

## **AIM-LO: Key Tips to Maximize Therapeutic Access for Your Patients**

### **Presented by Dr. Sandeep Aggarwal**

#### **Introduction**

Hello colleagues, I'm Sandeep Aggarwal. In this video, I'll be discussing the best practices for prescribing medications that can sometimes be challenging to prescribe because of special authorization forms or other access issues.

Often, we know that there are some medications that could improve a patient's heart health, but getting coverage for medications not covered by public plans can be challenging. In this video, I'll outline some simple tips that can help make prescribing these medications easier and less burdensome.

#### **Simple tips to help you and your patients**

To be successful in improving access for your patients, it's essential to know the patient's insurance coverage for medications. Having this information in the EMR helps to identify it quickly and facilitates conversations with patients and gathering information required for coverage.

It's also helpful to have partners in the community or your practice who can help complete the forms required for coverage. This can include internal resources such as nurses or pharmacists, or partners in the community like a pharmacy willing to navigate patient support programs and insurance forms.

Collaborating with these partners can be beneficial to both parties and can help with more than one or two medications. In Calgary, I work with one of the pharmacy chains here and refer patients to them for most of the heavy lifting required for these types of prescriptions.

If you plan to use support programs out of your EMR, it's important to have them preloaded with as much information as possible to reduce the manual workload. Having a referral form to an external pharmacy preloaded in your electronic medical record is also helpful.

When prescribing medications like PCSK9-targeting therapies such as evolocumab or inclisiran, track statin and ezetimibe use, and chart it while the patient is in your office. This way, you have the information required for filling out forms.

**Conclusion**

For the purpose of this program, we ensured the forms to enroll your patients in the repatha or inclisiran patient support programs are already preloaded in your EMR with that information, for ease of use.

If you follow the steps above, spend a few minutes organizing your electronic medical record system, and charting the required information, prescribing injectables such as PCSK9-targeting therapies can become much easier. This way, you'll be helping your patients achieve their goals.