



Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease

Quick Reference Guide

2026

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MEASURE SNAPSHOT

CMS Part C Star Measure: C19 - Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease

CMS Definition: This measure evaluates the percentage of patients with cardiovascular disease who are dispensed an appropriate cholesterol lowering medication.¹ It includes **males aged 21 to 75 and females aged 40 to 75** with clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease who received **at least one high- or moderate-intensity statin** during the measurement year.¹

FIELD	ENTRY
CMS measure name	Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease, SPC
Domain	Managing Chronic (Long Term) Conditions
CMS weighting category	Process Measure
Weight	1, standard-weighted
Primary data source	HEDIS; medical and pharmacy claims
Unit of measurement	CMS contract-level measure; individual clinicians and practices do not receive a C19 Star Rating
Trend direction	Higher is better
Case-mix adjusted	No ¹
Measurement period	01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024; two years before reporting year ¹
Star measure credit	One filled pharmacy claim for a high- or moderate-intensity statin during the measurement year, confirmed by the claim. Prescriptions, samples, chart notes, and cash fills do not count, and there is no chart-review pathway. This is a dispensing measure, not an adherence measure ¹
Dispensing rate versus adherence rate	The HEDIS SPC specification reports two rates: dispensing (at least one qualifying statin fill during the year) and adherence (proportion of days covered of at least 80 percent). CMS scores C19 on the dispensing rate only^{1,2}
Statistical method	Clustering. Cut points are recalculated each year from the distribution of contract scores and are not fixed targets ¹
Not reported for	I-SNP-only contracts, and Prescription Drug Plans ¹
Statin intensity examples	High-intensity: atorvastatin 40–80 mg rosuvastatin 20–40 mg Moderate-intensity: atorvastatin 10–20 mg rosuvastatin 5–10 mg pravastatin 40–80 mg simvastatin 20–40 mg lovastatin 40 mg Low-intensity agents and doses do not satisfy the numerator²

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