



Quality Benchmarks Newly Proposed Measures — April 2021

Introduction

Governor Carney established health care quality benchmarks in Executive Order 25 (EO 25), issued on November 20, 2018, which established cost and quality benchmarks as one of the “Strategic Seven” in Delaware’s Road to Value, which is working to improve health care quality, reduce costs, and help Delawareans live healthier lives.

The initial measures were established with the health concerns of Delaware residents in mind, and included input from stakeholder meetings and community support groups. Baseline data were collected and annual performance benchmarks were established for calendar years (CY) 2019–2021 as well as a five-year aspirational performance goal (see **Measures** table below for current measure list).

EO 25 mandates the methodology of the Quality Benchmarks be reviewed for the next cycle beginning in 2022 and every three years thereafter. As per EO 25, the current measures and data were reviewed and the *High School Students who were Physically Active* and *Tobacco Use* measures are being recommended for retirement due to the data availability limitations and the usefulness of the data in supporting positive change.

Upon further review of the current state of health care in Delaware, three measures focused on cancer screenings and one measure focused on dental services are being proposed for addition to the CY 2022–2024 measurement years. If the Delaware Health Care Commission (DHCC) decides to adopt new Quality Benchmarks, the public and interested stakeholder must be provided an opportunity to offer feedback and DHCC must consider their recommendations.

Measures

Measure	Measure Description	Market
Current Measures — CY 2019–2021		
Use of Opioids at a High Dosage	The percentage of the population ≥ 18 years of age who received a prescription for opioids at an average daily dose ≥ 90 morphine milligram equivalents (MME) for ≥ 15 total day supply during the CY. Data Source: PDP.	All State
Opioid-Related Overdose Death	Number of opioid-related overdose deaths per 100,000 persons as defined by the CDC. Data Source: CDC.	All State
Emergency Department Utilization	For members 18 years of age and older, a risk-standardized measure of the emergency department (ED) visits during the measurement year. Data Source: Health Plans.	Commercial
Adult Obesity	The percentage of adults with a body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 30 weight (kg)/height (m ²), as defined by CDC. Data Source: CDC.	All State
Persistence of Beta-Blocker Treatment after a Heart Attack	The percentage of members 18 years of age and older during the measurement year who were hospitalized and discharged from July 1 of the year prior to the measurement year to June 30 of the measurement year, with a diagnosis of acute myocardial infarction and who received persistent beta-blocker treatment for six months after discharge. Data Source: Health Plans.	Commercial Market and Medicaid Market

Measure	Measure Description	Market	
Tobacco Use ¹	The percentage of adults who report they are current smokers. Current smokers are defined as persons who reported smoking at least 100 cigarettes during their lifetime and who, at the time they participated in a survey about this topic, reported smoking every day or some days as defined by the CDC. Data Source: CDC.	All State	
High School Students Who Were Physically Active ¹	The percentage of high school students who were physically active doing any kind of physical activity that increased their heart rate and made them breathe hard some of the time for a total of at least 60 minutes a day on five or more days during the seven days before the survey, as defined by the CDC. Data Source: CDC.	All State	
Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease — Statin Adherence 80%	The percentage of males 21–75 years of age and females 40–75 years of age during the measurement year who were identified as having clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease and who remained on a high-intensity or moderate-intensity statin medication for at least 80% of the treatment period. Data Source: Health Plans.	Commercial Market and Medicaid Market	
Measure	Measure Description	Rationale	Market
Newly Proposed Measures to be Added — (CY) 2022–2024			
Breast Cancer Screening	Women 50–74 years of age who had at least one mammogram to screen for breast cancer in the past two years. ² Data Source: Health Plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment with “Choose Health Delaware” initiatives as prevention is a priority for Delaware/Delaware Health and Social services (DHSS). Delaware Community Health Needs Assessment has also identified cancer prevention as a need. 	Commercial Market and Medicaid Market
Colorectal Cancer Screening	Assesses adults 50–75 who had appropriate screening for colorectal cancer with any of the following tests: annual fecal occult blood test, flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years, colonoscopy every 10 years, computed tomography colonography every five years, stool DNA test every three years. ² Data Source: Health Plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment with “Choose Health Delaware” initiatives as prevention is a priority for Delaware/Delaware/DHSS. Delaware Community Health Needs Assessment has also identified cancer prevention as a need. 	Commercial Market
Cervical Cancer Screening	Assesses women who were screened for cervical cancer using any of the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women 21–64 years of age who had cervical cytology performed within the last three years. Women 30–64 years of age who had cervical high-risk human papillomavirus (hrHPV) testing performed within the last five years. Women 30–64 years of age who had cervical cytology/high-risk human papillomavirus (hrHPV) cotesting within the last five years.² Data Source: Health Plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment with “Choose Health Delaware” initiatives as prevention is a priority for Delaware/DHSS. Delaware Community Health Needs Assessment has also identified cancer prevention as a need. Delaware is also below target on indicators related to cervical cancer screenings, incidence and age-adjusted death rate. 	Commercial Market and Medicaid Market
Percentage of Eligibles Who Received Preventive Dental Services	Percentage of individuals ages 1–20 who are enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP Medicaid Expansion programs for at least 90 continuous days, are eligible for Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) services, and who received at least one preventive dental service during the reporting period. ³ Data Source: DMMA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Percentage of Eligibles Who Received Preventive Dental Services measure is a preventative measure, which aligns with Delaware’s focus on prevention and access to healthcare services. 	Medicaid Market (fee-for-service and/or managed care)

¹ Recommend retiring after 2021

² Source: NCQA HEDIS® 2020 Measure Set

³ Source: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) 2021 Children’s Health Care Quality Measures