

# Adherence Assessment via Proportion of Days Covered (PDC) Among a National Network of Health System Specialty Pharmacies



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## Introduction

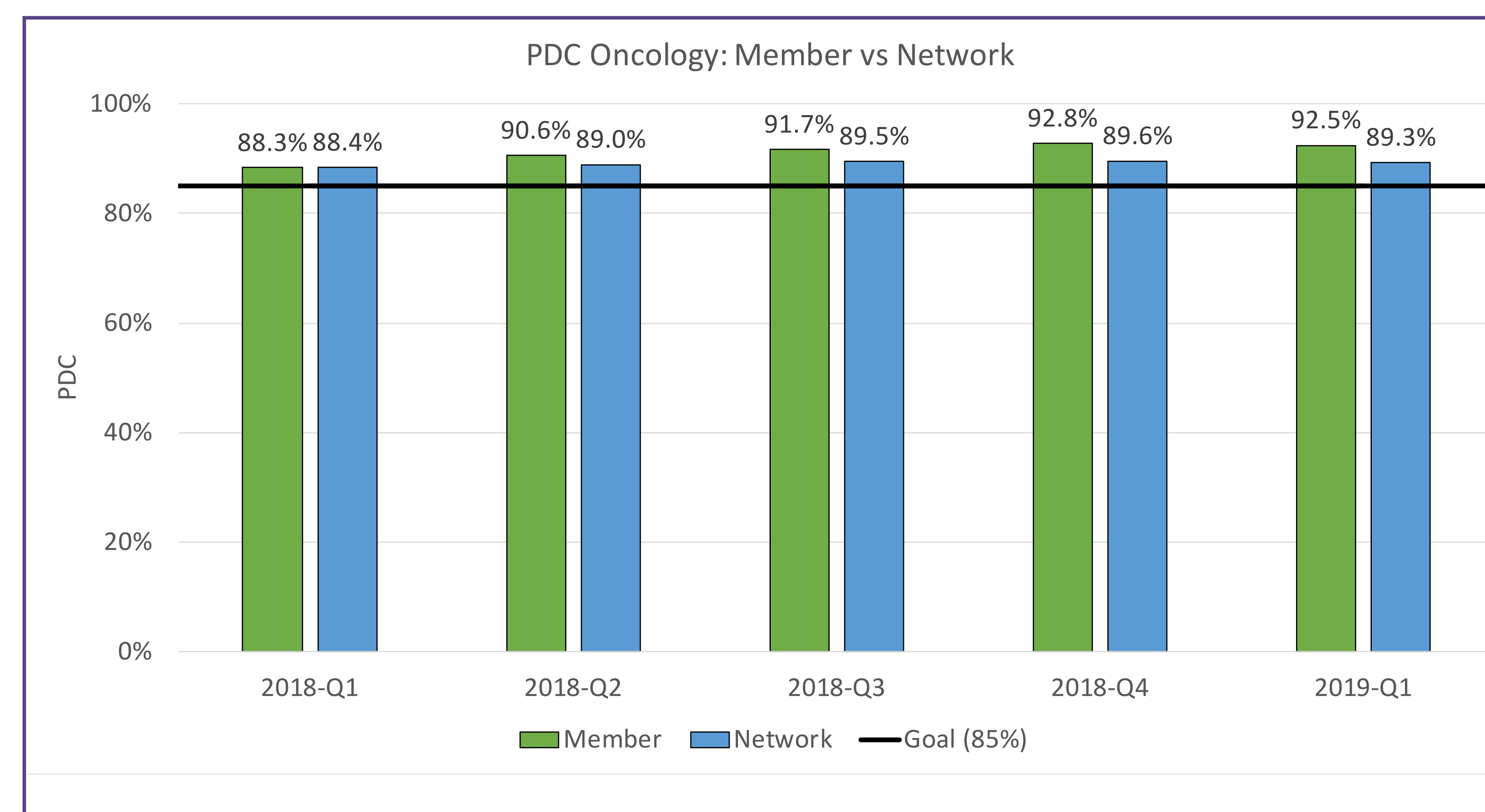
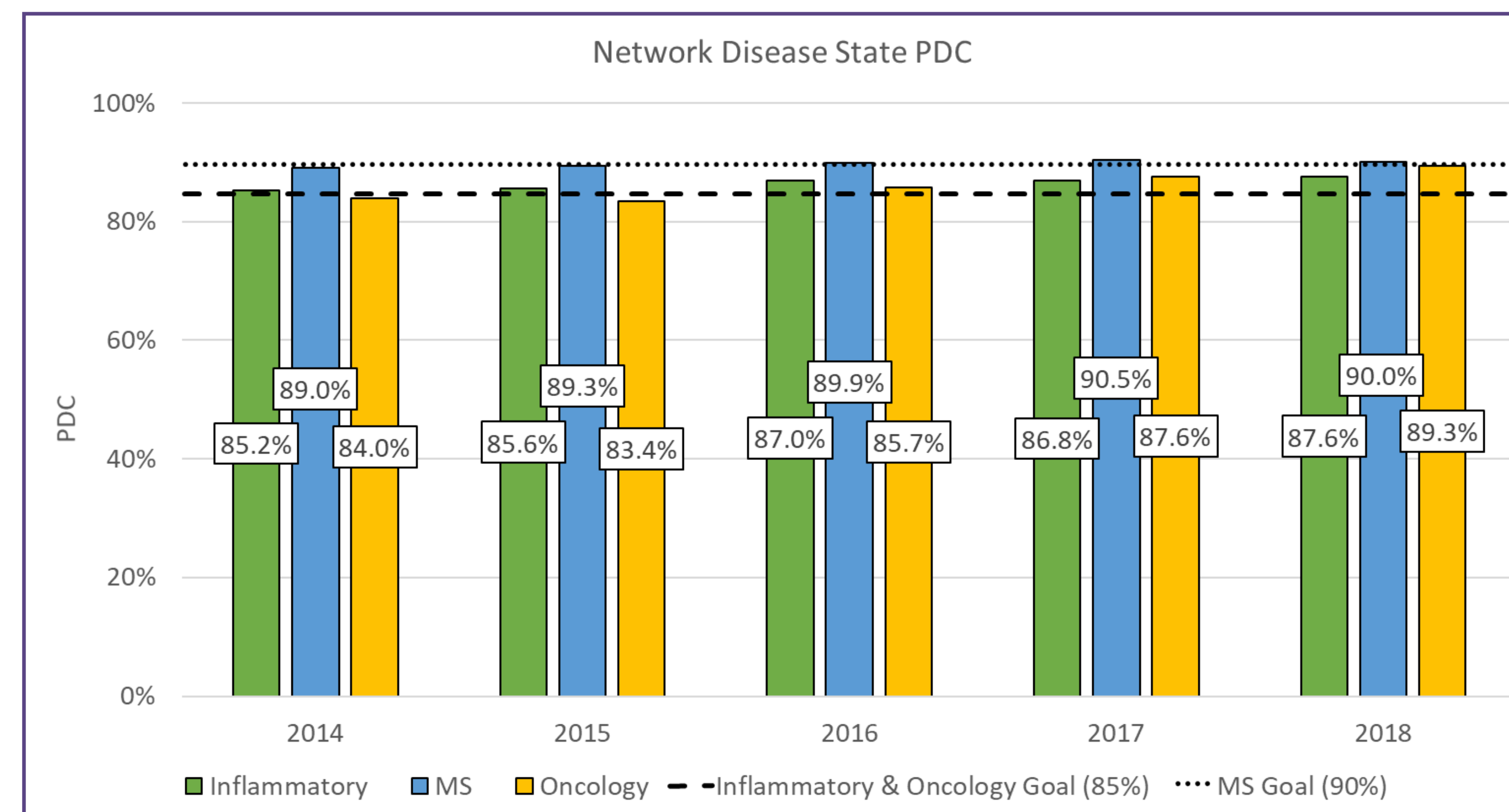
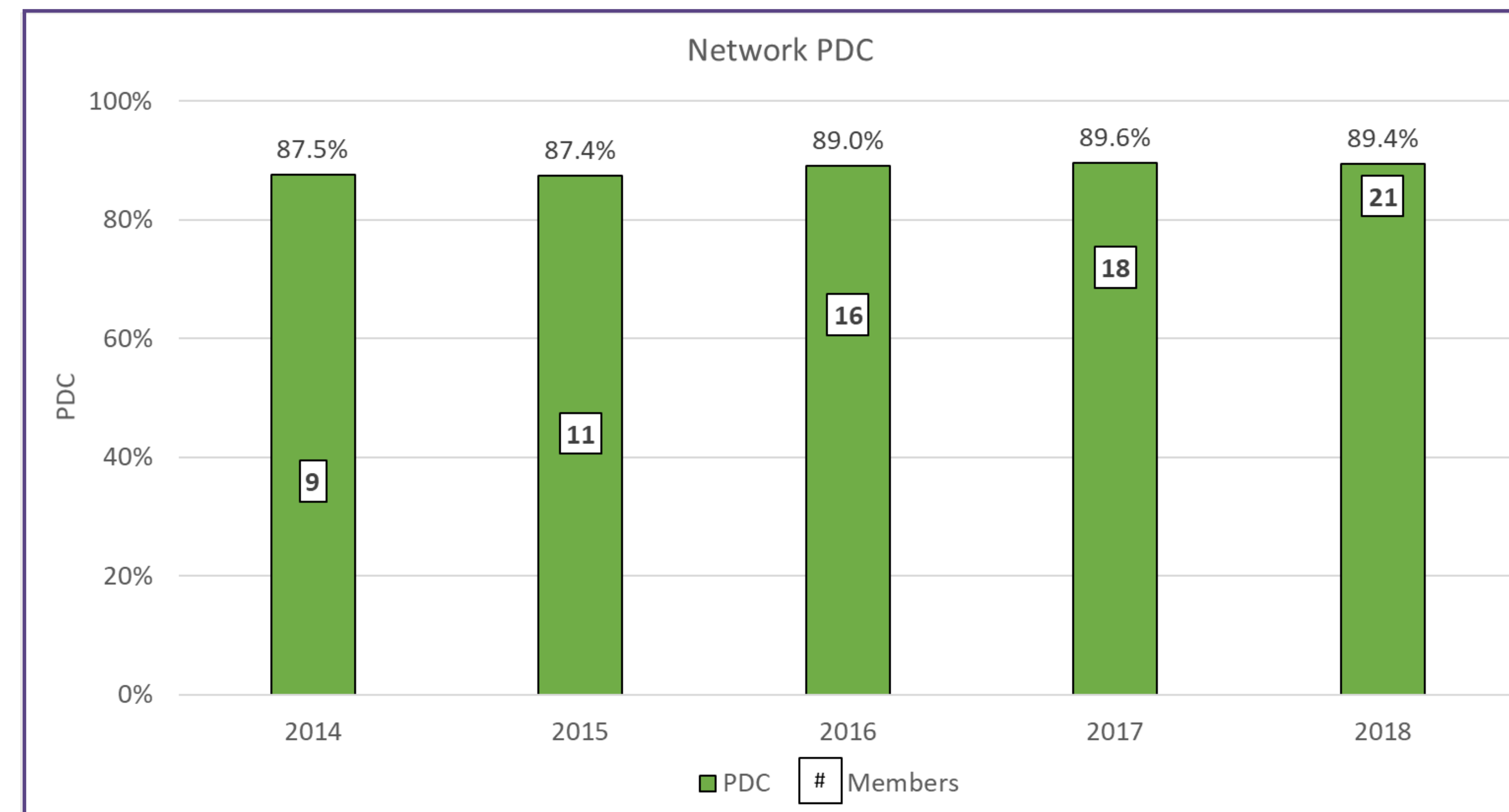
- Non-adherence to specialty medications can have a significant impact on morbidity, quality of life and overall cost of care.<sup>1-4</sup>
- Proportion of days covered (PDC) is an objective, principle method used in calculating medication adherence via a patient's refill record.<sup>5</sup>
- Excelera is a nationwide network of over 20 health systems that operate their own specialty pharmacies (SP).
- Excelera created a data reporting platform through which member health systems submit data allowing for calculations such as PDC.
- PDC is reported back to member health systems on an ongoing basis allowing their pharmacists to gain insights into adherence on a therapeutic class, drug or patient specific level and make appropriate interventions as necessary.

## Objective

- Describe the process Excelera created for assessing adherence via PDC across a network of health system specialty pharmacies.

## Methods

- PDC is a preferred method of adherence assessment for chronic therapies, is an expected reported measure by SP accreditation organizations, and is endorsed by the Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA) and CMS.
- Excelera uses a standardized PDC. The defined equation to calculate PDC:
  - $(\text{Days within the measurement window with doses supplied} / \text{days within the measurement window}) \times 100$
- Established PDC goals for *specialty diseases* are not clearly defined in the literature so Excelera set the goal **above** the 80% industry accepted standard for other therapies treating chronic disease states (except for those therapeutic categories where there is some evidence to support specific goals like HIV).<sup>5</sup>
- Dashboards were created for member site pharmacists to review their performance against the established PDC goal and the network as a whole.



## Results

- Outcomes show members meeting goals and/or trending above goals in a consistent manner (and always above the recommended PQA PDC goal of 80% for MS).<sup>5</sup>

## Conclusions

- A systematic process for reporting PDC allows specialty pharmacists to assess adherence and determine if changes need to be made for patient outreach and/or therapy management programs.
- This objective data created opportunity for quality improvement including best practice sharing through the network clinical committee and regular business reviews. By standing up this process, we have been able to increase the overall adherence across the network.

## References

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