

Important Facts about:

HEDIS Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Alcohol or Other Drug Abuse or Dependence (FUA) and Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Mental Illness (FUM)

What is the Measure?

The percentage of members 13 years of age and older that had an emergency department visit with principal diagnosis of alcohol or other drug abuse/dependence (FUA) or 6 years of age and older with diagnosis of mental illness (FUM) and had a follow-up appointment with any practitioner (within 7 days of discharge and within 30 days of being seen in the emergency department).

Why This Measure is Important:

- Millions of Americans over the age of 12 years old have a diagnosis of substance use disorder involving alcohol or other drug abuse.
- Individuals with a diagnosis of substance use disorder utilize the emergency department at a high rate.
- This may indicate that individuals with substance use disorder have a lack of access to care and/or difficulty with continuity of care.
- Mental illness affects individuals of all ages.
- Appropriate follow-up care is linked to fewer repeat emergency department visits, improved mental functioning, and improved compliance with follow-up care directions.

How can I improve my HEDIS scores?

1. **Educate your patients** about appropriate use of the emergency department.
2. **Make sure patients** have an appointment with a medical or behavioral health provider within 5 days of being seen in the emergency department.
3. **Follow up with your patient** to see if they attended the appointment and if not, schedule another within 30 days of being seen in the emergency department.