



PCA How-To Guide: NQF 0036

Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma

Who

This measure evaluates the percentage of patients, 5-64 years of age, who were identified as having persistent asthma and who were appropriately prescribed medication during the calendar year.

Denominator Exclusions – This measure excludes patients who had any diagnosis of Emphysema, COPD, Chronic Bronchitis, Cystic Fibrosis, Acute Respiratory Failure, or Chronic Respiratory Conditions due fumes/vapors any time during the patient’s history though the end of the measurement year.

What

To meet the measure:

Prescribe at least 1 prescription for an asthma controller medication (i.e. corticosteroids, immunomodulators, leukotriene modifiers, long-acting beta-agonists) during the measurement year.

Note: The official HEDIS metric nationally is based off of the patient filling the medication. This data is not currently available to us, so Mission Health Partners has accepted “prescribe rates” for 2017. Please know that FILL rates, where the patient actually picks up the medication from the pharmacy, are the most important goal and likely to be in pay for performance contracts. Ideally, patients with asthma should be filling their long-term acting medications for asthma all year long.

Why

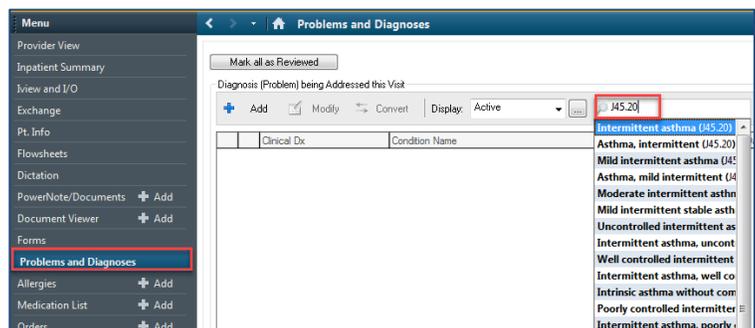
- Many of the children we serve have asthma, and some children and their families get confused about the difference between emergency inhalers and long-term inhalers, using emergency medication instead of the long-term medication. Asthma is a chronic disease that impacts activity and can result in death.
- Long-term controller medications (not emergency rescue inhalers) are shown to be highly effective to help children succeed and thrive, despite an asthma diagnosis.
- Patient education about use of long-term controllers and avoidance of triggers can reduce negative impacts.

National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. (2007). *Expert panel report 3: Guidelines for the diagnosis and management of asthma*. Retrieved from <https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/files/docs/guidelines/asthgdln.pdf>

How

Adding Diagnosis Codes:

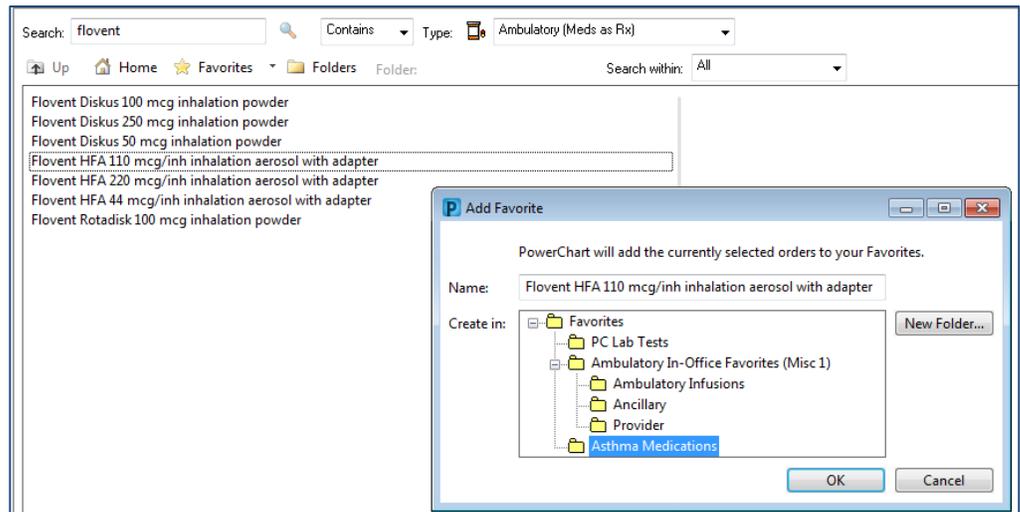
Navigate to **Problems and Diagnoses** in the Table of Contents. Search for the appropriate asthma diagnosis codes in the IMO search box.



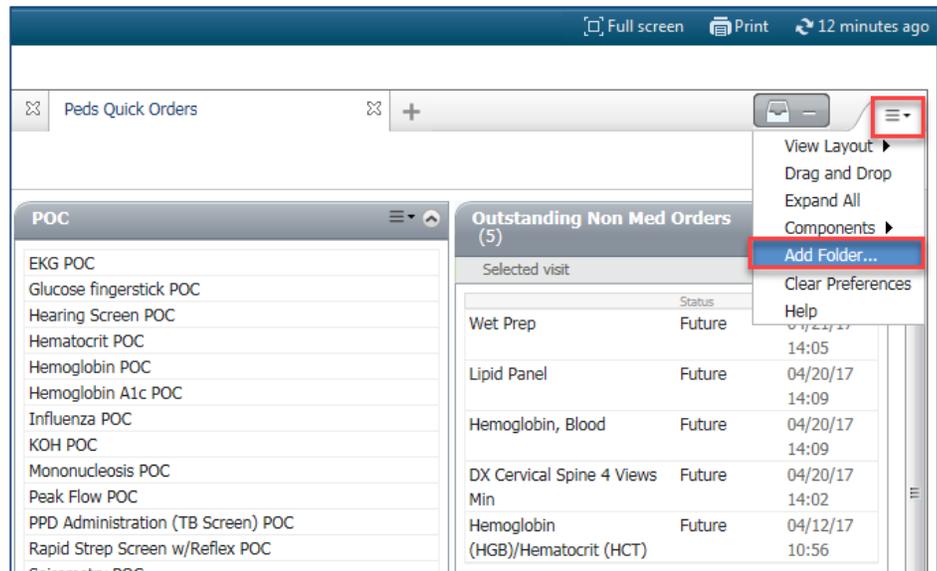
Helpful Hint: You can add a folder of your personal order favorites to your Quick Orders page.

Right-click on the desired order to add to your favorites.

You can create a folder specifically for asthma medications.



On the Quick Orders page, click the drop-down menu on the far right to add your newly-created asthma order favorites folder.



FAQ

Q: What “counts” as persistent asthma?

A: These ICD-10 codes: J45.20-J45.22; J45.30-J45.32; J45.40-J45.42; J45.50-J45.52; J45.901-J45.902; J45.909; J45.990-J45.991; J45.998