For each Metric        |              |                        |                |         |          |          |                   |                 |                      |            |                 |  |             |                 |  |                  |                 |  |      |           |
|                      | NumeratorByAdmin                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | For each Metric        |              |                        |                |         |          |          |                   |                 |                      |            |                 |  |             |                 |  |                  |                 |  |      |           |
|                      | Rate                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | (Percent)              |              |                        |                |         |          |          |                   |                 |                      |            |                 |  |             |                 |  |                  |                 |  |      |           |

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| <b>Rules for Allowable Adjustments</b> | <p><b>Copyright and use:</b> The “Rules for Allowable Adjustments of HEDIS” (the “Rules”) describe how NCQA’s HEDIS measure specifications can be adjusted for other populations, if applicable. The Rules, reviewed and approved by NCQA measure experts, provide for expanded use of HEDIS measures without changing their clinical intent.</p> <p><b>Adjusted HEDIS measures may not be used for HEDIS health plan reporting.</b></p> <p><b>ADJUSTMENTS ALLOWED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Product lines.</i> Organizations are not required to use product line criteria; product lines may be combined, and all (or no) product line criteria may be used.</li> <li>• <i>Attribution.</i> Organizations are not required to use enrollment criteria.</li> <li>• <i>Benefits.</i> Organizations are not required to use a benefit.</li> <li>• <i>Other.</i> Organizations may use additional initial population criteria to focus on an area of interest defined by gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic or sociodemographic characteristics, geographic region or another characteristic.</li> <li>• <i>Denominator 1–3 exclusions.</i> The hospice, deceased persons and palliative care exclusions are not required.</li> <li>• <i>Telehealth.</i> Services/events that allow the use of synchronous telehealth visits, telephone visits and asynchronous telehealth (e-visits, virtual check-ins) may be stratified to identify services performed via telehealth. This adjustment is not allowed for events, numerators and exclusions that do not allow the use of telehealth.</li> <li>• <i>Supplemental data.</i> Supplemental data may be used to identify initial population, denominator, exclusion and numerator events.</li> </ul> <p><b>ADJUSTMENTS ALLOWED WITH LIMITS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ages.</i> The age determination dates may be changed (e.g., select, “age as of June 30”). Changing the denominator age range is allowed if the limits are within the specified age range (65 years and older). The denominator age may not be expanded.</li> <li>• <i>Initial population 1:</i> History of falls. Organizations may use multiple episodes during a measurement period (vs. using only the Index Episode).</li> <li>• <i>Numerators 1–3:</i> Organizations may include denied claims to calculate the numerators. Medication lists and logic may not be changed.</li> </ul> <p><b>ADJUSTMENTS NOT ALLOWED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Initial population 2:</i> Dementia. The medication lists, value sets and logic may not be changed.</li> <li>• <i>Initial population 3:</i> Chronic kidney disease. The value sets and logic may not be changed.</li> <li>• <i>Denominator 1 and denominator 2 exclusions.</i> The psychosis, schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, manic episodes or bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder and seizure disorder exclusions must be applied. The value sets, medication lists and logic may not be changed.</li> </ul> |
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