

# Use of Opioids From Multiple Providers (UOP)

## New for 2026

- No applicable changes for this measure

## Definition

Percentage of members ages 18 and older receiving prescription opioids for  $\geq 15$  days during the measurement year who received opioids from multiple providers.

Three rates are reported:

1. **Multiple prescribers:** Percentage of members receiving prescriptions for opioids from 4 or more different prescribers during the measurement year
2. **Multiple pharmacies:** Percentage of members receiving prescriptions for opioids from 4 or more different pharmacies during the measurement year
3. **Multiple prescribers and multiple pharmacies:** Percentage of members receiving prescriptions for opioids from 4 or more different prescribers and 4 or more different pharmacies during the measurement year



**Yes!**

Supplemental data accepted for required exclusions only

Plans(s) affected	Quality program(s) affected	Collection and reporting method
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial</li> <li>• Medicaid</li> <li>• Medicare</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select state reporting</li> </ul>	<p><b>Administrative</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Claim/encounter</li> <li>• Pharmacy data</li> </ul>

## Medications

To be included in this measure, a member must have met both of the following criteria in the measurement year:

- 2 or more dispensing events on different dates of service for the following Opioid medications, and
- $\geq 15$  days covered by an opioid prescription

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## Opioid medications

- |   |                  |               |               |
|---|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| • Benzhydrocodone                                   | • Codeine        | • Levorphanol | • Oxycodone   |
| • Buprenorphine (transdermal patch and buccal film) | • Dihydrocodeine | • Meperidine  | • Oxymorphone |
| • Butorphanol                                       | • Fentanyl       | • Methadone   | • Pentazocine |
|   | • Hydrocodone    | • Morphine    | • Tapentadol  |
|   | • Hydromorphone  | • Opium       | • Tramadol    |

### These medications are not included as dispensing events for this measure:

- Cough and cold products with opioids
- Injectables
- Ionsys®
  - Fentanyl transdermal patch used in inpatient settings only
- Methadone for the treatment of opioid use disorder
- Single-agent and combination buprenorphine products used as part of medication assisted treatment of opioid use disorder
  - Buprenorphine sublingual tablets
  - Buprenorphine subcutaneous implant
  - Buprenorphine/naloxone combination products

## Required exclusion(s)

### Exclusion

- Members in hospice or using hospice services
- Members who died

### Time frame

Any time during the measurement year

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# Use of Opioids From Multiple Providers (UOP) (cont.)

## Tips and best practices to help close this care opportunity

- This measure focuses on taking caution with patients using multiple pharmacies and/or prescribers
  - Evidence suggests people who see multiple prescribers and use multiple pharmacies are at higher risk of overdose
  - UnitedHealthcare is committed to working with care providers to help:
    - **Prevent** opioid misuse and addiction
    - **Treat** those who are addicted
    - **Support** long-term recovery
- For more information about our programs to help prevent opioid overuse, please visit [UHCprovider.com](#) > Resource Library > Drug Lists and Pharmacy > Opioid Programs and Resources.
- Information to help you stay informed about the latest opioid research and guidelines is also available at [cdc.gov](#), [hhs.gov](#) or your state's public health department website. Here are a few suggestions to get you started:

### - Prevention

- o Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain available at [cdc.gov](#) > CDC A - Z INDEX > D > Drug Overdose (OD) > Healthcare Providers > CDC's opioid prescribing guideline for chronic pain
- o U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Prevent Opioid Abuse and Addiction available at [hhs.gov/opioids](#) > Prevention

### - Treatment

- o Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Medication-Assisted medication assisted treatment for opioid use disorder (MOUD) (MAT) available at [samhsa.gov](#) > Programs & Campaigns > Medication-Assisted Treatment
- o National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Effective Treatments for Opioid Addiction available at [drugabuse.gov](#) > Drugs of Abuse > Opioids > Effective Treatments for Opioid Addiction
- o HHS Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder available at [hhs.gov/opioids](#) > Treatment
- o American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Educational Resources available at [asam.org](#) > Education > Educational Resources

### - Recovery

- o In-network MOUD care provider search for UnitedHealthcare plan members available at [provider.liveandworkwell.com](#)
  - To start a search, enter ZIP code > Select an Area of Expertise > Substance Use Disorder > Search

### - Harm reduction

- o Harm Reduction Coalition Prescribe Naloxone! available at [harmreduction.org](#) > Issues > Overdose Prevention > Prescribe Naloxone! Recent Resources
- o SAMHSA Opioid Overdose Preventive Toolkit available at [samhsa.gov](#) > Publications > Substances > Opioids or Opiates > Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit (SMA16-4742)

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