

MEDICAL MANAGEMENT

Spotlight on HEDIS®: Kidney Health Evaluation

The HEDIS Kidney Health Evaluation (KED) measure evaluates patients 18 to 85 years old with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who received a kidney health evaluation. This is defined by an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) and a urine albumin-creatinine ratio (uACR) during the measurement year. The importance of both tests are that the eGFR assesses kidney function, while the uACR assesses kidney damage.

Requirements for meeting criteria for this measure are:

1. At least one serum estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR)
2. At least one urine albumin-creatinine ratio (uACR) identified by either of the following:
 - Both a quantitative urine albumin test and a urine creatinine test with service dates four days or less apart
 - Or a urine albumin-creatinine ratio test (uACR).

The KED measure aims to improve early detection and management of chronic kidney disease (CKD) in individuals with diabetes. Early identification of kidney problems allows for timely intervention and potentially slows disease progression.

Best practice tips and tricks:

- Educate patients on the value of and expectations surrounding nephropathy screening.
- Assist patients in scheduling laboratory testing.
- Order eGFR before the appointment.
- Collect a urine sample for protein testing during the annual or any other visit.
- Document point of care (POC) urine testing on the claim.

Exclusions from this measure include ESRD, dialysis, dispensed dementia medication, documentation of frailty and advanced illness, palliative care patients and hospice patients. Some exclusions are age dependent.

HEDIS measures, like KED, help health plans and providers track performance and identify areas where care can be improved.

If you have any questions, please email us: HEDISteam@lablue.com.