

1519/5732 SUD Treatment Initiation and Engagement (INI and ENG)

MEASURE DEFINITION

Access and effectiveness of care

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| Measure | SUD Treatment Initiation and Engagement (Washington Circle adaptation) |
| Definitions | <p>Initiation of SUD treatment – Percent of adult and youth SUD outpatient and intensive outpatient service episodes where the client received at least one face-to-face treatment session within the 14 days following the start of a SUD OP/IOP service episode</p> <p>Engagement of SUD treatment – Percent of adult and youth SUD outpatient and intensive outpatient service episodes where the client received at least two face-to-face treatment session within the 30 days following “initiation” of SUD treatment during an OP/IOP service episode</p> |
| Populations | All service contracting entities |
| Source | State adaptation of the Washington Circle definition. The Washington Circle is a group of national experts in substance use policy, research, and performance management seeking to improve the effectiveness of prevention and treatment services through the use of performance measurement systems. The Washington Circle has been convened and supported by the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment since 1998. |

Justification for Measure

Initially, the Criminal Justice and Forensic Patients workgroup (as directed by 2SSB 5732 and EHB 1519) selected the pre-existing “Chemical Dependency Treatment Retention” to incentivize access to alcohol and drug treatment for adults, including criminally-involved individuals¹. Subsequently, the Regional Support Network 1519 Performance Measure Workgroup provided guidance that the Washington Circle’s Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Initiation and Engagement measure better captured SUD providers’ actions that contribute to patients’ sustained involvement in SUD treatment.

Type of Measure

This measure examines a client’s experience after the start of an outpatient or intensive outpatient SUD service episode to assess whether a sequence of qualifying service events has occurred.

¹ Report to the Legislature on the Behavioral Health Improvement Strategy Implementation Status, 2SSB 5732, Section 2 Chapter 388 Laws of 2013, August 1, 2014.

Description

- **Initiation of SUD Treatment.** The percentage of members who “initiate” treatment within the 14 days following the start of an outpatient or intensive outpatient SUD service episode through one of the following: a face-to-face outpatient treatment session, at least one day of residential SUD treatment, or at least one Opiate Substitution “dose day”.
 - **Engagement of SUD Treatment.** The percentage of members who initiated treatment AND had at least two additional days of SUD tx within the 30 days following initiation of SUD treatment. The two days of treatment criteria can be met with any combination of days with a face-to-face outpatient treatment session, a residential SUD tx overnight, or Opiate Substitution “dose day”.
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Intake Period January 1–November 15 of the measurement year. The Intake Period is used to capture new outpatient and intensive outpatient SUD service episodes.

Episode A service episode is defined as a group of SUD OP treatment encounters that occurs within 30-days of one another (or a single encounter if no other SUD OP treatment encounter is found in the surrounding 30-day period). The service episode is calculated at the BHO level and may include OP services from multiple providers.

ESD Episode Start Date. The start date of an outpatient or intensive outpatient SUD service episode during the Intake Period.

Eligible Population Definitions

Age 10 years and older as of December 31 of the measurement year. Report two age stratifications and a total rate.

- 12 - 17 years.
- 18+ years.

Continuous enrollment 60 days (2 months) prior to the ESD through 44 days after the ESD (inclusive). In addition, the following reporting restriction applies:

- For a member to be attributed to a specific BHO, the member must be continuously enrolled in Medicaid AND continuously reside in the BHO service area in the continuous enrollment period.

Allowable gap None.

Anchor date None.

Event/diagnosis Start of a new SUD outpatient or intensive outpatient service episode during the Intake Period.

Follow the steps below to identify the eligible population, which is the denominator for both rates.

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| Step 1 | For clients of the BHO, identify all qualifying SUD treatment encounters (Appendix A) in P1 occurring from 60 days prior to the start of the measurement period through 44-days after the end of the measurement period. |
| Step 2 | Create client level OP episodes at the provider level by stringing together all qualifying OP activities (specified in Appendix A under “OP face to face” or “Co-occurring disorder”) for a given client occurring within 30 days of one another. Do not include OP tx encounters occurring on the same date as an OST dose in the calculation of OP episodes. |
| Step 3 | <p>Exclude OP episodes meeting any of the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Presence of residential or OST service (specified in Appendix A under “Opiate Substitution” or “Residential”) or another OP episode ending less than 60 days prior to start of OP episode being evaluated. b. Presence of residential or OST service (specified in Appendix A under “Opiate Substitution” or “Residential”) beginning prior to the start of the OP episode being evaluated and ending after the start of the OP episode being evaluated. In this instance the “start date” in P1 may be greater than 60 days prior to the start of the OP episode but the “end date” in P1 would be on or after the start date of the OP episode. c. Client was not Medicaid enrolled from 60 days prior through 44 days after the start of OP episode being evaluated. d. The client received a medication-assisted-treatment prescription (excluding Methadone OST treatment) during the 44 days after the start of OP episode being evaluated. |
| Step 4 | <p>For each OP episode remaining after exclusion specified in Step 3 determine if initiation and engagement occurred by identifying if either of the following events occurred within the time frame required for initiation and engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A qualifying OP encounters from P1 (specified in Appendix A under “OP face to face” or “Co-occurring disorder”), or b. A qualifying residential or OST service (specified in Appendix A under “OP face to face” or “Co-occurring disorder”) from P1. <p>Note that each residential overnight stay is considered a qualifying service.</p> <p>Initiation requires that at least one qualifying activity occurs within 14 days following the start of the episode. The date of the first activity occurring within the 14 days following the start of the episode is the “initiation date”. Do not include services received on the start date of the episode when determining whether initiation of treatment has occurred.</p> <p>Engagement requires that at least two qualifying activities occur within the 30 days following the initiation date.</p> |
| Step 5 | For each client, select the first episode starting within the measurement period for reporting. |

Administrative Specification

Denominator The eligible population as defined in the preceding section.

Numerators

Initiation of SUD Treatment Initiation of SUD treatment: occurrence of at least one face-to-face outpatient treatment session within 14 days following the start of a new SUD outpatient or intensive outpatient service episode or at least one day of residential SUD treatment or Opiate Substitution treatment (Appendix A). Treatment activity on the episode start date does not count towards initiation. Qualifying events need not occur with the provider starting the episode. All qualifying SUD and COD services (Appendix A) received by the client within the 14 day time frame count towards initiation.

Engagement of SUD Treatment Engagement of SUD treatment: occurrence of at least two additional days of SUD tx within the 30 days following initiation of SUD treatment. The two days of treatment criteria can be met with any combination of days with a face-to-face outpatient treatment session, a residential SUD tx overnight stay, or an Opiate Substitution “dose day” (Appendix A). Qualifying events need not occur with the provider starting the episode. All qualifying SUD and COD services (Appendix A) received by the client within the 30-days following initiation.

APPENDIX A: CPT / Modifier Combinations for Calculating Initiation/Engagement

| CPT | Definition | Modifiers |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| OP face to face | | |
| H0004 | Behavioral health counseling and therapy, per 15 minutes | HD, HF (required), HZ, TG, U5, UA |
| 96153 | Health and behavior intervention, each 15 minutes, face-to-face; group (2 or more patients) | HD, HZ, TG, U5, UA |
| 96154 | Health and behavior intervention, each 15 minutes, face-to-face; family (with the patient present) | HD, HZ, TG, U5, UA |
| Opiate Substitution | | |
| H0020 | Alcohol and/or drug services; methadone administration and/or service (provision of the drug by a licensed program) | HD, HZ, U5 |
| Residential | | |
| H0018 | Behavioral health; short-term residential (nonhospital residential treatment program), without room and board, per diem | HD, HF (required), HZ, TG, U5 |
| H0019 | Behavioral health; long-term residential (nonmedical, nonacute care in a residential treatment program where stay is typically longer than 30 days), without room and board, per diem | HD, HF (required), HZ, TG, U5 |
| H2036 | Alcohol and/or other drug treatment program, per diem | HD, HZ, U5 |
| Co-Occurring Disorder | | |
| 90832 | Psychotherapy, 30 minutes with patient and/or family member. | GT, HH(R), U8, UD |
| 90833 | Psychotherapy, 30 minutes with patient and/or family member when performed with an evaluation and management service (List separately in addition to the code for primary procedure). | GT, HH(R), U8, UD |
| 90834 | Psychotherapy, 45 minutes with patient and/or family member. | GT, HH(R), U8, UD |
| 90836 | Psychotherapy, 45 minutes with patient and/or family member when performed with an evaluation and management service (List separately in addition to the code for primary procedure). | GT, HH(R), U8, UD |
| 90837 | Psychotherapy, 60 minutes with patient and/or family member. | GT, HH(R), U8, UD |
| 90838 | Psychotherapy, 60 minutes with patient and/or family member when performed with an evaluation and management service (List separately in addition to the code for primary procedure). | GT, HH(R), U8, UD |
| 90847 | Family psychotherapy (conjoint psychotherapy) (with patient present) | HH(R), U8, UD |
| 90849 | Multiple-family group psychotherapy | HH(R), U8, UD |
| 90853 | Group psychotherapy (other than of a multiple-family group) | HH(R), U8, UD |
| H0004 | Behavioral health counseling and therapy, per 15 minutes | HH(R), U8, UD |