Accelerating Progress in Promoting Prescription Medicine Adherence: 
*The Adherence Action Agenda*

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Disclosures

• Ray Bullman declares no other conflicts of interest or financial interest in any product or service mentioned in this program, including grants, employment, gifts, stock holdings, and honoraria.

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Learning Objectives

1. Define the term multiple chronic conditions (MCCs), their prevalence among Medicare beneficiaries and the magnitude of cost for caring for Americans with MCCs.

2. Describe populations at greatest risk by age, sex and ethnicity.

3. Define the top dyad and triad of multiple chronic conditions impacting health among Medicare beneficiaries.

4. Describe at three health IT developments making it possible to engage patients more effectively about medication adherence.
Introduction to NCPIE

Decades before patient safety, medication adherence, or patient empowerment became part of our lexicon, they informed the heart and soul of NCPIE’s mission:

To stimulate and improve communication of information on the appropriate use of medicines to consumers and health care professionals.
Since 1982, NCPIE has:

- **Brought together public and private stakeholders** who are committed to improving communication about the safe, appropriate use of medicines;
- **Empowered and engaged consumers**, patients and caregivers so they can have informed dialogue with clinicians (and other trusted sources) about their medicines, to optimize outcomes;
- **Created and implemented programs** to ensure that medicine information is useful, timely, and scientifically accurate in whatever form – and for whichever audience – it is delivered.
(Some) NCPIE Campaigns

Serving as:
- Catalyst
- Convener
- Collaborator

About the Drug Facts Label

How Can the Drug Facts Label Help Improve Your Safe Use of OTCs?

Learn how to read between the lines.
NCPIE Focus on Adherence


1995  Prescription Medicine Compliance: A Review of the Baseline of knowledge (NCPIE Report); Journal of Pharmacoepidemiology

1989  Children & America's Other Drug Problem: Guidelines for Improving Prescription Medicine Use Among Children and Teenagers (NCPIE Report)

1987  Priorities and Approaches for Improving Prescription Medicine Use By Older Americans (NCPIE Report)
Adherence Action Agenda
(A³ Project)

click on link below to view A³ Project video

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O6k5AA_JZOQ
The A³ Project -- Spotlight on:

- **Chronic conditions & co-morbidities**: where we know taking meds safely and appropriately will make a difference in outcomes;

- **Top dyads and triads** for co-morbid chronic conditions.

- **Across the continuum perspective**: adherence improvement for one chronic condition very different than for multiple chronic conditions; very different when multiple providers are involved.
A³ Priorities for Action

1. Establish adherence as priority goal of all federal and state efforts designed to reduce burden of multiple chronic conditions (MCCs).

2. Establish role of the patient navigator within the care team to help MCC patients navigate the system and take meds as prescribed.

3. Promote clinical management approaches tailored to specific needs & circumstances of individuals with MCCs.
A³ Priorities for Action

4. **Incentivize** healthcare system to **incorporate adherence** education & **medication support** as part of routine care for MCC patients.

5. **Eliminate the barriers** that impede the ability of patient with MCCs to **refill their prescription medicines**.

6. **Reduce cost-sharing barriers** for patients by lowering eliminating **patient copayments** for Rx meds used to treat the most common chronic diseases.
7. **Accelerate** the adoption of new health information technologies that promote medication adherence.

8. Establish **adherence** as a measure for the **accreditation** of healthcare professional educational programs.

9. **Address** MCCs and optimal medication adherence approaches in treatment guidelines.
10. **Stimulate rigorous research** in treating MCC patients including focused research on **medication adherence** to promote safe / appropriate use of different medicines in this pt. population.
Recent NCPIE A³ Activity

• Working to:
  – incorporate medication management & adherence as required area of medical education and residency training.
  
  – Promote/advance appointment-based model (ABM) and medication synchronization.
  
  – Incorporate medication mgmt. & adherence for MCC patients as a core competency in federal clinical guidelines in development for HCP undergraduate & post-grad education and continuous learning.
  
  – Analyze adherence-related findings from national NCPIE surveys of consumers’ and HCPs’ attitudes, preferences & practices related to receipt, communication & use of medication risk & safety information.
NCPIE Research: Communicating Medication Risk & Safety Information

**Completed:** National surveys of 2,000 consumers and 800 healthcare professionals (200 each: pharmacists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and primary care physicians [PCPs])

**To assess:** consumers’ and health care professionals’ knowledge, attitudes, use and preferences of medication risk and safety information. Relationship to adherence among respondents with MMCs and HCPs.
Communicating Medication Risk and Safety Information

Research Phase Partners

- Center for Drug Safety and Effectiveness, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University
- Ipsos Healthcare Research

Next Steps: Design, implement a national educational initiative.
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