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STARs Program and SETMA's Solution Part II

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Your Life Your Health

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(Continued from April 26, 2012, *Examiner*)

Each of the STARs measures' content can be reviewed by clicking on the "view button" next to the measure. You will then be able to review who to fulfill the measure. Remember, if the measure is in black or grey, you do not have to review it; it has either been done or does not apply. If it is in red, you need to review it and to complete its performance on this particular patient.



The screenshot shows a window titled "HEDIS ABA" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The main content area is titled "Adult Body Mass Index" in blue text. Below the title, it says "Measurement of Body Mass Index (BMI)". There are three rows of input fields:

Patient Height	60.00	inches
Patient Weight	150.00	pounds
Patient BMI	29.39	Overweight

At the bottom of the window, there are two buttons: "OK" and "Cancel".

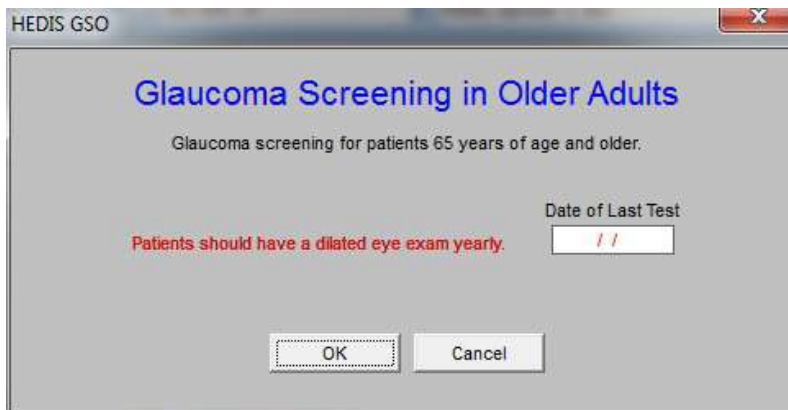
Where there are multiple ways of satisfying a measure such as in colorectal cancer screening, all options will be display. The date of the metric being last met will be shown under "Date of Last Test." Remember, compliance is by calendar year, not "in last twelve months." This means that if a patient is seen on December 12, 2012 and they had a fecal occult blood on December 18, 2011, they have had a test in the past twelve months but not the last calendar year and are thus not in compliance for the year 2012.



The standard for Medicare Advantage is that women have a mammogram every year.



Different measures, measure different functions. Every patient with diabetes should have a dilated eye examination annually. This metric specifically addresses patients by age. All patients over the age of 65 should have an annually dilated eye examination. The value of electronics is that you do not have to remember all of the nuances; the system remembers them for you.



High Risk Medications

Most of the high risk medications are taken from the HEDIS metrics in which there are five categories of “potentially” high risk medications, which include several hundred medications. SETMA has tracked these for the past five years. In the **HEDIS** measures, there are two categories: the first are patients who are on one potentially high risk medication and the second are patients on two or more. In the **STARS** program, the measure is only on those who are on at least one “high risk medication,” **as the HEDIS list has been modified from “potentially” high risk to high risk.** The threshold for meeting this element of the STARS program is that there must be fewer than 9.3% of your patients on any one these medications.

NOTE: The STARS metric not only alerts you to the presence of a high risk medication in the patient’s medication list, but recommends a substitute medication.

Continuity Medical Education

As part of SETMA’s CME program, our Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Syed Anwar, is writing short descriptions of each medication. These can be deployed by clicking on the name of the medication which appears at the bottom of the template.

Atrovent

The study behind the news analyzed data collected between 1991 and 1993 as part of a large study into the decline of mental functioning in people aged over 65. The new research re-analyzed the participants’ records to look at how their mental decline was linked to their use of drugs with “anticholinergic” side effects (such as dry mouth, reduced mucous secretion and constipation). Anticholinergic drugs block the chemical acetylcholine, which is involved in the transmission of electrical impulses between nerve cells. The drugs in question have a range of applications, from blocking hayfever to improving breathing in some chronic lung conditions. Researchers found that the 4% of people who used drugs with definite anticholinergic effects had a small but significantly greater decline in mental ability compared to people not using these drugs. ***People using drugs with definite or possible anticholinergic effects had an increased risk of death within the two-year period.***

STARS Highriskmeds

STARS Program High Risk Medications & Alternatives

Listed below are the active medications for this patient which are considered high risk and should be reconsidered.
Also, to the right of each medication is a recommended alternative to the high risk medication.

Brand Name	Generic Name	Recommended Alternative
DICYCLOMINE HCL	DICYCLOMINE HCL	Polyethylene Glycol, Loperamide
CYCLOBENZAPRINE HCL	CYCLOBENZAPRINE HCL	Baclofen, Tizanidine

Information
[Atrovent](#)
[Flexeril](#)

OK Cancel

The next metrics is **care for older adults**. Your Life Your Health for April 19th, reviewed SETMA's questionnaires for Functional Status, Pain, Fall Risk, Stress and wellness.

Each of these assessments can also be reviewed at www.jameshollymd.com under *Electronic Patient Management Tools, Specialized Tools, Patient-Centered Medical Home Annual Questionnaires*, or by clicking on this link: <http://jameshollymd.com/epm-tools/patient-centered-medical-home-annual-questionnaires>

HEDIS COA

Care for Older Adults

Routine care measures for patients 65 years of age and older.

Patients should have advanced care planning in place.

Advanced Directives Discussed? Yes No
 Advanced Directives Completed? Yes No
 Date Completed/Updated
 Comments/Detail

Patients should have a medication assessment and reconciliation at least yearly. Date of Last Test

Patients should have a functional assessment evaluation at least yearly. [Click to Complete](#)

Patients should have a pain screening evaluation at least yearly. [Click to Complete](#)

The next three measures are sets of metrics which related to hypertension, cholesterol and diabetes. Later, there are three measures which related to the prescribing of medications for hypertension, cholesterol and diabetes.

HEDIS CBP

Controlling High Blood Pressure

Patients 18 to 85 years of age with a diagnosis of hypertension.

Does the patient have a chronic or recent diagnosis of hypertension?

Has the patient's blood pressure well controlled for last three months (<140/90)?

Blood Pressure History (most recent first)

Date/Time	Systolic	Diastolic
09/13/2011 01:28 PM	140	95
01/31/2011 12:12 PM	130	70
09/08/2010 09:29 AM	120	80
09/08/2010 08:51 AM	120	80

HEDIS CMC

Cholesterol Management for Patients with Cardiovascular Conditions

Does the patient have a history of...

acute myocardial infarction?	<input type="text" value="No"/>
coronary artery bypass graft (CABG)?	<input type="text" value="No"/>
percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA)?	<input type="text" value="No"/>
ischemic vascular disease (IVD)?	<input type="text" value="No"/>

Most Recent LDL (Calculated)	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value="/"/>	<input type="text" value="/"/>
Most Recent LDL (Direct)	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value="/"/>	<input type="text" value="/"/>

Was the patient's most recent LDL screening with the last year?

Was the patient's most recent LDL screening controlled?

HEDIS CDC

Comprehensive Adult Diabetes Care

Patient with a diagnosis of Diabetes Mellitus ages 18 to 75 years of age.

Does the patient have a diagnosis of diabetes?

Most Recent HgbA1c

Has the patient had HgbA1c screening with the last year?

Was the patient's last HgbA1c controlled?

Has the patient's blood pressure been controlled (< 130/80) within the last year?

Last Dilated Eye Exam

Has the patient had a dilated eye exam within the last year?

Most Recent LDL

Has the patient had an LDL screening within the last year?

Was the patient's last LDL controlled?

Last Foot Exam

Has the patient had a foot exam within the last year?

Most Recent Micral Strip

Has the patient had a nephropathy screening within the last year?

The next two measures have to do with osteoporosis in women who have had a fracture and with the treatment of patients who have rheumatoid arthritis.

HEDIS OMW

Osteoporosis Management in Women

Women 67 years of age and older who have history of a fracture.

Does the patient have a history of fracture?

Has the patient BMD density test within the last year?

Date of Last Test

-- OR --

Is the patient currently on prescription to treat or prevent osteoporosis?

BONIVA	

HEDIS ART

Disease-Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug Therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis

Does the patient have a diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis?

Has the patient been dispensed at least one disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD)?

NQF AIMM

Adult Immunization Status

Immunization status for adults 50 years of age and older.

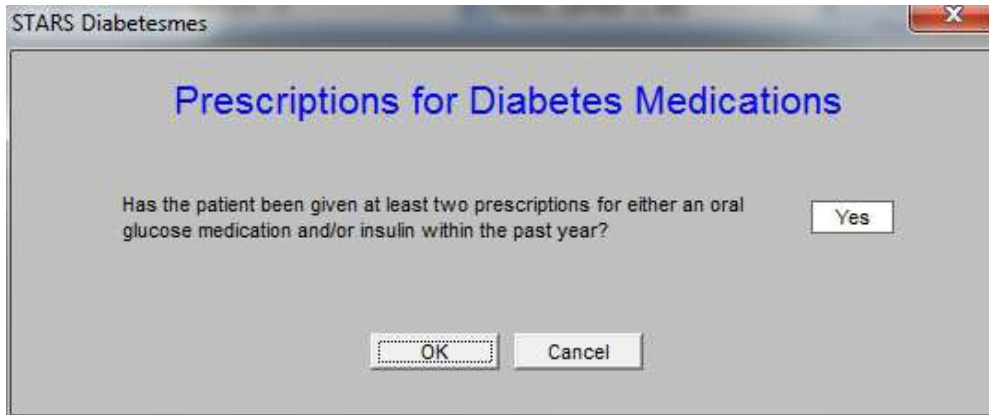
Has the patient recieved a flu shot within the last year?

Last Flu Shot

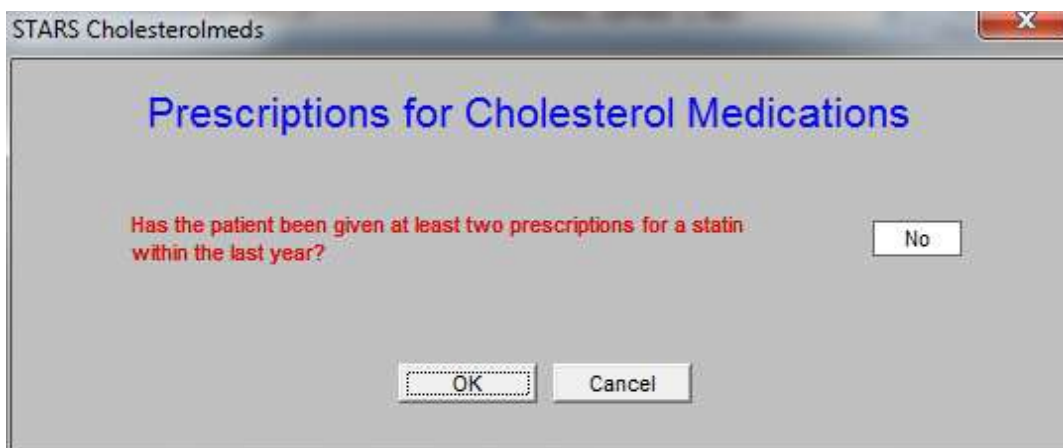
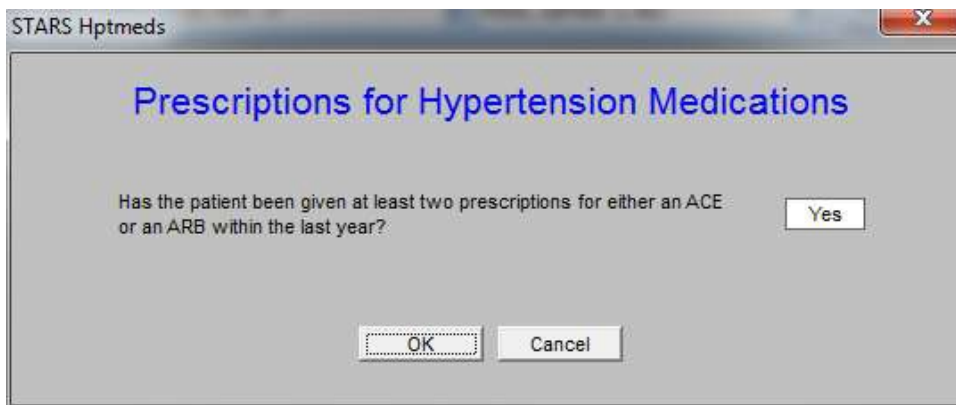
Has the patient had a pneumonia vaccination?

Last PneumoVax

These last three measures have to do with prescribing of medications for three conditions: diabetes, hypertension and cholesterol.



This metric calls for all patients to be on an ACE or an ARB. Sometimes that is not appropriate but we live with the metric until we are able to influence its being changed.



The metric for Fall Risk Assessment for STARs is annually, but it is such an important issue SETMA modified it to the less precise “regular,” to encourage more frequent assessment of this issue.

NQF FALL

Fall Risk Assessment

Regular fall risk assessment for patients 65 years of age and older.

Was a fall risk assessment completed on today's visit?

Last Fall Risk Assessment

Quality care metrics are increasingly giving patients and providers the opportunity to determine the standard of care which is being followed in care delivery and the quality of care being received. The Medicare Advantage STARs program is one of the positive advances in healthcare.