**HEDIS® Measure – Care for Older Adults Guidelines**

Care for Older Adults is one category included in the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL) Quality Improvement (QI) program for the Blue Cross Community MMAI (Medicare-Medicaid Plan) product. The BCBSIL QI program is based on the view that the delivery of medical care and services can be continuously improved. Care for Older Adults is a Preventive Screening Measure for members 66 years and older that contains the categories outlined below.

**Advanced Care Planning:** There must be documentation in the medical record, on a yearly basis, of an advance care plan or discussion regarding who can make medical decisions for the member if they are unable to make them.

**Medication Review:** There must be documentation in the medical record, on at least a yearly basis, that the member’s medications were reviewed by a prescribing practitioner or clinical pharmacist.

**Functional Status Assessment:** There must be documentation in the medical record, on at least a yearly basis, that the member’s functional status has been reviewed for the following categories:

- **Activities of Daily Living (ADL)** were assessed for at least five areas (e.g., bathing, dressing, eating, using toilet, walking, transferring to include getting in and out of chairs).
- **Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL)** were assessed in four areas (e.g., meal preparation, transportation, telephone use, etc.)
- **Notation that at least three of the following four areas were assessed:** cognitive status; ambulation status; hearing, vision and speech; other functional independence (e.g., exercise, perform job, etc.)
- **Result of a standardized functional assessment tool** such as, Bayer ADL (B-ADL) Scale, Barthel Index, Independent Living Scale (ILS), Klein-Bell ADL Scale, etc.

**Pain Assessment:** There must be documentation in the medical record, on a yearly basis, that a pain assessment was performed. Tools such as a brief pain inventory of the entire body, pain thermometer or numeric pain scale (e.g., 1-10), or Pictorial Pain Scales (Faces Pain Scale, Wong-Baker Pain Scale), etc., must be used.

Each category of this measure can be captured through claims data, so it is important for providers to use the correct Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) codes when billing for services.

The BCBSIL Medicaid QI Department strives to ensure that members have access to quality care that is in alignment with nationally recognized practice and treatment standards. The QI team includes registered nurses in the state of Illinois, with many years of clinical, quality improvement and management experience.

The information mentioned here is for informational purposes only and is not a substitute for the independent medical judgment of a health care provider. Physicians and other health care providers are to use their own best medical judgment based upon all available information and the condition of the patient in determining the best course of treatment.

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