



April 2024

## Statin Use in Persons with Cardiovascular Disease (SPC) Measure Exclusion Criteria: HEDIS® 2024 Measurement Year

Please note, this communication applies to Healthy Blue + Medicare<sup>SM</sup> (HMO-POS D-SNP) offered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (Blue Cross NC).

### Measure Details

#### Eligibility Criteria:

Numerator	Males 21 to 75 years of age and females 40 to 75 years of age as of December 31, 2024, who were dispensed at least one high- or moderate-intensity statin medication during 2024.
Denominator	Males 21 to 75 years of age and females 40 to 75 years of age as of December 31, 2024, who have been diagnosed with clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) during 2024.

#### Did You Know?

Certain adverse reactions to a statin medication may exclude the patient from the measure denominator if properly documented. See required exclusions below.

#### Required Exclusions:

- Diagnosis of myalgia, myositis, myopathy, or rhabdomyolysis during 2024:
  - **Important note: The above exclusionary diagnoses must be documented each year. A diagnosis from a prior year will not carry over to the current year. These exclusionary diagnoses can come from claims or medical record data. Medical record documentation must contain two patient identifiers.**
- Diagnosis of pregnancy during 2024
- Diagnosis of in-vitro fertilization in 2023 or 2024
- Dispensed at least one prescription for clomiphene during 2023 or 2024
- 66 years of age and older who are enrolled in an Institutional Special Needs Plan (I-SNP) or living long term in an institution during 2024
- 66 years of age and older with advanced illness during 2023 and/or 2024 **and** frailty during 2024

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<https://www.bluecrossnc.com/providers/networks-programs/blue-medicare/healthy-blue-medicare>

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Senior Health, DBA Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, is an HMO-POS D-SNP plan with a Medicare contract and a NC State Medicaid Agency Contract (SMAC). Enrollment in Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Senior Health depends upon contract renewal.

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Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina  
Healthy Blue + Medicare (HMO-POS D-SNP)

Statin Use in Persons with Cardiovascular Disease (SPC) Measure Exclusion Criteria:  
HEDIS® 2024 Measurement Year

- 66 years of age and older with advanced illness during 2023 and/or 2024 **and** dispensed dementia medication during 2024:
  - **Note:** Exclusions for advanced illness, frailty, and dispensed dementia medications must come from claims.
  - The advanced illness exclusion can include telephone visits, e-visits, and virtual check-ins to meet the two visits with an advanced illness diagnosis criterion.
- Diagnosis of end-stage renal disease (ESRD) or dialysis during 2023 or 2024
- Diagnosis of cirrhosis during 2023 or 2024
- Hospice and palliative care
  - Death

### Closing the Gap

#### Documentation needed:

- Only dispensed medication on a pharmacy claim is used to identify and close this gap.
- Patient must use their member ID card when filling a statin prescription at the pharmacy.
- Exclusions for advanced illness, frailty, and dispensed dementia medications must come from claims.
- Exclusions for myalgia, myositis, myopathy, or rhabdomyolysis can come from claims or medical record data. Medical record documentation must include two patient identifiers.

#### Moderate- to high-intensity statin medications

Description	Prescription
High-intensity statin therapy	Atorvastatin 40 to 80 mg
	Amlodipine-atorvastatin 40 to 80 mg
	Rosuvastatin 20 to 40 mg
	Simvastatin 80 mg
	Ezetimibe-simvastatin 80 mg
Moderate-intensity statin therapy	Atorvastatin 10 to 20 mg
	Amlodipine-atorvastatin 10 to 20 mg
	Rosuvastatin 5 to 10 mg
	Simvastatin 20 to 40 mg
	Ezetimibe-simvastatin 20 to 40 mg
	Pravastatin 40 to 80 mg
	Lovastatin 40 mg
	Fluvastatin 40 to 80 mg
Pitavastatin 1 to 4 mg	

## Best Practices

### **Prescribe low-cost generics to eliminate cost as a barrier:**

- Atorvastatin, lovastatin, pravastatin, simvastatin, and rosuvastatin are available for \$0 for extended days' supply prescriptions. These medications are free using the Medicare Advantage prescription drug plan benefit for Blue Cross NC even if the patient reaches the coverage gap.
- Encourage patients to fill their statin medication at a preferred pharmacy using their benefit.
- Discourage the use of discount cards.
- Let Blue Cross NC know of any patients filling outside of the benefit. Blue Cross NC can reach out to the pharmacy and/or patient regarding the \$0 benefit cost.
- Short trial fills of a statin medication with \$0 cost may help hesitant patients be more willing to try or re-try a statin medication.