



Medication Therapy Problem Categories Framework for PQA Measures

The Medication Therapy Problem (MTP) Categories Framework is a consensus-based document developed by the Pharmacy Quality Alliance's (PQA's) Measure Development Team (MDT) 9, to provide a framework for development of measures involving MTPs. The framework is intended to standardize how MTPs identified during Medication Therapy Management (MTM) encounters are categorized within measures. The MDT incorporated input from numerous MTM providers and practices, and referred to MTP categories established in the literature.¹ This standard framework for use within measures will promote consistent categorization and coding of MTPs and the related actions/recommendations to resolve the MTPs. This framework may evolve over time.

Medication Related Needs	Medication Therapy Problem Category	Medication Therapy Problem Rationale	
Indication	Unnecessary medication therapy	Duplicate Therapy	
		No medical indication at this time	
		Nonmedication therapy more appropriate	
		Addiction/recreational medication use	
		Treating avoidable adverse medication reaction	
	Needs additional medication therapy	Preventive therapy	
Effectiveness	Ineffective medication	More effective medication available	
		Condition refractory to medication	
		Dosage form inappropriate	
	Dosage too low	Dose too low	
		Frequency inappropriate	
		Incorrect administration	
		Medication interaction	
		Incorrect storage	
		Duration inappropriate	
	Needs additional monitoring	Medication requires monitoring	
	Safety	Adverse medication event	Undesirable effect
			Unsafe medication for the patient
			Medication interaction
			Incorrect administration
			Allergic reaction
Dosage increase/decrease too fast			
Dosage too high		Dose too high	
		Frequency inappropriate	
		Duration inappropriate	
		Medication interaction	
Needs additional monitoring		Medication requires monitoring	
Adherence		Adherence	Does not understand instructions
	Patient prefers not to take		
	Patient forgets to take		
	Medication product not available		
	Cannot swallow/administer medication		
	Cost	More cost-effective medication available*	
		Cannot afford medication product	

* Although the medication therapy problem rationale, *more cost-effective medication available*, is placed under the medication-related need of adherence, it may not necessarily relate to adherence directly or represent a patient-focused medication therapy problem.

Last Update: August 2017

¹ Cipolle RJ, Strand LM, Morley PC. *Pharmaceutical Care Practice: The Patient-Centered Approach to Medication Management*. 3rd ed. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill; 2012, p 157.