

Appendix 5A: Outpatient Process Indicators (Pharmacological)

The outpatient pharmacological process indicators will be measured using administrative drug formulary databases, to determine if a prescription for the class of drugs in question was claimed. It is acknowledged that unless ideal candidates are defined from chart abstracted data, prescription of the drug at 90 days from administrative data alone is limited by inability to identify patients with contraindications. Age limitations for the following pharmacological indicators are dictated by province of residence in Canada since drug formulary restrictions may vary between provinces (e.g., age \geq 65 years).

For those patients who had been prescribed the drug class at discharge, a relevant quality indicator was adherence to the drug at approximately one year (defined as 270-365 days post-discharge). The definition of adherence is different from compliance, since compliance infers continuous and regular use of the agent described.

The following indicators include ACE inhibitors, beta-blockers and warfarin for atrial fibrillation. Spironolactone prescription at 90 days was not excluded by the panel because of difficulty in defining appropriate eligibility and exclusion criteria. However, adherence to spironolactone prescribed at discharge was included as a quality indicator by the panel because it reflects medication compliance.

ACE INHIBITOR PRESCRIPTION FILLED WITHIN 90 DAYS OF DISCHARGE (OUTPATIENT DATA)	
ELIGIBLE	1) Alive at discharge
EXCLUSION	1) Missing or incomplete administrative data¶
STATISTIC	% of eligible CHF patients receiving ACEI within 90 days

¶Includes age < 65 years in provinces without universal drug coverage for non-elderly residents

1-YEAR ACE INHIBITOR ADHERENCE AFTER DISCHARGE (OUTPATIENT DATA) – FILLED PRESCRIPTION WITHIN 270 – 365 DAYS	
ELIGIBLE	1) Alive at 1-year post-discharge
	2) Prescribed ACEI at hospital discharge
EXCLUSION	1) Missing or incomplete administrative data¶
STATISTIC	% of eligible CHF patients on ACEI at 1 year

¶Includes age < 65 years in provinces without universal drug coverage for non-elderly residents

BETA-BLOCKER PRESCRIPTION FILLED WITHIN 90 DAYS OF DISCHARGE (OUTPATIENT DATA)	
ELIGIBLE	1) Alive at discharge
EXCLUSION	1) Missing or incomplete administrative data¶
STATISTIC	% of eligible CHF patients receiving beta-blocker within 90 days

¶Includes age < 65 years in provinces without universal drug coverage for non-elderly residents

Appendix 5A (continued): Outpatient Process Indicators (Pharmacological)

1-YEAR BETA-BLOCKER ADHERENCE AFTER DISCHARGE (OUTPATIENT DATA) – FILLED PRESCRIPTION WITHIN 270 – 365 DAYS	
ELIGIBLE	1) Alive at 1 year post-discharge
	2) Prescribed beta-blocker at hospital discharge
EXCLUSION	1) Missing or incomplete administrative data¶
STATISTIC	% of eligible CHF patients on beta-blocker at 1 year

¶Includes age < 65 years in provinces without universal drug coverage for non-elderly residents

1-YEAR SPIRONOLACTONE ADHERENCE AFTER DISCHARGE (OUTPATIENT DATA) – FILLED PRESCRIPTION WITHIN 270-365 DAYS	
ELIGIBLE	1) Alive at 1 year post-discharge
	2) Prescribed spironolactone at hospital discharge
EXCLUSION	1) Missing or incomplete administrative data¶
STATISTIC	% of eligible CHF patients on spironolactone at 1 year

¶Includes age < 65 years in provinces without universal drug coverage for non-elderly residents

WARFARIN FOR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION PRESCRIPION FILLED WITHIN 90 DAYS OF DISCHARGE (OUTPATIENT DATA)	
ELIGIBLE	1) Alive at discharge
	2) Absence of contraindications to warfarin (identified in hospital)
EXCLUSION	1) Missing or incomplete administrative data¶
STATISTIC	% of eligible CHF patients receiving beta-blocker within 90 days

¶Includes age < 65 years in provinces without universal drug coverage for non-elderly residents

1-YEAR ADHERENCE WITH WARFARIN FOR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION AFTER DISCHARGE (OUTPATIENT DATA) – FILLED PRESCRIPION WITHIN 270-365 DAYS	
ELIGIBLE	1) Alive at 1-year post discharge
	2) Prescribed warfarin at hospital discharge
EXCLUSION	1) Missing or incomplete administrative data¶
STATISTIC	% of eligible CHF patients receiving beta-blocker within 90 days

¶Includes age < 65 years in provinces without universal drug coverage for non-elderly residents