

# CARE OF OLDER ADULTS: PAIN ASSESSMENT

## Measurement Specifications for Star Ratings Program



### Measurement Description

Percent of Medicare Special Needs Plan patients 66 years and older who received at least one pain screening or pain management plan during the measurement year.

### Measurement Source

HEDIS 2020-2021

### Denominator

Medicare Special Needs Plan patients 66 years and older as of December 31 of the measurement year.

### Numerator

Eligible patients who received at least one pain assessment during the measurement year

Documentation in the medical record must include evidence of a pain assessment and the date when it was performed. Notations for a pain assessment must include one of the following:

1. Documentation that patient was assessed for pain (may include positive or negative findings for pain).
2. Result of assessment using a standardized pain assessment tool, not limited to:
  - Numeric rating scales (verbal or written).
  - Face, Legs, Activity, Cry Consolability (FLACC) scale.
  - Verbal descriptor scales (5–7 Word Scales, Present Pain Inventory).
  - Pain Thermometer.
  - Pictorial Pain Scales (Faces Pain Scale, Wong-Baker Pain Scale).
  - Visual analogue scale.
  - Brief Pain Inventory.
  - Chronic Pain Grade.
  - PROMIS Pain Intensity Scale.
  - Pain Assessment in Advanced Dementia (PAINAD) Scale.

### Exclusion Criteria

Age	< 66 years
Hospice	Patients who use hospice services or elect to use a hospice benefit any time during the measurement year, regardless of when the services began.

## Best Practice

- Perform/document in the medical record a complete pain assessment annually.
- Notation of a pain management plan alone does not meet criteria.
- Notation of a pain treatment plan alone does not meet criteria.
- Notation of screening for chest pain alone or documentation of chest pain alone does not meet criteria.

## Star Ratings Performance Thresholds

Year	1 STAR	2 STARS	3 STARS	4 STARS	5 STARS
2014	< 36%	≥ 36% to < 52%	≥ 52% to < 76%	≥ 76% to < 91%	≥ 91%
2015	< 50%	≥ 50% to < 60%	≥ 60% to < 78%	≥ 78% to < 88%	≥ 88%
2016	< 30%	≥ 30% to < 62%	≥ 62% to < 78%	≥ 78% to < 95%	≥ 95%
2017	< 37%	≥ 37% to < 59%	≥ 59% to < 75%	≥ 75% to < 88%	≥ 88%
2018	< 40%	≥ 40% to < 62%	≥ 62% to < 80%	≥ 80% to < 94%	≥ 94%
2019	< 41%	≥ 41% to < 73%	≥ 73% to < 89%	≥ 89% to < 97%	≥ 97%
2020	< 59%	≥ 59% to < 81%	≥ 81% to < 86%	≥ 86% to < 94%	≥ 94%
2021	< 59%	≥ 59% to < 81%	≥ 81% to < 86%	≥ 86% to < 94%	≥ 94%