

### The underlying pattern of health seeking behavior and its documentation within the health system

- Describe the strategy used to screen for medication use, informed by underlying pattern of patient behavior, and formatting documentation within the data source
- Describe the steps taken to transform the data into a common data model (e.g., cleaning, curation, mapping)
- Describe the medication record type(s) (e.g., prescription order, medication administration, dispensing claim, multiple types)

### The characteristics of data source that were used and approach used to identify the medication used

- Use knowledge of clinical practice, how the data are produced, and how the data are sorted to guide decisions regarding the appropriate sources of medication information within a given data source
- Use knowledge about the format in which the medications use data are captured and stored (in structured fields, as coded data within structured fields, text within semi-structured or discrete fields, within free-text clinical notes) to guide the identification of medications used
- Include the structured code list or list of string texts used to identify occurrences of medication use as supplementary material for any study protocols and manuscripts

### Timing elements related to medication use

- Describe how elements related to timing (initiation, subsequent uses, discontinuation) were identified
- Describe how the relative timing of medication use (switching to a new product or the health event of interest) was operationalized, based on the conceptual definition
- How the duration of medication use was calculated

### Other features of medication use

- If prevalent or incident use is of interest, describe how it was defined. If incident use is of interest, describe whether or how a clean or washout period was applied
- If only one qualifying episode of medication use was allowed (vs. multiple qualifying episodes), describe how this was selected
- If medication dose is of interest, describe whether dose information was available, the measure of interest, and how medication dose was calculated
- Describe how records with missing medication information were handled
- If multiple data sources are used for a given patient, describe how discrepancies and potential duplicates were handled

### Algorithm validation

- Provide the relevant references or describe the validation performed.
- Provide the performance metrics from the validation.