Definition List for Drug Safety

ADE  Adverse Drug Events
In pharmacology, any unexpected or dangerous reaction to a drug. An unwanted effect caused by the administration of a drug.

BEERS Criteria
Named for Dr. M.H. Beers, principal author of the original 1991 criteria
Criteria for safe medication use in older adults -- for people over 65 years of age.

CPT Codes  Current Procedural Terminology
The CPT code set accurately describes medical, surgical, and diagnostic services and is designed to communicate uniform information about medical services and procedures among physicians, coders, patients, accreditation organizations, and payers for administrative, financial, and analytical purposes. Since everyone uses the same codes to mean the same thing, they ensure uniformity.

DDI  Drug-Drug Interaction
The phenomenon that occurs when the effects or pharmacokinetics of a drug are altered by prior administration of another drug.

HCPCS Codes  Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System
There are two sets of codes. The first set, HCPCS Level I, are based on and identical to the CPT codes. Level II of the HCPCS is a standardized coding system that is used primarily to identify products, supplies, and services not included in the CPT codes, such as ambulance services and durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) when used outside a physician’s office. Because Medicare and other insurers cover a variety of services, supplies, and equipment that are not identified by CPT codes, the level II HCPCS codes were established for submitting claims for these items. The development and use of level II of the HCPCS began in the 1980’s. Level II codes are also referred to as alpha-numeric codes because they consist of a single alphabetical letter followed by 4 numeric digits, while CPT codes are identified using 5 numeric digits.

HEDIS  Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set
A comprehensive set of performance indicators, the Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set ensures that purchasers and consumers have the information they need to reliably compare the performance of managed health care plans. HEDIS measures are sponsored, supported and maintained by the National Committee for Quality Assurance, a not-for-profit organization committed to evaluating and publicly reporting on the quality of managed care plans.

ICD-9-CM  International Classification of Diseases-9th Revision-Clinical Modification
An abbreviated reference to the American Medical Association guide to diagnosis codes.

MA-PDP  Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan
A Medicare drug plan offered through a Medicare Advantage plan (such as an HMO) that offers Medicare prescription drug coverage.

MCO  Managed Care Organization
A health plan that manages health care delivery by having a defined network of select providers who contract to provide health care services to members.
NDC  National Drug Code
A universal product identifier used in the United States for drugs intended for human use
Drug products are identified and reported using the NDC

PDE  Prescription Drug Event
Every time a beneficiary fills a prescription under Medicare Part D, a prescription drug plan sponsor
must submit a summary record called the prescription drug event (PDE) data to CMS. The PDE data
are not the same as individual drug claim transactions, but are summary extracts using CMS-defined
standard fields.
The PDE record contains prescription drug cost and payment data that enables CMS to make
payments to plans and otherwise administer the Part D benefit.

PDP  Prescription Drug Plan
A Prescription Drug Plan is prescription drug coverage that is offered under a policy, contract, or plan
that has been approved as specified in 42 CFR Section 423.272 and that is offered by a PDP sponsor
that has a contract with CMS that meets the contract requirements under subpart K.

PI  Performance Indicators
Measures used to rate the performance of a health plan or its providers, including mortality rates, costs, rates of
specific procedures, rates of hospitalization for preventable diseases or patient satisfaction.

PIM  Potentially Inappropriate Medication
Also referred to as DAE-Drugs to Avoid in the Elderly
Medications that should be avoided in persons 65 years or older because they are ineffective or pose an
unnecessarily high risk or because a safer alternative is available.

PRS  Program Resource System
Found in SDPS, PRS is the storage area for all physician, health service provider, beneficiary, MA, PDP,
and MAC/FI/Carrier information for every state. It is considered the center of the QualityNet data
system because all other applications link to PRS as a data source. QIOs have the ability and
responsibility to update fields in PRS to keep it as current as possible.

QMIS  Quality Measures Management Information System
The Quality Measures Management Information System (QMIS) is a comprehensive, Web-based,
electronic tool to support the Measures Management System. It will be the repository of all the quality
measures used by CMS and the electronic tool to track the development and maintenance of those
measures.