

# Medication Adherence for Diabetes Medications

Displayed as: Diabetes PDC

The percentage of individuals 18 years and older who met the Proportion of Days Covered (PDC) threshold of 80% for diabetes medications during the measurement period.

- Medication Adherence for Diabetes Medications is a triple weighted measure in the Medicare Star Ratings.\*

## Did You Know?



The American Diabetes Association produces annual guidelines outlining recommendations for topics such as glycemic control and cardiovascular risk reduction in patients with diabetes.



While metformin has long been the traditional first-line drug for type 2 diabetes, recent changes in clinical guidelines prioritize the use of agents with proven cardiorenal benefits as the initial therapy for patients with coexisting Chronic Kidney Disease, Heart Failure, or Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease.<sup>1</sup>



Older adults with diabetes and intermediate/poor health status have less stringent glycemic targets than younger adults due to shortened life expectancy and higher risk of complications such as hypoglycemia.<sup>2</sup>

## Exclusions

- Enrolled in hospice
- End-Stage Renal Disease or dialysis
- The patient is prescribed insulin during the measurement period

## Therapeutic Categories

- Biguanides
- Sulfonylureas
- Thiazolidinediones
- DPP-4 Inhibitors
- GIP/GLP-1 Receptor Agonists\*\*
- Meglitinides
- SGLT2 Inhibitors



## Calculation

**NUMERATOR =**

The number of eligible patients with diabetes medication adherence of  $\geq 80\%$  during the treatment period

**DENOMINATOR =**

The number of patients with  $\geq 2$  claims for diabetes medication(s) on different dates of service with a treatment period  $\geq 91$  days during the measurement year

<sup>1</sup> American Diabetes Association. Diabetes Technology: Standards of Care in Diabetes—2025. Diabetes Care 2025;48(Suppl. 1):S146–S166.

<sup>2</sup> American Diabetes Association Professional Practice Committee; 13. Older Adults: Standards of Care in Diabetes—2025. Diabetes Care 1 January 2025; 48 (Supplement\_1): S266–S282. <https://doi.org/10.2337/dc25-S013>

\* For more information about Medicare Star Ratings, please visit the [EQUIPP Academy website](#)

\*\* Excludes products without FDA-approved indication for diabetes