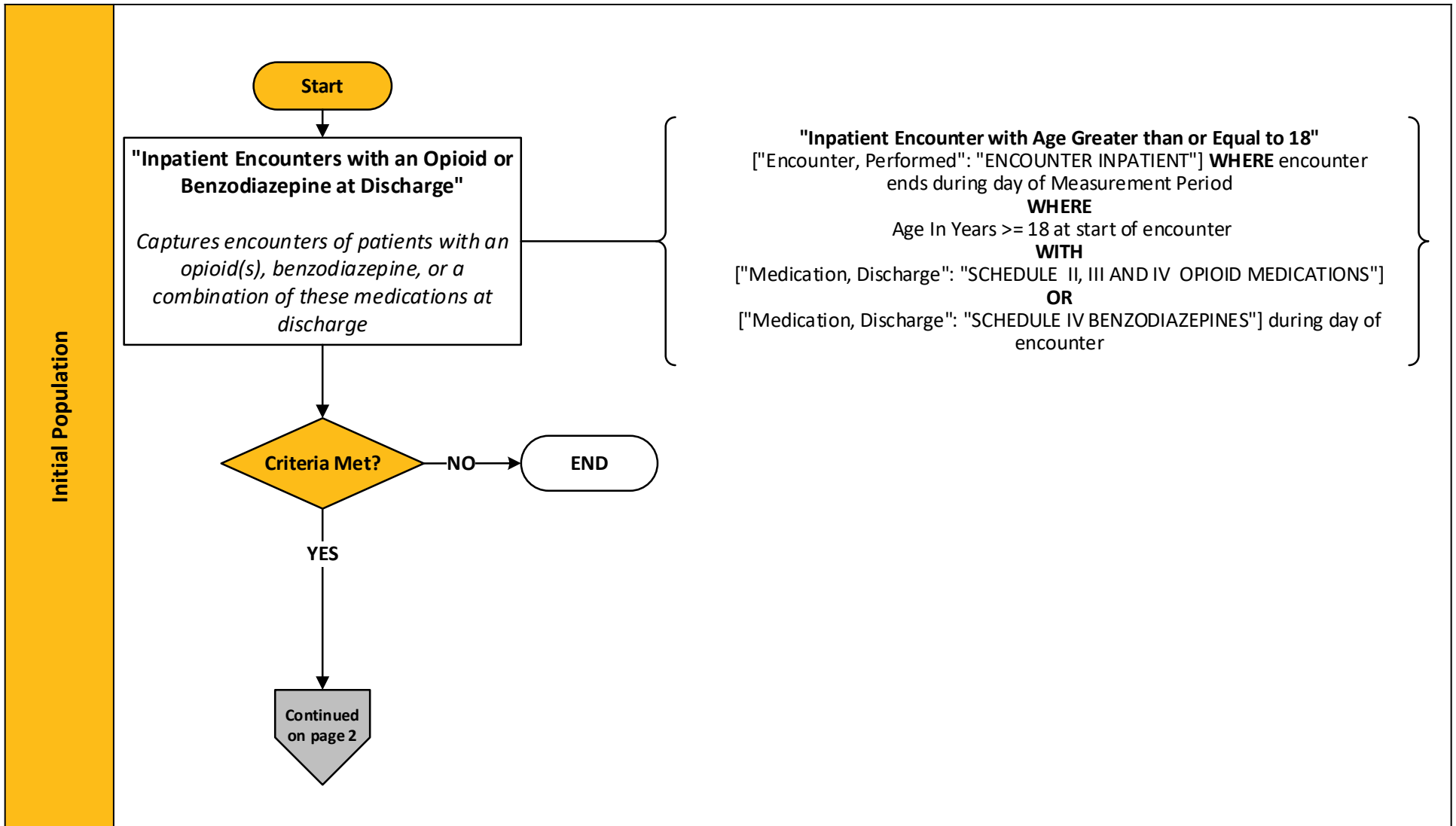# 2025 eCQM Flow – **CMS506v7: Safe Use of Opioids – Concurrent Prescribing* CBE# 3316e**

*This flow diagram represents an overview of population criteria requirements. Please refer to the eCQM measure specification for a complete list of definitions, direct reference codes, data or timing elements included in this measure and required for submission.

Measure Flow Diagram

Initial Population

Start

"Inpatient Encounters with an Opioid or Benzodiazepine at Discharge"

Captures encounters of patients with an opioid(s), benzodiazepine, or a combination of these medications at discharge

"Inpatient Encounter with Age Greater than or Equal to 18"
["Encounter, Performed": "ENCOUNTER INPATIENT"] **WHERE** encounter ends during day of Measurement Period
WHERE
Age In Years >= 18 at start of encounter
WITH
["Medication, Discharge": "SCHEDULE II, III AND IV OPIOID MEDICATIONS"]
OR
["Medication, Discharge": "SCHEDULE IV BENZODIAZEPINES"] during day of encounter

Criteria Met? — NO → **END**

YES

Continued on page 2

2025 eCQM Flow – CMS506v7: Safe Use of Opioids – Concurrent Prescribing* CBE# 3316e

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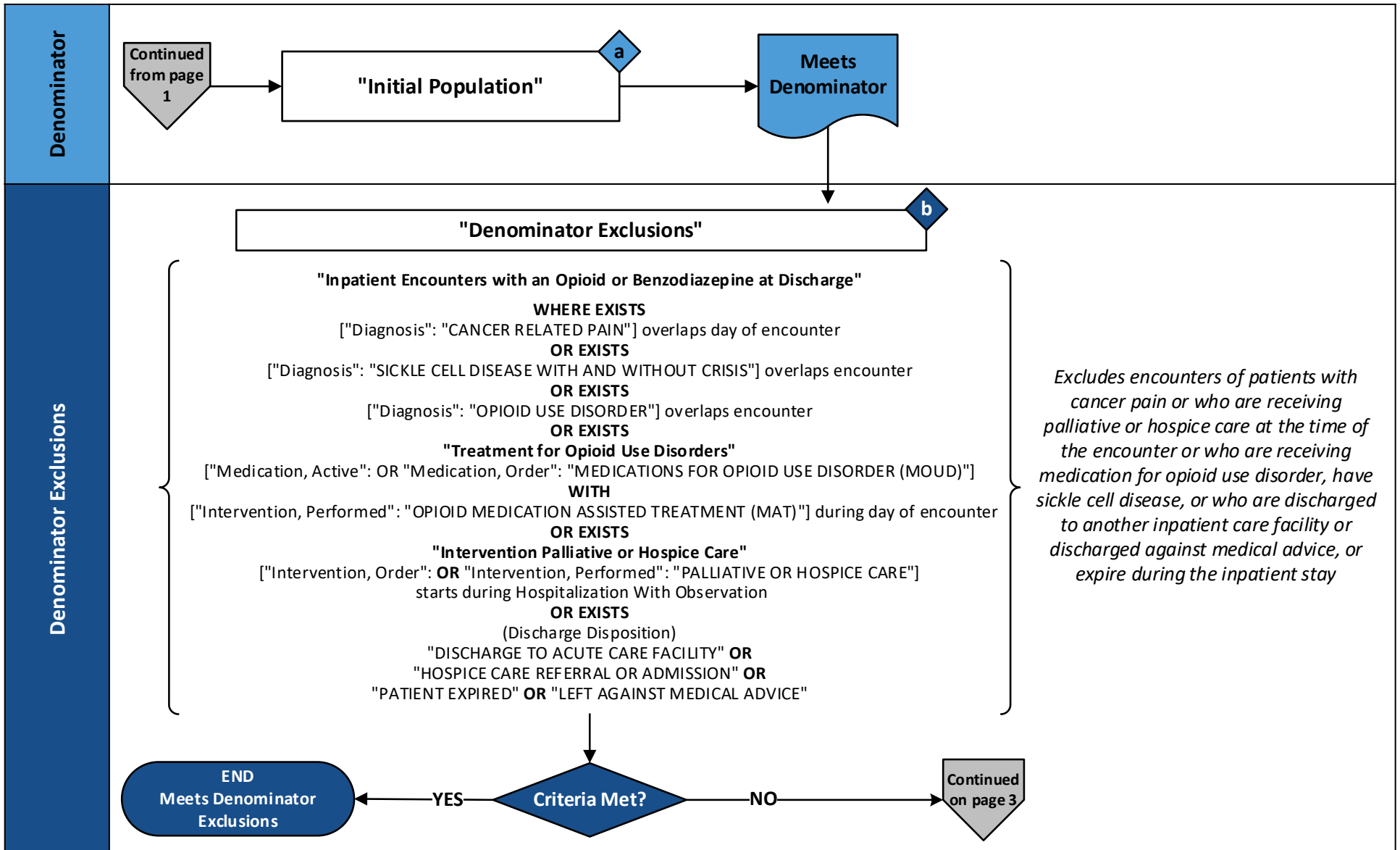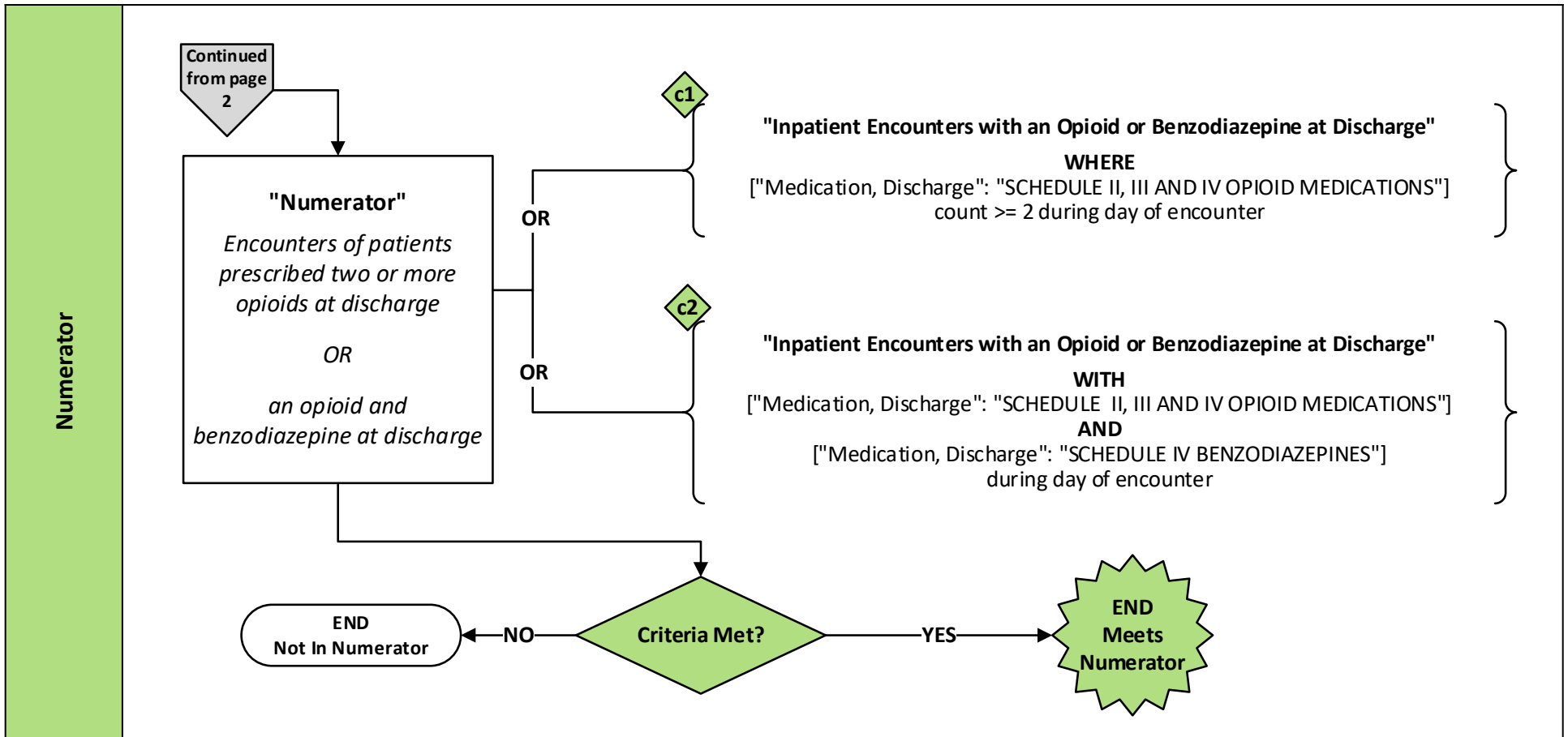
Measure Flow Diagram (Continued)

Denominator

Continued from page 1 → "Initial Population" — a → **Meets Denominator**

Denominator Exclusions

"Denominator Exclusions" — b

"Inpatient Encounters with an Opioid or Benzodiazepine at Discharge"

WHERE EXISTS
["Diagnosis": "CANCER RELATED PAIN"] overlaps day of encounter
OR EXISTS
["Diagnosis": "SICKLE CELL DISEASE WITH AND WITHOUT CRISIS"] overlaps encounter
OR EXISTS
["Diagnosis": "OPIOID USE DISORDER"] overlaps encounter
OR EXISTS
"Treatment for Opioid Use Disorders"
["Medication, Active": OR "Medication, Order": "MEDICATIONS FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER (MOUD)"]
WITH
["Intervention, Performed": "OPIOID MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT)"] during day of encounter
OR EXISTS
"Intervention Palliative or Hospice Care"
["Intervention, Order": **OR** "Intervention, Performed": "PALLIATIVE OR HOSPICE CARE"]
starts during Hospitalization With Observation
OR EXISTS
(Discharge Disposition)
"DISCHARGE TO ACUTE CARE FACILITY" **OR**
"HOSPICE CARE REFERRAL OR ADMISSION" **OR**
"PATIENT EXPIRED" **OR** "LEFT AGAINST MEDICAL ADVICE"

Excludes encounters of patients with cancer pain or who are receiving palliative or hospice care at the time of the encounter or who are receiving medication for opioid use disorder, have sickle cell disease, or who are discharged to another inpatient care facility or discharged against medical advice, or expire during the inpatient stay

Criteria Met?

— YES → **END Meets Denominator Exclusions**

— NO → Continued on page 3

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Measure Flow Diagram (Continued)

Numerator

Continued from page 2

"Numerator"

Encounters of patients prescribed two or more opioids at discharge

OR

an opioid and benzodiazepine at discharge

OR

c1

"Inpatient Encounters with an Opioid or Benzodiazepine at Discharge"
WHERE
["Medication, Discharge": "SCHEDULE II, III AND IV OPIOID MEDICATIONS"]
count >= 2 during day of encounter

OR

c2

"Inpatient Encounters with an Opioid or Benzodiazepine at Discharge"
WITH
["Medication, Discharge": "SCHEDULE II, III AND IV OPIOID MEDICATIONS"]
AND
["Medication, Discharge": "SCHEDULE IV BENZODIAZEPINES"]
during day of encounter

Criteria Met? —**NO**→ **END Not In Numerator**

Criteria Met? —**YES**→ **END Meets Numerator**

Sample Calculation

$$\text{Performance Rate} = \frac{\text{Numerator (c1 + c2 = 20)}}{\text{Denominator (a = 100)} - \text{Denominator Exclusions (b = 10)}} = 22\,\%$$

This flow diagram represents an overview of population criteria requirements. Please refer to the eCQM measure specification for a complete list of definitions, direct reference codes, data or timing elements included in this measure and required for submission.

Measure Flow Narrative

The measure flow diagram on the preceding pages illustrates the steps to determine the population criteria for this measure.

Measure Description	This measure assesses the proportion of inpatient hospitalizations for patients age 18 years and older prescribed, or continued on, two or more opioids or an opioid and benzodiazepine concurrently at discharge
Initial Population	Start by identifying the initial population criteria as inpatient hospitalizations where: • patient is 18 years or older at the start of the encounter • hospitalization that ends during the measurement period • patient is prescribed one or more new or continuing opioid or benzodiazepine at discharge
Denominator	The denominator is the same as the initial population

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Measure Flow Narrative (Continued)

The measure flow diagram on the preceding pages illustrates the steps to determine the population criteria for this measure.

Denominator Exclusions	The denominator exclusions criteria identify a subset of the denominator population by excluding inpatient hospitalizations where the patient has any of the following: • cancer pain that begins prior to or during the encounter • ordered or are receiving palliative or hospice care (including comfort measures, terminal care, and dying care) during the hospitalization or in an emergency department encounter or observation stay immediately prior to hospitalization • receiving medication for opioid use disorder • sickle cell disease • discharged to another inpatient care facility • expires during the inpatient stay • left against medical advice
Numerator	The numerator criteria identify a subset of the denominator population (that did not meet the denominator exclusions criteria) by including inpatient hospitalizations where the patient is prescribed or is continuing to take at discharge: • two or more opioids • OR an opioid AND a benzodiazepine