HEDIS® MEASURE – Important Facts

PERSISTENCE OF BETA BLOCKER TREATMENT AFTER A HEART ATTACK (PBH)

Measure Description:
The percentage of members 18 years of age and older during the measurement year who:

- Were hospitalized and discharged alive from July 1 of the year prior to the measurement year to June 30 of the measurement year,

- And, were diagnosed with acute myocardial infarction (AMI). (ICD-9 codes for AMI include: 410.01, 410.11, 410.21, 410.31, 410.41, 410.51, 410.61, 410.71, 410.81, 410.91)

- And, received persistent beta blocker treatment for six months after discharge, as documented through pharmacy claims &/or chart review.

Best Practice:
The American College of Cardiology (ACC) and the American Heart Association (AHA) recommend:

- Prescribing beta blockers in all patients with a history of an AMI, unless contraindicated [intolerance or allergy to beta blocker therapy and respiratory diseases].

Why This Measure is Important:

- Every year about 715,000 Americans have a heart attack. Of these, 525,000 are a first heart attack and 190,000 are due to a recurrent heart attack.

- Approximately 40% of people who have a heart attack die from that MI.

- It’s just not for men- 42% of women who have heart attacks die within 1 year compared to men (24%).

- Coronary heart disease alone costs the United States $108.9 billion each year. (Amount includes the cost of health care services, medications, and lost productivity.)

- Despite medical evidence that the use of beta blockers improves survival after an MI, they are underutilized. Unless contraindicated, beta blocker therapy should be continued indefinitely post MI.

Sources:
www.heart.org
www.cdc.gov

Please Note: the above codes are utilized by NCQA for HEDIS reporting. Reimbursement is subject to the provider agreement and member’s contract. If you have questions, please call the Provider Relations Department @ 1-800-451-4447 or 570-200-4700

Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania is committed to Quality Care for all of its members. This is accomplished through the use of Best Practice Clinical Guidelines