



PQA Medication Therapy Problem Categories Framework

The Medication Therapy Problem (MTP) Categories Framework is a consensus-based document developed by Pharmacy Quality Alliance’s (PQA) Measure Development Team 9. The framework is intended to standardize how MTPs identified during Medication Therapy Management (MTM) encounters are categorized within measures. The group incorporated input from numerous MTM providers and practices and referred to MTP categories established in the literature.¹ This framework will promote standardized documentation of MTPs and the related interventions intended to resolve the MTPs. This framework may evolve over time with use and feedback.

Medication Related Needs	Medication Therapy Problem Category	Medication Therapy Problem Rationale	
Indication	Unnecessary medication therapy	Duplicate Therapy	
		No medical indication at this time	
		Nonmedication therapy more appropriate	
		Addiction/recreational medication use	
		Treating avoidable adverse medication reaction	
	Needs additional medication therapy	Preventive therapy	
		Untreated condition	
		Synergistic therapy	
Effectiveness	Ineffective medication	More effective medication available	
		Condition refractory to medication	
		Dosage form inappropriate	
	Dosage too low	Dose too low	
		Frequency inappropriate	
		Incorrect administration	
		Medication interaction	
		Incorrect storage	
		Duration inappropriate	
	Needs additional monitoring	Medication requires monitoring	
Safety	Adverse medication event	Undesirable effect	
		Unsafe medication for the patient	
		Medication interaction	
		Incorrect administration	
		Allergic reaction	
		Dosage increase/decrease too fast	
	Dosage too high	Dose too high	
		Frequency inappropriate	
		Duration inappropriate	
		Medication interaction	
	Needs additional monitoring	Medication requires monitoring	
	Adherence	Adherence	Does not understand instructions
			Patient prefers not to take
Patient forgets to take			
Medication product not available			
Cannot swallow/administer medication			
Cost		More cost-effective medication available*	
		Cannot afford medication product	

*Although the medication therapy problem rationale, *more cost-effective medication available*, is placed under the medication-related need of adherence, it may not necessarily relate to adherence directly or represent a patient-focused medication therapy problem.

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Suggested citation: Pharmacy Quality Alliance. PQA Medication Therapy Problem Categories Framework. August 2017. Available at: <https://www.pqaalliance.org/assets/Measures/PQA%20MTP%20Categories%20Framework.pdf>

¹ Cipolle RJ, Strand LM, Morley PC. Pharmaceutical Care Practice: The Patient-Centered Approach to Medication Management. 3rd ed. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill; 2012, p 157.