



Eligible Professional  
Meaningful Use Core Measures  
Measure 5 of 15  
Stage 1  
Date issued: November 7, 2010

Active Medication List	
Objective	Maintain active medication list.
Measure	More than 80 percent of all unique patients seen by the EP have at least one entry (or an indication that the patient is not currently prescribed any medication) recorded as structured data.
Exclusion	No exclusion.

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## Definition of Terms

**Active Medication List** – A list of medications that a given patient is currently taking.

**Unique Patient** – If a patient is seen by an EP more than once during the EHR reporting period, then for purposes of measurement that patient is only counted once in the denominator for the measure. All the measures relying on the term “unique patient” relate to what is contained in the patient’s medical record. Not all of this information will need to be updated or even be needed by the provider at every patient encounter. This is especially true for patients whose encounter frequency is such that they would see the same provider multiple times in the same EHR reporting period.

## Attestation Requirements

### NUMERATOR / DENOMINATOR

- DENOMINATOR: Number of unique patients seen by the EP during the EHR reporting period.
- NUMERATOR: Number of patients in the denominator who have a medication (or an indication that the patient is not currently prescribed any medication) recorded as structured data.

The resulting percentage (Numerator ÷ Denominator) must be more than 80 percent in order for an EP to meet this measure.

## Additional Information

- For patients with no active medications, an entry must still be made to the active medication list indicating that there are no active medications.
- An EP is not required to update this list at every contact with the patient. The EP can then use his or her clinical judgment to decide when additional updating is required.

## Related Meaningful Use FAQs

To see the FAQs, click the New ID # hyperlinks below, or visit the CMS FAQ web page at <https://questions.cms.gov/> and enter the New ID # into the Search Box, clicking the "FAQ #" option to view the answer to the FAQ. (Or you can enter the OLD # into the Search Box and click the "Text" option.)

- What do the numerators and denominators mean in measures that are required to demonstrate meaningful use? [New ID #2813](#), [Old ID #10095](#)
- For EPs who see patients in both inpatient and outpatient settings, and where certified EHR technology is available at each location, should these EPs base their denominators for meaningful use objectives on the number of unique patients in only the outpatient setting or on the total number of unique patients from both settings? [New ID #2765](#), [Old ID #10068](#)
- How does an EP determine whether a patient has been "seen by the EP" in cases where the service rendered does not result in an actual interaction between the patient and the EP, but minimal consultative services such as just reading an EKG? Is a patient seen via telemedicine included in the denominator for measures that include patients "seen by the EP"?  
[New ID #3307](#), [Old ID #10664](#)
- When a patient is only seen by a member of the EP's clinical staff during the EHR reporting period and not by the EP themselves, do those patients count in the EP's denominator?  
[New ID #3309](#), [Old ID #10665](#)
- Should patient encounters in an ambulatory surgical center be included in the denominator for calculating that at least 50 percent or more of an EP's patient encounters during the reporting period occurred at practices/locations equipped with certified EHR technology?  
[New ID #3065](#), [Old ID #10466](#)
- If an EP sees a patient in a setting that does not have certified EHR technology but enters all of the patient's information into certified EHR technology at another practice location, can the patient be counted in the numerators and denominators of meaningful use measures?  
[New ID #3077](#), [Old ID #10475](#)

## Certification and Standards Criteria

Below is the corresponding certification and standards criteria for electronic health record technology that supports achieving the meaningful use of this objective.

Certification Criteria	
§170.302(d) Maintain active medication list	Enable a user to electronically record, modify, and retrieve a patient's active medication list as well as medication history for longitudinal care.
§170.302(n) Automated measure calculation	For each meaningful use objective with a percentage-based measure, electronically record the numerator and denominator and generate a report including the numerator, denominator, and resulting percentage associated with each applicable meaningful use measure.
Standards Criteria	
N/A	