**Background**

- Atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease remains a leading cause of death worldwide.
- Per 2019 ACC/AHA guidelines, statin therapy is first-line for primary prevention of ASCVD in those with diabetes who are 40-75 years of age.
- A quick review of patient data in epic identified a care gap for patients with diabetes who were not compliant with statin recommendations.
- Our team reviewed patients in this care gap in order to identify barriers to statin compliance.

**Aims For Improvement**

**Aim 1:** To understand the root cause(s) for gaps in statin therapy within a large ambulatory care practice.

**Aime 2:** To improve provider awareness of indications for statin therapy, as recommended by the ACC/AHA guidelines.

**Aim 3:** To increase the proportion of patients with diabetes at our practice that are on statin therapy.

**Measurement and Results: Chart Review**

- Barriers such as patient preference, expired prescriptions, and failure to address were reviewed.
- Data demonstrated the largest reason for statin noncompliance was that it was not addressed by provider.

**Reason for statin noncompliance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for noncompliance</th>
<th>Number of patients (Total 70)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nondiabetic</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient declined</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statin not addressed within past 2 yrs</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statin expired from medication list</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discontinued due to age &gt; 75</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provider decision</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Next Steps and Lessons Learned**

- Our chart review revealed that 50% of patients with diabetes who were not on statin therapy at JFMA did not have statin therapy appropriately addressed by their provider.
- Given these findings, we aimed to create an EHR Better Practice Advisory (BPA) to prompt providers to review this indication for statin therapy.
- This BPA has since been created and implemented within our practice.
- Next steps would include measuring statin use after BPA rollout to determine whether alerting providers to this statin indication improves this care gap.

**Challenges in the Era of COVID19**

- Given the acute nature of the pandemic, office priorities and resources were concentrated on efforts surrounding COVID19.
- Although barriers to statin compliance were identified and a BPA was made, potential next steps such as changes to MA rooming process were unable to be explored during this time.
- As ambulatory practice changes in the post-COVID era, we will need to develop novel ways to continue our chronic disease management for our vulnerable patients.

**Acknowledgements:** Thank you to Wydera Stubbs,, Renea Berry, and JFMA Team 2 MAs.