

CAHPS® Tips:

Medical Assistance with Smoking and Tobacco Use Cessation (MSC)

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

The following components of this measure assess different facets of providing medical assistance with smoking and tobacco use cessation.

1. *Advising Smokers and Tobacco Users to Quit.* A rolling average represents the percentage of patients 18 years of age and older who are current smokers or tobacco users and who received advice to quit during the measurement year.
2. *Discussing Cessation Medications.* A rolling average represents the percentage of patients 18 years of age and older who are current smokers or tobacco users and who discussed or were recommended cessation medications during the measurement year.
3. *Discussing Cessation Strategies.* A rolling average represents the percentage of patients 18 years of age and older who are current smokers or tobacco users and who discussed or were provided cessation methods or strategies during the measurement year.

This measure is collected annually as part of the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers Systems (CAHPS) survey.

HOW TO IMPROVE CAHPS® SCORES

- Advise patients to quit smoking, screen for tobacco use status at each encounter, document it, and submit all correct billing codes.
- Offer at least a minimal intervention to every tobacco user, this can overall increase abstinence rates. Engage patients and family.
- Consider treatment options for patients trying to quit. The counseling and medication is more effective than either medication or counseling alone. Consider both for patients trying to quit.
- Review Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/stateandcommunity/best_practices/pdfs/2014/comprehensive.pdf
- Review American Lung Association: <https://www.lung.org/>

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