

Medicare and Medicaid quality news

Helping you close gaps in care with tools, resources and member engagement campaigns

Fall 2023

★ Medicare quality

The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) is moving to Electronic Clinical Data Sets (ECDS) measure reporting.

What's ECDS?

A new reporting methodology created to help HEDIS implementers understand how health IT can optimize quality reporting using electronic data feeds such as EHR feeds, case management platforms, and immunizations registries.

How will this impact you?

As part of our Digital First initiative, you'll see an increased push to transition to direct data feeds for electronic exchange of clinical data. With increased electronic data exchange, providers can expect fewer requests for medical records.

For more information, visit [HEDIS Electronic Clinical Data Systems \(ECDS\) Reporting – NCQA](#)

Changes in the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS)

Accurate and up to date data plays a key role in monitoring patient wellness and closing gaps in care. We're here to help keep you informed on what's new in HEDIS.

2023 measurement year changes

The following HEDIS measures were added:

Oral Evaluation, Dental Services

Members under 21 years of age who received a comprehensive or periodic oral evaluation with a dental provider during the measurement year

Topical Fluoride for Children

Members 1-4 years of age who received at least two fluoride varnish applications during the measurement year

Emergency Department Visit for Hypoglycemia in Older Adults with Diabetes

Members 67 years of age and older with diabetes (types 1 and 2) and the risk-adjusted ratio of observed to expected (O/E) emergency department (ED) visits for hypoglycemia during the measurement year

Social Need Screening and Intervention

Members who were screened at least once during the measurement period for unmet food, housing, transportation needs, and received a corresponding intervention if they screened positive

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2023 measurement year changes (cont.)

The following HEDIS measures were retired:

Annual Dental Visits

Replaced with: Oral Evaluation, Dental Services and Topical Fluoride for Children

Frequency of Selected Procedures

Not replaced

The following HEDIS measures were changed:

Adult Immunization Status

NCQA revised this measure to align with the new Pneumococcal vaccination guidelines, including an expansion of age range

Cervical Cancer Screening

NCQA will allow voluntary EDCS reporting for this measure

Breast Cancer Screening

NCQA retired the administrative only reporting method for this measure. Only the ECDS reporting method will be used

Changes in the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS)

CAHPS works in tandem with HEDIS to measure patient experience. Find all you need to know about CAHPS measure changes here.

2023 measurement year changes

The following CAHPS measures were retired and are now covered in the Adult Immunizations Status measure

- Flu Vaccine for Adults Ages 18-64
- Flu Vaccine for Adults Ages 65 and Older
- Pneumococcal Vaccine Status for Older Adults

Closing care gaps for your patients with diabetes

Compliance with HEDIS measures can help close gaps in care for your patients with diabetes. By adhering to the Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes measure (see above) you can assess patients for the presence of kidney disease.

Star rating changes

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) uses Star ratings to determine the performance of Medicare Advantage Organizations and ensure that Medicare Advantage beneficiaries are receiving effective and valuable care. The following measure will be added to the Part C measure detail for measurement year 2024.

Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes (KED)

This measure evaluates patients 18-85 years of age with diabetes (types 1 and 2) who received a kidney health evaluation, defined by an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) and a urine albumin-creatinine ratio (uACR).

 Medicaid quality**In September we recognized Suicide Prevention Month**

In September, and every month, we're partnering with you to break down stigmatic and access barriers to mental health resources in our communities. Click [here](#) to learn more about the resources we offer to help your patients, our member.

Together we can work to minimize the impact of diabetes

As the impact of diabetes continues to grow, we're committed to helping you close care gaps through various PIP & Star measures:

Eye exam for patients with diabetes

- **Compliance:** Must be a retinal or dilated eye exam by an optometrist or ophthalmologist. General eye exams are not included
- **Measure:** the percentage of members 18–75 years of age with diabetes (types 1 and 2) who had a retinal eye exam with an optometrist or ophthalmologist.

Hemoglobin A1c control for patients with diabetes

- **Compliance:** A1c must be completed within the measurement period. Only the most recent A1c result will be reported
- **Measure:** members 18–75 years of age with diabetes (types 1 and 2) whose hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) was at the following levels during the measurement year:
 - HbA1c Control (<8.0%)
 - HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%)

Kidney health evaluation for patients with diabetes

- **Compliance:** both an eGFR and uACR test must be completed yearly
- **Measure:** members 18–85 years of age with diabetes (types 1 and 2) who received a kidney health evaluation, defined by an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) and a urine albumin-creatinine ratio (uACR)Resources on kidney health:

Your patients have access to a free kidney disease risk quiz. [Take the quiz.](#)

Did you know we offer diabetes prevention programs as a preventative benefit at no cost to our members? Visit our [Diabetes prevention program page](#) to find programs near you.

For more information on compliance, billing codes and best practices visit the [2023 HEDIS provider reference guide](#). Some of these measures impact your PCP Incentive Program. You can review the [PCP Incentive Program manual](#) for details.

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Dental health

Oral health can often be a window into overall health. Join us in encouraging members to stay healthy through scheduling regular dental checkups and practicing good dental hygiene.

Dental coverage information:

- We offer dental coverage to all members ages 19 and above enrolled in Healthy Michigan Plan, as well as all members ages 21 and older, enrolled in Medicaid.

Children under age 21 and enrolled in Medicaid are automatically enrolled into the Healthy Kids Dental program. The two plans available are Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Delta Dental of Michigan

Members with dental coverage through Delta Dental can access the [Delta Dental directory](#) to find a dentist in their area.