



To: The Department of Health Policy and Financing
Cc: The Program Improvement Advisory Committee
From: Behavioral Health and Integration Strategies
Date: March 2020
Subject: SB222 Performance Measurement Requirement

Executive Summary: Health First Colorado members who are released from a Department of Corrections (DOC) facility experience drastically higher mortality rates within the first two weeks compared to the general population (Binswanger, 2007). The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) is required by legislation to develop measurable outcomes to monitor efforts to prevent members from becoming involved with the DOC system. To meet the legislative requirements, the Behavioral Health and Integration Strategies (BHIS) subcommittee have developed a metric for Regional Accountable Entities (RAEs) that measures if a member has a behavioral or physical health visit within fourteen (14) days of being released from a DOC facility.

Background: In 2019, the Colorado Legislature passed Senate Bill 222 (SB222). The bill requires HCPF to work collaboratively with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to monitor and prevent members from becoming involved in the justice system. To fulfill the requirements of SB222, HCPF solicited feedback from its stakeholders, including BHIS, regarding potential measures. From September 2019 to February 2020, BHIS reviewed potential metrics related crisis systems overlap with RAE behavioral health networks, care for members with cognitive challenges, and re-entry collaboration for members releasing from state prisons. After reviewing existing performance data, system momentum, and alignment with the Governor’s Behavioral Health Task Force, BHIS developed the following metric. This metric will be reviewed and monitor by BHIS at least bi-annually to advise on performance and new innovations.

Proposed Measure:

Health Care Engagement Post Release	
Definition	Percentage of members releasing from state prisons with a behavioral or physical health appointment within fourteen (14) days.
Numerator	The number of members who had at least one appointment with a behavioral or physical health provider within fourteen (14) days of being released from state prisons.
Denominator	The number of members who were released from state prisons and who are eligible for Medicaid.
Current Performance	7% (2016)
Target	TBD



Timeframe	State Fiscal Year (July 2020 – June 2021)
Incentive	ACC Performance Pool
Rationale	Fulfills requirements of SB222
Data Sources	Behavioral and physical health claims and encounters; DOC Roster
Comments	<p>The BHIS subcommittee has been reviewing the proposed metric and the following are areas to consider as HCPF moves towards implementation and monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilization from the Approved Treatment Provider (ATP) network • The appropriate timeframe that a member needs to have an appointment post-release (14 days vs 7 days) • The appropriate timeframe that a member needs to have an appointment post-release based on diagnosis or other factors • Determine what qualifies as engagement in services (intake vs. services which follow an intake), to ensure the quality of the engagement. • Extended care coordination provided to a member by an RAE • Determine if the metric is measured on an individual RAE level or a statewide

Reference:

Binswanger, I. A., Stern, M. F., Deyo, R. A., Heagerty, P. J., Cheadle, A., Elmore, J. G., & Koepsell, T. D. (2007). Release from Prison — A High Risk of Death for Former Inmates. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 356(5), 536–536. DOI: 10.1056/nejmx070008

