

Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) Group Practice Reporting Option (GPRO) Web Interface Measures Data Dictionary

This downloadable file includes information regarding group practice participation in Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) quality program as well as the PQRS GPRO performance rates for the four Diabetes Mellitus (DM) and one Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) measures now publicly reported on Physician Compare. Program year 2012 data are publicly available for the 66 PQRS GPROs of 25 or more eligible professionals (EPs) that successfully participated in the program via the web interface. For information about public reporting on Physician Compare visit the [Physician Compare Initiative](#) page. For all inquiries regarding Physician Compare, including this dataset, contact the Physician Compare team at PhysicianCompare@Westat.com.

Variable Code	Variable	Description	Length	Values
Org_nm	Organization legal name	Name of the Group Practice, as it appears on Physician Compare.	70	string
Org_PAC_ID	Group Practice PAC ID	Unique Group Practice ID assigned by PECOS to the Group Practice.	10	string
st	State	State with all or a majority of the group practice's locations	2	string
eRx	Participating in eRx	Group practice participates in the Medicare Electronic Prescribing (eRx) Incentive Program - a pay-for-reporting program that encourages physicians and other healthcare professionals to use electronic prescribing to improve communication, increase accuracy, and reduce errors.	1	Y/blank
PQRS	Participating in PQRS	Group practice participates in the Medicare Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) Group Practice Reporting Option (GPRO) Incentive Program - a pay-for-reporting program that gives eligible professionals incentives and payment adjustments if they report quality measures satisfactorily. Group Practices that did not participate in PQRS will be missing values for GPRO_DM variable and GPRO_CAD variable.	1	Y/blank
GPRO_DM_10 ⁴	Controlling blood sugar levels in patients with diabetes.	<p>If patients with diabetes have blood sugar levels that stay too high, it can lead to heart disease, stroke, and kidney disease. Doctors should use the A1c lab test to check patients' blood sugar levels and should work with patients with high levels to bring their blood sugar under control.</p> <p>To give the group practice its score, Medicare looked at the percentage of patients with diabetes who had well-controlled blood sugar levels (less than 8% on their most recent A1c lab test). A higher rate means more of the practice's patients had their blood sugar under control.</p>	4	string

Variable Code	Variable	Description	Length	Values
GPRO_DM_3 ⁴	Controlling blood pressure in patients with diabetes.	<p>For people with diabetes, keeping blood pressure at a healthy level helps prevent complications including heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, and vision loss. If needed, doctors should work with patients to bring their blood pressure down to a healthier level.</p> <p>To give the group practice its score, Medicare looked at the percentage of patients with diabetes who had a healthy blood pressure level (less than 140 over 90). Higher rates are better because it means more of the practice's patients had blood pressure at a healthy level.</p>	4	string
GPRO_DM_11 ⁴	Prescribing aspirin to patients with diabetes and heart disease.	<p>People who have both diabetes and heart disease have a higher risk of developing other heart problems. Doctors should work with patients who have been diagnosed with both diabetes and heart disease to determine if they should take aspirin on a daily basis to reduce the risk of other heart problems. (Aspirin may not be safe for everyone — it's best to ask your healthcare professional if you should take aspirin.)</p> <p>To give the group practice its score, Medicare looked at the percentage of patients with both diabetes and heart disease who were prescribed aspirin OR who had a medical reason why they should not take aspirin. A higher rate is better because it means more of the practice's patients were prescribed the medication when needed and appropriate. "NA" is listed for group practices when the data are suppressed due to small sample size.</p>	4	string
GPRO_DM_12 ⁴	Patients with diabetes who do not use tobacco.	<p>People with diabetes already have a higher risk of developing other health problems (like heart disease and stroke) and using tobacco makes these risks even higher. Doctors should screen all patients with diabetes to see if they use tobacco.</p> <p>To give the group practice its score, Medicare looked at the percentage of patients with diabetes who did not use tobacco. Higher rates are better because it means more of the practice's patients did not use tobacco</p>	4	string

Variable Code	Variable	Description	Length	Values
GPRO_CAD_7 ⁴	Prescribing medicine to improve the pumping action of the heart in patients who have both heart disease and certain other conditions.	<p>If patients with heart disease also have diabetes or if the main pumping chamber of their heart (the left ventricle) is not pumping well, treatment recommendations say that doctors should prescribe an ACE inhibitor or ARB drug. (“ACE” means “Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme” and “ARB” means “Angiotensin Receptor Blocker.”) These types of medication help lower blood pressure and make it easier for the heart to pump blood.</p> <p>Medicare looked at patients with heart disease who also have diabetes or a weakened left ventricle. The score is based on the percentage of these patients who were prescribed medicine to improve the pumping action of the heart. A higher rate is better because it means more of the practice’s patients were prescribed the medications they needed.</p>	4	string

◀ If the measure has a value of “NA,” it indicates that data are suppressed due to small sample size.