

Medi-Cal Physician Organization Measurement Pilot

PROJECT SUMMARY

In July 2013, in response to interest from health plans and supported by a grant from the Blue Shield of California Foundation, the Integrated Healthcare Association (IHA) launched a pilot project to collect standardized Medi-Cal quality of care and resource use results in four southern California counties at the level of the risk-bearing physician organization (PO) – medical groups and IPAs. Five Medi-Cal managed care health plans participated: L.A. Care, Anthem, and Health Net in Los Angeles; CalOptima in Orange; and Inland Empire Health Plan in San Bernardino, and Riverside counties. The plans worked collaboratively with IHA to establish a common measure set and submit Medi-Cal results stratified by physician organization. Of the above plans, all but Anthem directly submitted data to IHA; as a subcontracted health plan of L.A. Care in Los Angeles County, Anthem’s results were submitted via L.A. Care. Measurement focused on clinical quality, resource use, and meaningful use of health information technology. The tables below identify the clinical and resource use measures selected for the pilot, and whether each measure is included in IHA’s Value Based P4P MY 2013 measure set and/or California’s Department of Health Care Services’ External Accountability Set (EAS).

CLINICAL MEASURE SET

Clinical Measures Selected				
Clinical Priority Area	Measure	HEDIS MY2013	VALUE BASED P4P MY2013	DHCS EAS
Cardiovascular	Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications: ACE or ARB, Digoxin, Diuretics, Anticonvulsants	X	X	X
Diabetes Care	Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed	X		X
	Cholesterol Control	X	X	X
	Cholesterol Screening	X	X	X
	HbA1c (Blood Sugar) Control	X	X	X
	HbA1c (Blood Sugar) Poor Control	X	X	X
	HbA1c (Blood Sugar) Testing	X	X	Auto Assignment
	Medical Attention for Nephropathy (Kidney Disease)	X	X	X
Maternity	Postpartum Care	X		X
	Timeliness of Prenatal Care	X		Auto Assignment
Musculoskeletal	Overuse of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain	X	X	X
Prevention	Adolescent Comprehensive Well-Care Visits	X		
	Breast Cancer Screening (Mammography)	X	X	
	Children and Adolescents’ Access to Primary Care Practitioners	X		X
	Cervical Cancer Screening	X	X	Auto Assignment
	Chlamydia Screening in Women	X	X	
	Childhood Immunization Status	X	X	Auto Assignment
	Immunizations for Adolescents	X	X	X
	Well-Child Visits with a Primary Care Practitioner in the Third to Sixth Years of Life	X		Auto Assignment

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Respiratory	Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment for Adults with Acute Bronchitis	X	X	X
	Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma	X	Replaced with Asthma Medication Ratio	
	Appropriate Testing (Strep Test) for Children with Pharyngitis	X	X	

RESOURCE USE MEASURE SET

Resource Use Measures Selected			
Measure	HEDIS MY2013	VALUE BASED P4P MY2013	DHCS EAS
All-Cause Readmissions Following Acute Inpatient Stays	X	X	X*
Emergency Department Visits per 1,000 Member Years	X	X	X
Inpatient Bed Days per 1,000 Member Years	X	X	
Inpatient Stays (Discharges) per 1,000 Member Years	X	X	

** Modeled on HEDIS Plan All-Cause Readmission measure, but doesn't include risk adjustment*

Two additional measures selected were: Meaningful Use of Health Information Technology, and Encounter Rates by Service Type. By February 2014, all participating health plans had submitted Measurement Year (MY) 2012 results that passed IHA's edit checks.

ACTIVITIES

IHA created a web site with secure logins where plans and POs can see the results specific to their contracts: health plans can view results for all contracted POs, while POs can see only their own results, including their cross-plan aggregate scores. IHA rolled out the web portal, loaded with MY 2012 results, to participating plans in February 2014. In September 2014, three participating plans submitted updated results for MY 2013, for sharing with POs. In October 2014, IHA rolled out results to POs contracting with L.A. Care and Inland Empire Health Plan.

NEXT STEPS

By the end of 2014, IHA will hold a webinar for California stakeholders interested in the project, and publish an issue brief describing project activities and results, the current state of performance measurement in managed Medi-Cal, and potential directions.

Additional information about this project can also be found on IHA's web page at: <http://iha.org/grants-projects-medi-cal-performance-measurement.html>

CONTACT

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