



Controlling Blood Pressure Tip Sheet

What is the CMS Star Rating Program?

CMS uses a five-star quality rating system to measure the experiences Medicare beneficiaries have with their health plan and health care system – the Star Rating Program. Health plans are rated on a scale of 1 to 5 stars, with 5 being the highest. These ratings are then published on the Medicare Plan Finder at medicare.gov to help consumers compare health plans more easily.

Measure Description

Weight: 1

This measure shows the percent of plan members aged 18-85 who had a diagnosis of hypertension and whose BP was adequately controlled (<140/90 mm Hg).

Measure Source

- Claims & Chart Review
- 1/1 – 12/31

Stars/Quality Specifications

Eligible patient has had:

- Both a systolic BP <140 mm Hg and diastolic BP of <90 mm Hg on the most recent reading during the measurement year on or after the second diagnosis of hypertension.

Strategies for Success

- Encourage patients to check their blood pressure regularly and record their readings.
- Document patient reported blood pressure readings in electronic medical record.
- Advise patients to take blood pressure medications as prescribed.
- If initial patient blood pressure is elevated, blood pressure should be rechecked during the same visit.

Coding and Documentation Tips

Member may be excluded from this measure due to frailty and/or advanced illness codes. Click the following link to review master code list for exclusions: [Exclusion Codes](#)

If you have questions, please contact your provider relations specialist.