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To: All WellSense Providers

From: WellSense Health Plan

Subject: **HEDIS Initiation and Engagement of Substance Use Disorder (IET) measure tips**

Product: NH Medicaid NH Medicare Advantage

HEDIS Initiation and Engagement of Substance Use Disorder Treatment (IET) measure tips

The HEDIS Initiation and Engagement of Substance Use Disorder Treatment (IET) measure assesses the percentage of new substance use disorder (SUD) episodes that result in treatment initiation and engagement. The metrics included in the measure are:

- **Initiation of SUD Treatment**

The percentage of new SUD episodes that result in treatment initiation through an inpatient SUD admission, outpatient visit, intensive outpatient encounter, partial hospitalization, telehealth visit or medication treatment within 14 days of the diagnosis.

- **Engagement of SUD Treatment**

The percentage of new SUD episodes that have evidence of treatment engagement within 34 days of initiation.

What you can do to help improve HEDIS IET rates

- When a claim is submitted with an initial diagnosis of a SUD, a follow-up visit should be scheduled within two weeks of diagnosis. To meet compliance, the patient needs to have one visit within 14 days of the initial diagnosis and two additional visits within 34 days of the initial diagnosis. You must document claims for a follow-up visit with the same diagnosis as the initial diagnosis.

Provider Communications

New Hampshire



- If there isn't a referral to a behavioral health provider, follow-up PCP visits as engagement for the IET measure.
- Telehealth and virtual visits are acceptable as long as the SUD diagnosis is submitted on the claim.
- If your office uses an integrated care model, it may help to refer the patient to a behavioral health practitioner to help the patient feel more comfortable receiving the initial evaluation.

For more information and best practices on this and other HEDIS measures, please visit [here](#).

Questions?

Please contact us at QualityDept@wellsense.org with any questions.