

Medication Adherence (SAA Measure)

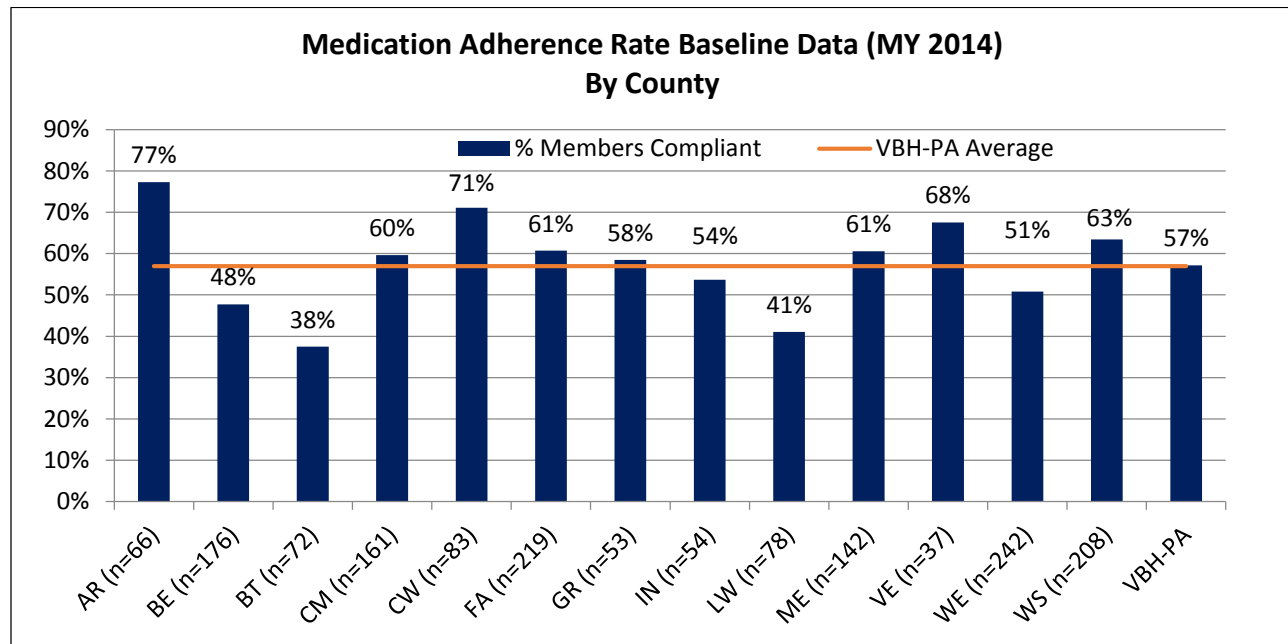
As part of the statewide improvement project, one of the measures that each BH-MCO will be analyzing includes adherence to antipsychotic medications for individuals with schizophrenia. This measure will assess the percentage of members with schizophrenia who were dispensed and remained on an antipsychotic medication for at least 80% of their treatment period. Data is collected via VBH-PA claims and members' pharmacy claims.

It is important to note that the results do not include all members with a diagnosis of schizophrenia, but instead a subset of the population. To be included in the sample a member must meet all of the following criteria:

- Age 19-64 with a diagnosis of schizophrenia
- Continuous enrollment in the BH-MCO (one 45-day gap is permitted)
- At least one acute inpatient encounter during the measurement year **OR** two outpatient/ER/non-acute inpatient encounters in the measurement year
- Two antipsychotic dispensing events during the measurement year
- Members with a diagnosis of dementia are excluded

VBH-PA has collected the baseline data and broken it out by county (Figure 1). The network-wide average indicates that 57% of those members have an 80% or higher adherence rate. VBH-PA expects to reach a final goal of 61% by the end of this project in 2017.

Figure 1



VBH-PA is exploring multiple interventions to pilot in an attempt to increase the adherence rates such as: increasing engagement attempts of non-adherent members, providing education to members on the importance of medication adherence, developing a communication tool for prescribers about their members rate of adherence and partnering with Gateway Health Plan to implement targeted interventions and data sharing on shared members.

Providers and Prescribers - Have you implemented any interventions to increase medication adherence rates? Do you have any specific educational tools that you use with members on the importance of medication compliance? Do you have a higher success rate with a particular medication? VBH-PA would love to hear your ideas. If you have something to share, please send an email to Tina.Marshall@valueoptions.com