

COLORADO

Department of Health Care Policy & Financing

MY 2022 HEDIS[®] Compliance Audit Report Denver Health Medical Plan

September 2023

This report was produced by Health Services Advisory Group, Inc., for the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing.





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Validation of Performance Measures

Introduction

The Colorado State Medicaid agency, the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (the Department) contracts with Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. (HSAG), to perform the four mandatory external quality review (EQR) activities required by the Medicaid managed care regulations released May 6, 2016. Validation of the performance measures calculated and submitted by each managed care organization (MCO) is one of these mandatory activities as articulated in 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §438.358. The Department has contracted with HSAG, an external quality review organization (EQRO), to conduct the validation of performance measures for **Denver Health Medical Plan (DHMP)**, an MCO, based on measurement year (MY) 2022 data.

The Department opted to use selected National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS[®])¹ measures as the performance measures and calendar year 2022 as the measurement period for validation. Developed and maintained by NCQA, HEDIS is a set of performance measures broadly accepted in the managed care environment as an industry standard. Because **DHMP** is required to calculate and submit the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Core Set performance measures and undergo an NCQA HEDIS Compliance Audit^{TM,2}, HSAG validated the results from the audits to meet the requirements articulated in the Medicaid managed care regulations. More specifically, HSAG's role in the validation of performance measures was to ensure that the validation activities were conducted as outlined in the CMS publication, *CMS External Quality Review (EQR) Protocols*, February 2023.³

The primary objectives of the performance measure validation process were to:

- Evaluate the accuracy of the performance measure data collected by **DHMP**.
- Determine the extent to which the specific performance measures calculated by **DHMP** (or on behalf of **DHMP**) followed the specifications established for each performance measure.

DHMP underwent an NCQA HEDIS Compliance Audit through an NCQA-licensed audit organization of its choice and submitted the audited results and audit statement to HSAG. Since the audit was conducted in compliance with NCQA's *HEDIS Measurement Year (MY) 2022 Compliance Audit: Standards, Policies, and Procedures, Volume 5* and the NCQA HEDIS Compliance Audit is consistent with the CMS

¹ HEDIS[®] is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

² NCQA HEDIS Compliance Audit[™] is a trademark of NCQA. The purpose of conducting a HEDIS audit is to ensure that rates submitted by **DHMP** are reliable, valid, accurate, and can be compared to one another. For a brief overview of the NCQA HEDIS Compliance Audit, please refer to Appendix A.

³ Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. *External Quality Review (EQR) Protocols, February 2023*. Available at: <u>https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/downloads/2023-eqr-protocols.pdf</u>. Accessed on: Aug 28, 2023.



Performance Measure Validation Protocol, the findings, and results from the NCQA HEDIS Compliance Audit can be reviewed, validated, and eventually accepted as findings for the validation of performance measures to meet the managed care requirements.

Performance Measure List

The NCQA-licensed audit organizations validated, at a minimum, a set of performance measures selected by the Department. The measures, which are listed in Table 1, are CMS Core Set measures that follow the definitions outlined in CMS' *Core Set of Adult/Child Health Care Quality Measures for Medicaid Reporting Manual*, and the reporting method required by the Department.

Performance Measures	Reporting Methodology
Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment for Acute Bronchitis/Bronchiolitis—Ages 3 Months to 17 Years, Ages 18 to 64 Years, and Ages 65 Years and Older	Administrative
Antidepressant Medication Management—Effective Acute Phase Treatment and Effective Continuation Phase Treatment	Administrative
Asthma Medication Ratio—Ages 5 to 11 Years, Ages 12 to 18 Years, Ages 19 to 50 Years, and Ages 51 to 64 Years	Administrative
Breast Cancer Screening	Administrative
Controlling High Blood Pressure	Administrative
Contraceptive Care—Postpartum Women—Ages 15 to 20 Years and Ages 21 to 44 Years	Administrative
Cervical Cancer Screening	Administrative
Contraceptive Care—All Women—Ages 15 to 20 Years and Ages 21 to 44 Years	Administrative
Screening for Depression and Follow-Up Plan—Ages 12 to 17 Years, Ages 18 to 64 Years, and Ages 65 Years and Older	Administrative
Chlamydia Screening in Women—Ages 16 to 20 Years and Ages 21 to 24 Years	Administrative
Concurrent Use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines	Administrative
Colorectal Cancer Screening	Administrative
Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Substance Use—Ages 13 to 17 Years, Ages 18 to 64 Years, and Ages 65 Years and Older	Administrative

Table 1—Health First Colorado MY 2022 Performance Measure Reporting Set⁴

⁴ In Colorado, Medicaid is known as Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program).



Performance Measures	Reporting Methodology
Follow-Up After Hospitalization for Mental Illness—Ages 6 to 17 Years, Ages 18 to 64 Years, and Ages 65 Years and Older	Administrative
Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Mental Illness—7-Day Follow-Up and 30-Day Follow-Up—Ages 6 to 17 Years, Ages 18 to 64 Years, and Ages 65 Years and Older	Administrative
Hemoglobin A1c Control for Patients With Diabetes	Administrative
Diabetes Care for People With Serious Mental Illness—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%)	Administrative
HIV Viral Load Suppression	Administrative
Initiation and Engagement of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment	Administrative
Use of Opioids at High Dosage in Persons Without Cancer	Administrative
Use of Pharmacotherapy for Opioid Use Disorder	Administrative
Plan All-Cause Readmissions	Administrative
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care and Postpartum Care	Administrative
Diabetes Short-Term Complications Admission Rate	Administrative
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) or Asthma in Older Adults Admission Rate	Administrative
Heart Failure Admission Rate	Administrative
Asthma in Younger Adults Admission Rate	Administrative
Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals With Schizophrenia	Administrative
Diabetes Screening for People With Schizophrenia or Bipolar Disorder Who Are Using Antipsychotic Medications	Administrative
Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Medication	Administrative
Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department (ED) Visits	Administrative
Metabolic Monitoring for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics	Administrative
Use of First-Line Psychosocial Care for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics	Administrative
Childhood Immunization Status—Combinations 3, 7, and 10	Administrative
Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life	Administrative



Performance Measures	Reporting Methodology
<i>Immunizations for Adolescents—Combination 1 (Meningococcal, Tdap)</i> and <i>Combination 2 (Meningococcal, Tdap, HPV)</i>	Administrative
Lead Screening in Children	Administrative
Well-Child Visits in the First 30 Months of Life—Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months—Six or More Well-Child Visits and Well-Child Visits for Age 15 Months—30 Months—Two or More Well-Child Visits	Administrative
Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children/Adolescents—Body Mass Index (BMI) Percentile, Counseling for Nutrition, and Counseling for Physical Activity	Administrative
Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits	Administrative



Technical Methods of Analysis

The CMS Performance Measure Validation Protocol identifies key types of data that should be reviewed. As part of the validation process, HSAG aggregated several sources of HEDIS-related data to determine if the licensed organizations' (LOs') audit process met CMS requirements.

This performance measure validation report uses two primary sources—NCQA's Interactive Data Submission System (IDSS) data output reports and the final audit reports (FARs)—to tabulate overall HEDIS reporting capabilities and functions for **DHMP**. The IDSS contained the final HEDIS rates that were verified, reviewed, and locked by the LOs. The auditor-locking mechanism in the IDSS tool ensured that no information could be changed without the consent of NCQA and the auditor. The IDSS review process allowed the LOs to assess the reasonability of the rates submitted by **DHMP**.

The following is a table identifying the key audit steps required by NCQA for the LO to conduct NCQA HEDIS Compliance Audits. The table also lists HSAG's approach in validating the LO's audit.

•	
Key Steps According to NCQA's HEDIS Compliance Audit	HSAG's Approach on Validating the LO's Audit Results
Initial Visit/Meeting —The initial conference call or meeting between the LOs and DHMP staff.	HSAG verified that key HEDIS topics such as timelines and virtual review dates were addressed by the LOs.
Roadmap Review —This review provided the LOs with background information on policies, processes, and data in preparation for virtual review validation activities. DHMP was required to complete the Roadmap to provide the audit team with the necessary information to begin review activities.	HSAG looked for evidence in the final report that the LOs conducted a thorough review of all components of the Roadmap.
Source Code Review —Source code review is used to determine compliance with the performance measure definitions, including accurate numerator and denominator identification, sampling, and algorithmic compliance (to determine if rate calculations were performed correctly, medical record and administrative data were combined appropriately, and numerator events were counted accurately). This process is not necessary if DHMP uses a vendor who participates in the NCQA Measure Certification ⁵ process.	If the MCO used a software vendor to produce HEDIS rates, HSAG used the FAR and measure certification letter to assess whether or not the software vendor achieved full measure certification status by NCQA for the reported HEDIS measures. HSAG ensured that the LOs reviewed the programming language for calculating the HEDIS measures if such a vendor was not used.

Table 2—Description of Data Sources Reviewed

⁵ NCQA Measure CertificationSM is a service mark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).



Key Steps According to NCQA's HEDIS Compliance Audit	HSAG's Approach on Validating the LO's Audit Results
Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS®)⁶ Survey Vendor and Sample Frame Validation —A certified survey vendor must be used if DHMP performed a CAHPS survey as part of HEDIS reporting.	HSAG verified that the LO performed detailed validations on the CAHPS Sample Frame if DHMP performed a CAHPS survey as part of HEDIS reporting. If DHMP used a survey vendor to perform the CAHPS surveys, HSAG verified that an NCQA-Certified survey vendor was used.
Supplemental Data Validation —If DHMP used any supplemental data for reporting, the LO was to validate the supplemental data according to NCQA's guideline.	HSAG verified whether the LO was following the NCQA-required approach while validating the supplemental databases.
Convenience Sample Validation —The auditor reviews a small number of processed medical records to uncover potential problems in the process that may require corrective action early in the medical record review (MRR) process. A convenience sample must be prepared unless the auditor determines that the MCO is exempt. NCQA allows organizations to be exempt from the convenience sample if they participated in a HEDIS audit the previous year and passed MRR validation, and if the current MRR process has not changed significantly from the previous year and the organization does not report hybrid measures that the auditor determines to be at risk of inaccurate reporting.	HSAG did not review this step since the State requires administrative rates only.
Medical Record Review Validation (MRRV)— The LOs are required to perform a more extensive validation of medical records reviewed, which is conducted late in the abstraction process. This validation ensures that the review process was executed as planned and that the results are accurate.	HSAG did not review this step since the State requires administrative rates only.
IDSS Review—DHMP is required to complete NCQA's IDSS for the submission of audited rates to NCQA. The auditor finalizes the IDSS by completing the audit review and entering an audit result. This process verifies that the auditor validated all activities that culminated in a rate by DHMP . The auditor locks the IDSS so that no information can be changed.	HSAG verified that the LOs completed the IDSS review process.

⁶ CAHPS[®] is a registered trademark of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).



Validation Findings of Audit Process

Table 3 identifies the key elements used by **DHMP**'s LO while conducting its MY 2022 NCQA HEDIS Compliance Audit. These key elements were reviewed by HSAG during validation activities. As presented in Table 3, a checkmark indicates that the LO reviewed the HEDIS activities, which confirmed that HEDIS methodology was being followed. Some activities are identified as being compliant by inserting the name of the company **DHMP** contracted with to perform the required tasks.

Licensed Organization	Attest Health Care Advisors
Initial Visit Call/Meeting	×
Roadmap Review	\checkmark
Software Vendor	Cotiviti
Source Code/Certified Measure Review	\checkmark
Survey Vendor	SPH Analytics
CAHPS Sample Frame Validation	~
Supplemental Data Validation	~
Medical Record Review	×
IDSS Review	~

Table 3-	-Validation	Activities	for	DHMP
Table 3	vanuation	ACTIVITIES	101	

Table 3 indicates that the audit conducted for **DHMP** included all the listed validation activities. HSAG also determined that the data collected and reported for the Department-selected measures followed NCQA HEDIS methodology. Therefore, any rates and audit results are determined to be valid, reliable, and accurate.



Denver Health Medical Plan's Compliance With IS Standards

In addition to ensuring that data were captured, reported, and presented in a uniform manner, HSAG evaluated **DHMP**'s information system (IS) capabilities for accurate HEDIS reporting. HSAG reviewed **DHMP**'s FAR for its LO's assessments of IS capabilities, specifically focused on those aspects of **DHMP**'s systems that could have impacted the HEDIS Medicaid reporting set.

For the purpose of HEDIS compliance auditing, the terms "information system" and "IS" are used broadly to include the computer and software environment, data collection procedures, and abstraction of medical records for hybrid measures. The IS evaluation includes a review of any manual processes that may have been used for HEDIS reporting as well. The LO determined if **DHMP** had the automated systems, information management practices, processing environment, and control procedures to capture, access, translate, analyze, and report each HEDIS measure.

In accordance with NCQA's *HEDIS MY 2022 Compliance Audit: Standards, Policies, and Procedures, Volume 5*, the LO evaluated IS compliance with NCQA's IS standards. These standards detail the minimum requirements **DHMP**'s IS systems should meet, as well as criteria that any manual processes used to report HEDIS information must meet. For circumstances in which a particular IS standard was not met, the LO rated the impact on HEDIS reporting capabilities and, particularly, any measure that could be impacted. **DHMP** may not be fully compliant with many of the IS standards but may still be able to report the selected measures.

For the current reporting period, **DHMP**'s information systems and processes were found adequate to meet NCQA's IS standards and the HEDIS determination reporting requirements. The section that follows provides a summary of **DHMP**'s key findings for each IS standard as noted in its FAR. A more in-depth explanation of NCQA's IS standards is provided in Appendix A of this report.

NCQA's IS Standards	IS Standards Compliance Findings Based on HSAG's Review of the HEDIS MY 2022 FAR
 IS 1.0—Medical Services Data—Sound Coding Methods and Data Capture, Transfer, and Entry Industry standard codes are required and captured. Primary and secondary diagnosis codes are identified. Nonstandard codes (if used) are mapped to industry standard codes. Standard submission forms are used. Timely and accurate data entry processes and sufficient edit checks are used. Data completeness is continually assessed and all contracted vendors involved in medical 	The auditor determined that DHMP was compliant with IS Standard 1.0 for medical services data capture and processing. The auditor determined that DHMP only accepted industry standard codes on industry standard forms. All data elements required for HEDIS reporting were adequately captured.
claims processing are monitored.	

Table 4—Summary of DHMP's Compliance With IS Standards



NCQA's IS Standards	IS Standards Compliance Findings Based on HSAG's Review of the HEDIS MY 2022 FAR
 IS 2.0—Enrollment Data—Data Capture, Transfer, and Entry All HEDIS-relevant information for data entry or electronic transmissions of enrollment data is accurate and complete. Manual entry of enrollment data is timely and accurate, and sufficient edit checks are in place. The MCOs continually assess data completeness and take steps to improve performance. The MCOs effectively monitor the quality and accuracy of electronic submissions. The MCOs have effective control processes for the transmission of enrollment data. 	 DHMP was compliant with IS Standard 2.0 for enrollment data capture and processing. The auditor determined that DHMP had policies and procedures in place for submitted electronic data. Data elements required for reporting were captured. Adequate validation processes were in place, ensuring data accuracy.
IS 3.0—Practitioner Data—Data Capture, Transfer, and Entry	DHMP was compliant with IS Standard 3.0 for practitioner data capture and processing.
 Provider specialties are fully documented and mapped to HEDIS provider specialties. Effective procedures for submitting HEDIS-relevant information are in place. Electronic transmissions of practitioner data are checked to ensure accuracy. Processes and edit checks ensure accurate and timely entry of data into the transaction files. Data completeness is assessed and steps are taken to improve performance. Vendors are regularly monitored against expected performance standards. 	The auditor determined that DHMP appropriately captured and documented practitioner data. Data validation processes were in place to verify practitioner data. In addition, for accuracy and completeness, DHMP reviewed all provider data received from delegated entities.



NCQA's IS Standards	IS Standards Compliance Findings Based on HSAG's Review of the HEDIS MY 2022 FAR
 IS 4.0—Medical Record Review Processes— Training, Sampling, Abstraction, and Oversight Forms or tools used for MRR capture all fields relevant to HEDIS reporting. Checking procedures are in place to ensure data integrity for electronic transmission of information. Retrieval and abstraction of data from medical records are accurately performed. Data entry processes, including edit checks, are timely and accurate. Data completeness is assessed, including steps to improve performance. Vendor performance is monitored against expected performance standards. 	DHMP was compliant with IS Standard 4.0 for MRR processes. The auditor determined that the data collection tool used by the MCO was able to capture all data fields necessary for HEDIS reporting. Sufficient validation processes were in place to ensure data accuracy. However, HSAG did not review this step since the State requires administrative rates only.
 IS 5.0—Supplemental Data—Capture, Transfer, and Entry Nonstandard coding schemes are fully documented and mapped to industry standard codes. Effective procedures for submitting HEDIS-relevant information are in place. Electronic transmissions of supplemental data are checked to ensure accuracy. Data entry processes, including edit checks, are timely and accurate. Data completeness is assessed, including steps to improve performance. Vendor performance is monitored against expected performance standards. Data approved for electronic clinical data system (ECDS) reporting met reporting requirements. NCQA-validated data resulting from the Data Aggregator Validation (DAV) program met reporting requirements. 	DHMP was compliant with IS Standard 5.0 for supplemental data capture and processing. The auditor reviewed the transaction file for the HEDIS repository and observed that it contained all data fields required for HEDIS reporting. In addition, the auditor interviewed staff to confirm appropriate quality processes for the data source and to determine if primary source verification was needed on all supplemental data that were in nonstandard form.



NCQA's IS Standards	IS Standards Compliance Findings Based on HSAG's Review of the HEDIS MY 2022 FAR
 IS 6.0—Data Preproduction Processing— Transfer, Consolidation, Control Procedures That Support Measure Reporting Integrity Nonstandard coding schemes are fully documented and mapped to industry standard codes. Organization-to-vendor mapping is fully documented. Data transfers to HEDIS repository from transaction files are accurate and file consolidations, extracts, and derivations are accurate. Repository structure and formatting are suitable for measures and enable required programming efforts. Report production is managed effectively, and operators perform appropriately. Vendor performance is monitored against expected performance standards. 	 DHMP was compliant with IS Standard 6.0 for data preproduction processing. File consolidation and data extractions were performed by DHMP's staff members. Data were verified for accuracy at each data merge point.
 IS 7.0—Data Integration and Reporting— Accurate Reporting, Control Procedures That Support Measure Reporting Integrity Data transfers to the HEDIS measure vendor from the HEDIS repository are accurate. Report production is managed effectively and operators perform appropriately. HEDIS reporting software is managed properly. The organization regularly monitors vendor performance against expected performance standards. 	DHMP was compliant with IS Standard 7.0 for data integration. The auditor indicated that the MCO used an NCQA-certified measure vendor for data production and rate calculation.



Appendix A. Information Systems Standards

Overview of the NCQA HEDIS Compliance Audit

Developed and maintained by NCQA, HEDIS is a set of performance data broadly accepted in the managed care environment as an industry standard. Organizations seeking NCQA accreditation or wishing to publicly report their HEDIS performance results undergo an NCQA HEDIS Compliance Audit through an NCQA-licensed audit organization. The audits are conducted in compliance with NCQA's *HEDIS MY 2022 Compliance Audit: Standards, Policies, and Procedures, Volume 5.* The purpose of conducting a HEDIS audit is to ensure that rates submitted by the organizations are reliable, valid, accurate, and can be compared to one another.

During the HEDIS audit, data management processes were reviewed using findings from the NCQA HEDIS Record of Administration, Data Management, and Processes (Roadmap) review; interviews with key staff members; and a review of queries and output files. Data extractions from systems used to house production files and generate reports were reviewed, including a review of data included in the samples for the selected measures. Based on validation findings, the LOs produced an initial written report identifying any perceived issues of noncompliance, problematic measures, and recommended opportunities for improvement. The LOs also produced a final report with updated text and findings based on comments on the initial report.

The FAR included information on the organization's information system (IS) capabilities; each measure's reportable results; MRRV results; the results of any corrected programming logic, including corrections made to numerators, denominators, or sampling used for final measure calculation; and opportunities and recommendations for improvement of data completeness, data integrity, and health outcomes.

Information Systems Standards

Listed below are the Information Systems Standards published in NCQA's *HEDIS MY 2022 Compliance Audit: Standards, Policies, and Procedures, Volume 5.*

IS 1.0—*Medical Services Data—Sound Coding Methods and Data Capture, Transfer, and Entry*

IS 1.1 Industry standard codes (e.g., International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification [ICD-10-CM]; International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Procedure Coding System [ICD-10-PCS]; CPT^{A-1}, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System [HCPCS]) are used and all characters are captured.

^{A-1} Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes copyright 2018 American Medical Association (AMA). All rights reserved. CPT is a trademark of the AMA.



- IS 1.2 Principal codes are identified and secondary codes are captured.
- IS 1.3 Nonstandard coding schemes are fully documented and mapped back to industry standard codes.
- IS 1.4 Standard submission forms are used and capture all fields relevant to measure reporting. All proprietary forms capture equivalent data. Electronic transmission procedures conform to industry standards.
- IS 1.5 Data entry and file processing procedures are timely and accurate and include sufficient edit checks to ensure accurate entry and processing of submitted data in transaction files for measure reporting.
- IS 1.6 The organization continually assesses data completeness and takes steps to improve performance.
- IS 1.7 The organization regularly monitors vendor performance against expected performance standards.

Rationale

The organization must capture all clinical information pertinent to the delivery of services to provide a basis for calculating measures. The audit process ensures that the organization consistently captures sufficient clinical information. Principal among these practices and critical for computing clinical measures is consistent use of standardized codes to describe medical events, including nationally recognized schemes to capture diagnosis, procedure, Diagnosis Related Group (DRG), and Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) codes. Standardized coding improves the comparability of measures through common definition of identical clinical events. The organization must cross-reference nonstandard coding schemes at the specific diagnosis and service level to attain equivalent meaning. The integrity of measures requires using standard forms, controlling receipt processes, editing, and verifying data entry, and implementing other control procedures that promote completeness and accuracy in receiving and recording medical information. The transfer of information from medical charts to the organization's databases should be subject to the same standards for accuracy and completeness.

IS 2.0—Enrollment Data—Data Capture, Transfer, and Entry

- IS 2.1 The organization has procedures for submitting measure-relevant information for data entry. Electronic transmissions of membership data have necessary procedures to ensure accuracy.
- IS 2.2 Data entry processes are timely and accurate and include sufficient edit checks to ensure accurate entry of submitted data in transaction files.
- IS 2.3 The organization continually assesses data completeness and takes steps to improve performance.
- IS 2.4 The organization regularly monitors vendor performance against expected performance standards.



Rationale

Controlling receipt processes, editing and verifying data entry, and implementing other control procedures to promote completeness and accuracy in receiving and recording member information are critical in databases that calculate measures. Specific member information includes age, gender, benefits, product line (commercial, Medicaid, and Medicare), and the dates that define periods of membership so gaps in enrollment can be determined.

IS 3.0—Practitioner Data—Data Capture, Transfer, and Entry

- IS 3.1 Provider specialties are fully documented and mapped to provider specialties necessary for measure reporting.
- IS 3.2 The organization has effective procedures for submitting measure-relevant information for data entry. Electronic transmissions of practitioner data are checked to ensure accuracy.
- IS 3.3 Data entry processes are timely and accurate and include edit checks to ensure accurate entry of submitted data in transaction files.
- IS 3.4 The organization continually assesses data completeness and takes steps to improve performance.
- IS 3.5 The organization regularly monitors vendor performance against expected performance standards.

Rationale

Controlling receipt processes, editing and verifying data entry, and implementing other control procedures to promote completeness and accuracy in receiving and recording provider information are critical in databases that calculate measures. Specific provider information includes the provider's specialty, contracts, credentials, populations served, date of inclusion in the network, date of credentialing, board certification status, and information needed to develop medical record abstraction tools.

IS 4.0—*Medical Record Review Processes*—*Training, Sampling, Abstraction, and Oversight*

- IS 4.1 Forms capture all fields relevant to measure reporting. Electronic transmission procedures conform to industry standards and have necessary checking procedures to ensure data accuracy (logs, counts, receipts, hand-off, and sign-off).
- IS 4.2 Retrieval and abstraction of data from medical records are reliably and accurately performed.
- IS 4.3 Data entry processes are timely and accurate and include sufficient edit checks to ensure accurate entry of submitted data in the files for measure reporting.



- IS 4.4 The organization continually assesses data completeness and takes steps to improve performance.
- IS 4.5 The organization regularly monitors vendor performance against expected performance standards.

Rationale

MRRV ensures that record abstraction performed by or on behalf of the entity meets standards for sound processes and that abstracted data are accurate. Validation includes not only an over-read of abstracted medical records, but also a review of MRR tools, policies, and procedures related to data entry and transfer, and training materials developed by or on behalf of the entity.

IS 5.0—Supplemental Data—Capture, Transfer, and Entry

- IS 5.1 Nonstandard coding schemes are fully documented and mapped to industry standard codes.
- IS 5.2 The organization has effective procedures for submitting measure-relevant information for data entry. Electronic transmissions of data have checking procedures to ensure accuracy.
- IS 5.3 Data entry processes are timely and accurate and include edit checks to ensure accurate entry of submitted data in transaction files.
- IS 5.4 The organization continually assesses data completeness and takes steps to improve performance.
- IS 5.5 The organization regularly monitors vendor performance against expected performance standards.
- IS 5.6 Data approved for ECDS reporting met reporting requirements.
- IS 5.7 NCQA-validated data resulting from the Data Aggregator Validation (DAV) program met reporting requirements.

Rationale

Organizations may use a supplemental database to collect and store data, which is then used to augment rates. These databases must be scrutinized closely since they can be standard, nonstandard, or member-reported. The auditor must determine whether sufficient control processes are in place related to data collection, validation of data entry into the database, and use of these data. Mapping documents and file layouts may be reviewed as well, to determine compliance with this standard. Beginning with HEDIS 2014, NCQA provided new validation requirements for auditing supplemental data to ensure that all data included for reporting are complete and have required supporting documentation.



IS 6.0—Data Preproduction Processing—Transfer, Consolidation, Control Procedures That Support Measure Reporting Integrity

- IS 6.1 Nonstandard coding schemes are fully documented and mapped to industry standard codes. Organization-to-vendor mapping is fully documented.
- IS 6.2 Data transfers to HEDIS repository from transaction files are accurate.
- IS 6.3 File consolidations, extracts, and derivations are accurate.
- IS 6.4 Repository structure and formatting are suitable for measures and enable required programming efforts.
- IS 6.5 Report production is managed effectively and operators perform appropriately.
- IS 6.6 The organization regularly monitors vendor performance against expected performance standards.

Rationale

Prior to data integration and reporting, it is essential that data transfer, consolidation, and control procedures support the integrity of the measure reporting. The organization's quality assurance practices and backup procedures serve as an organizational infrastructure supporting all information systems. The practices and procedures promote accurate and timely information processing and data protection in the event of a disaster.

IS 7.0—Data Integration and Reporting—Accurate Reporting, Control Procedures That Support Measure Reporting Integrity

- IS 7.1 Data transfers to the HEDIS measure vendor from the HEDIS repository are accurate.
- IS 7.2 Report production is managed effectively and operators perform appropriately.
- IS 7.3 Measure reporting software is managed properly with regard to development, methodology, documentation, version control, and testing.
- IS 7.4 The organization regularly monitors vendor performance against expected performance standards.

Rationale

Calculating rates requires data from multiple sources. The systems used to assemble the data and to make the required calculations should be carefully constructed and tested. Data needed to calculate measures are produced by the organization's information systems and may be directly or indirectly affected by IS practices and procedures.



Appendix B. Audit Results and Rates

This appendix presents the audited rates in the IDSS and Custom Reporting Template as submitted by **DHMP**. According to the Department's required data collection methodology, the rates displayed in Table B-2 reflect administrative data-only rates and for some of the measures were not the final, reported, hybrid rates in **DHMP**'s IDSS. In addition, for measures with multiple indicators (e.g., *Well-Child Visits in the First 30 Months of Life)*, more than one rate is required for reporting. It is possible that **DHMP** may have received an "*NA*" designation for an indicator due to a small denominator within the measure but still have received an "*R*" designation for the total population.

Audit Finding	Description	Audit Result	
For Measures			
The rate or numeric result for a HEDIS measure is reportable. The measure was fully or substantially compliant with HEDIS specifications or had only minor deviations that did not significantly bias the reported rate.	Reportable	R	
HEDIS specifications were followed but the denominator was too small to report a valid rate.	Denominator <30	NA	
The MCO did not offer the health benefits required by the measure.	No Benefit (Benefit Not Offered)	NB	
The MCO chose not to report the measure.	Not Reported	NR	
The MCO was not required to report the measure.	Not Required	NQ	
The rate calculated by the MCO was materially biased.	Biased Rate	BR	
The MCO chose to report a measure that is not required to be audited. This result applies only to a limited set of measures (e.g., measures collected using electronic clinical data systems).	Unaudited	UN	

Table B-1—HEDIS Audit Results



Measure	MY 2022 Rate	Audit Result
Measures		
Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment for Acute Bronchitis/Bronchiolitis		
Ages 3 Months to 17 Years	96.52%	R
Ages 18 to 64 Years	68.26%	R
Ages 65 Years and Older	0%	NA
Antidepressant Medication Management		
Effective Acute Phase Treatment—Ages 18 to 64	66.37%	R
Effective Acute Phase Treatment—Ages 65 Years and Older	76.92%	R
Effective Continuation Phase Treatment—Ages 18 to 64	46.53%	R
Effective Continuation Phase Treatment—Ages 65 Years and Older	53.85%	R
Asthma Medication Ratio		
Ages 5 to 11 Years	62.50%	R
Ages 12 to 18 Years	53.49%	R
Ages 19 to 50 Years	51.71%	R
Ages 51 to 64 Years	52.50%	R
Breast Cancer Screening		
Ages 52 to 64 Years	46.91%	R
Ages 65 to 74 Years	35.82%	R
Controlling High Blood Pressure		
Ages 18 to 64 Years	47.93%	R
Ages 65 to 85 Years	56.64%	R
Contraceptive Care—Postpartum Women		
Ages 15 to 20 Years—Most or Moderately Effective Contraception— 3 Days	25.68%	R
Ages 15 to 20 Years—Most or Moderately Effective Contraception— 90 Days	59.46%	R
Ages 15 to 20 Years—Long-Acting Reversible Contraception—3 Days	6.76%	R
Ages 15 to 20 Years—Long-Acting Reversible Contraception—90 Days	27.03%	R
Ages 21 to 44 Years—Most or Moderately Effective Contraception— 3 Days	27.59%	R
Ages 21 to 44 Years—Most or Moderately Effective Contraception— 90 Days	56.40%	R
Ages 21 to 44 Years—Long-Acting Reversible Contraception—3 Days	10.21%	R
Ages 21 to 44 Years—Long-Acting Reversible Contraception—90 Days	25.91%	R
Cervical Cancer Screening	34.24%	R
Contraceptive Care—All Women		
Ages 15 to 20 Years—Most or Moderately Effective Contraception	20.68%	R
Ages 15 to 20 Years—Long-Acting Reversible Contraception	5.30%	R

Table B-2—DHMP's Rates and Audit Results



Measure	MY 2022 Rate	Audit Result
Ages 21 to 44 Years—Most or Moderately Effective Contraception	18.89%	R
Ages 21 to 44 Years—Long-Acting Reversible Contraception	4.95%	R
Screening for Depression and Follow-Up Plan		
Ages 12 to 17 Years	34.14%	R
Ages 18 to 64 Years	18.40%	R
Ages 65 Years and Older	6.26%	R
Chlamydia Screening in Women		
Ages 16 to 20 Years	77.04%	R
Ages 21 to 24 Years	70.33%	R
Concurrent Use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines		
Ages 18 to 64 Years	5.74%	R
Ages 65 Years and Older	1.05%	R
Colorectal Cancer Screening		
Ages 50 to 64 Years	27.05%	R
Ages 65 Years and Older	32.99%	R
Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Substance Use		
Ages 13 to 17 Years—7-Day Follow-Up	17.65%	R
Ages 13 to 17 Years—30-Day Follow-Up	23.53%	R
Ages 18 to 64 Years—7-Day Follow-Up	20.78%	R
Ages 18 to 64 Years—30-Day Follow-Up	28.33%	R
Ages 65 Years and Older—7-Day Follow-Up	14.89%	R
Ages 65 Years and Older—30-Day Follow-Up	21.28%	R
Follow-Up After Hospitalization for Mental Illness		
Ages 6 to 17 Years—7-Day Follow-Up	8.69%	NA
Ages 6 to 17 Years—30-Day Follow-Up	23.08%	NA
Ages 18 to 64 Years—7-Day Follow-Up	2.47%	R
Ages 18 to 64 Years—30-Day Follow-Up	17.28%	R
Ages 65 Years and Older—7-Day Follow-Up	14.29%	NA
Ages 65 Years and Older—30-Day Follow-Up	28.57%	NA
Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Mental Illness		
Ages 6 to 17 Years—7-Day Follow-Up	9.30%	R
Ages 6 to 17 Years—30-Day Follow-Up	25.58%	R
Ages 18 to 64 Years—7-Day Follow-Up	16.74%	R
Ages 18 to 64 Years—30-Day Follow-Up	24.17%	R
Ages 65 Years and Older—7-Day Follow-Up	0%	NA
Ages 65 Years and Older—30-Day Follow-Up	11.11%	NA
Hemoglobin A1c Control for Patients With Diabetes		
Ages 18 to 64 Years—HbA1c Control (>9.0%)	45.15%	R



Measure	MY 2022 Rate	Audit Result
Ages 65 to 75 Years—HbA1c Control (>9.0%)	37.77%	R
Diabetes Care for People With Serious Mental Illness—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%)		
Ages 18 to 64 Years	32.02%	R
Ages 65 to 75 Years	21.43%	NA
HIV Viral Load Suppression		
Ages 18 to 64 Years	0%	NA
Ages 65 Years and Older	0%	NA
Initiation and Engagement of Substance Use Disorder Treatment		
Initiation of SUD Treatment—Ages 18 to 64 Years—Alcohol Use Disorder	40.11%	R
Initiation of SUD Treatment—Ages 18 to 64 Years—Opioid Use Disorder	50.81%	R
Initiation of SUD Treatment—Ages 18 to 64 Years—Other Substance Use Disorder	40.10%	R
Initiation of SUD Treatment—Ages 18 to 64 Years—Total SUD Treatment	41.59%	R
Engagement of SUD Treatment—Ages 18 to 64 Years—Alcohol Use Disorder	6.63%	R
Engagement of SUD Treatment—Ages 18 to 64 Years—Opioid Use Disorder	15.50%	R
Engagement of SUD Treatment—Ages 18 to 64 Years—Other Substance Use Disorder	4.57%	R
Engagement of SUD Treatment—Ages 18 to 64 Years—Total SUD Treatment	7.07%	R
Initiation of SUD Treatment—Ages 65 Years and Older—Alcohol Use Disorder	56.76%	R
Initiation of SUD Treatment—Ages 65 Years and Older—Opioid Use Disorder	60.00%	NA
Initiation of SUD Treatment—Ages 65 Years and Older—Other Substance Use Disorder	62.07%	R
Initiation of SUD Treatment—Ages 65 Years and Older—Total SUD Treatment	58.24%	R
Engagement of SUD Treatment—Ages 65 Years and Older—Alcohol Use Disorder	3.60%	R
Engagement of SUD Treatment—Ages 65 Years and Older—Opioid Use Disorder	13.33%	NA
Engagement of SUD Treatment—Ages 65 Years and Older—Other Substance Use Disorder	0%	R
Engagement of SUD Treatment—Ages 65 Years and Older—Total SUD Treatment	4.71%	R



Measure	MY 2022 Rate	Audit Result
Use of Opioids at High Dosage in Persons Without Cancer		
Ages 18 to 64 Years	5.04%	R
Ages 65 Years and Older	4.88 %	R
Use of Pharmacotherapy for Opioid Use Disorder		
Rate 1: Total	51.62%	R
Rate 2: Buprenorphine	48.70%	R
Rate 3: Oral Naltrexone	1.95%	R
Rate 4: Long-Acting, Injectable Naltrexone	1.62%	R
Rate 5: Methadone	0.32%	R
Plan All-Cause Readmissions		
Observed/Expected Ratio	1.01	R
Observed Rate	9.54%	R
Expected Rate	9.49%	R
Outlier Rate	49.41%	R
Prenatal and Postpartum Care		
Timeliness of Prenatal Care	80.78%	R
Postpartum Care	69.45%	R
Diabetes Short-Term Complications Admission Rate		
Ages 18 to 64 Years	16.69	R
Ages 65 Years and Older	0.00	R
COPD or Asthma in Older Adults Admission Rate		
Ages 40 to 64 Years	20.13	R
Ages 65 Years and Older	43.95	R
Heart Failure Admission Rate		
Ages 18 to 64 Years	24.10	R
Ages 65 Years and Older	1385.48	R
Asthma in Younger Adults Admission Rate		
Ages 18 to 39 Years	3.50	R
Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals With Schizophrenia	47.15%	R
Diabetes Screening for People With Schizophrenia or Bipolar Disorder Who Are Using Antipsychotic Medications	85.52%	R
Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Medication		
Initiation Phase	38.89%	R
Continuation and Maintenance Phase	40.00%	NA
Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department (ED) Visits (Per 1,000 Member Months)		
Less than Age 1 Year	773.59	R



Measure	MY 2022 Rate	Audit Result
Ages 1 to 9 Years	376.07	R
Ages 10 to 19 Years	253.56	R
Ages 0 to 19 Years	317.11	R
Metabolic Monitoring for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics		
Ages 1 to 11 Years—Blood Glucose Testing	20.00%	NA
Ages 1 to 11 Years—Cholesterol Testing	20.00%	NA
Ages 1 to 11 Years—Blood Glucose and Cholesterol Testing	20.00%	NA
Ages 12 to 17 Years—Blood Glucose Testing	50.00%	NA
Ages 12 to 17 Years—Cholesterol Testing	37.50%	NA
Ages 12 to 17 Years—Blood Glucose and Cholesterol Testing	33.33%	NA
Ages 1 to 17 Years—Blood Glucose Testing	44.83%	NA
Ages 1 to 17 Years—Cholesterol Testing	34.48%	NA
Ages 1 to 17 Years—Blood Glucose and Cholesterol Testing	31.03%	NA
Use of First-Line Psychosocial Care for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics		
Ages 1 to 11 Years	0%	NA
Ages 12 to 17 Years	33.33%	NA
Ages 1 to 17 Years	27.27%	NA
Childhood Immunization Status		
Combination 3	72.47%	R
Combination 7	59.64%	R
Combination 10	42.05%	R
Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life		
Age 1	48.58%	R
Age 2	75.82%	R
Age 3	58.92%	R
Total Ages 1 to 3 Years	60.80%	R
Immunizations for Adolescents		
Combination 1 (Meningococcal, Tdap)	71.77%	R
Combination 2 (Meningococcal, Tdap, HPV)	36.84%	R
Lead Screening in Children	61.16%	R
Well-Child Visits in the First 30 Months of Life		
Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months—Six or More Well-Child Visits	58.28%	R
Well-Child Visits for Age 15 Months–30 Months—Two or More Well-Child Visits	59.29%	R
Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children/Adolescents		
BMI Percentile—Ages 3 to 11 Years	68.01%	R
BMI Percentile—Ages 12 to 17 Years	68.21%	R



Measure	MY 2022 Rate	Audit Result
BMI Percentile—Ages 3 to 17 Years	68.09%	R
Counseling for Nutrition—Ages 3 to 11 Years	74.96%	R
Counseling for Nutrition—Ages 12 to 17 Years	70.43%	R
Counseling for Nutrition—Ages 3 to 17 Years	73.10%	R
Counseling for Physical Activity—Ages 3 to 11 Years	73.78%	R
Counseling for Physical Activity—Ages 12 to 17 Years	69.36%	R
Counseling for Physical Activity—Ages 3 to 17 Years	71.96%	R
Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits		
Ages 3 to 11 Years	52.97%	R
Ages 12 to 17 Years	45.59%	R
Ages 18 to 21 Years	15.57%	R
Ages 3 to 21 Years	42.90%	R

* For this indicator, a lower rate indicates better performance.