

Understanding the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) Stars Rating System

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What is CMS Quality Star Ratings program?

CMS evaluates health insurance plans and issues star ratings each year; these ratings may change from year to year. The CMS plans rating uses quality measurements that are widely recognized within the health care and health insurance industry to provide an objective method for evaluating health plan quality. The overall plan rating combines scores for the types of services the health plan offers. CMS compiles its overall score for quality of services based on measures such as:

- · How the health plan helps members stay healthy through preventive screenings, test and vaccines
- · How often the members receive preventive screenings, tests and vaccines
- How the health plan helps members manage chronic conditions
- · Scores of member satisfaction with the health plan
- · How often members filed a complaint against the health plan
- · How well the health plan handles calls from members

In addition, because the health plan offers prescription drug coverage, CMS also evaluates the health plans for the quality of services covered such as:

- · Drug plan customer service
- · Drug plan member complaints and Medicare audit findings
- · Member experience with drug plan
- · Drug pricing and patient safety

What Are CMS Star Ratings?

CMS developed a set of Quality Performance Ratings for Health Plans that includes specific Clinical, Member Perceptions, and Operational measures. The Quality Performance Ratings for 2015 services include 47 measures derived from six (6) data sources. Percentile performance is converted to Star Assignments based on CMS specifications as 1 – 5 stars, where 5 stars indicate higher performance. This rating system applies to all Medicare Advantage (MA) lines of business: Health Maintenance Organization (HMO), Preferred Provider Organization (PPO), Private Fee-for-Service (PFFS). In addition, the ratings are posted on the CMS consumer website, www.medicare.gov, to give beneficiaries help in choosing among the MA plans offered in their area.

Data Source	Description	# of Metrics
HEDIS (Healthcare Effectiveness Data & Information Set)	Subset of broad HEDIS data set used to measure health plans' ability to drive compliance with preventive care guidelines and Evidence Based medical treatment guidelines	13
CAHPS (Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems)	Survey of randomly selected members focusing on member perception of their ability to access quality medical care	9
HOS (Healthcare Outcomes Survey)	Survey of randomly selected members focusing on members' perception of their own health and recollection of specific provider care delivered	4
Pharmacy/Medication Adherence	Data set used to measure health plans' ability to drive compliance with medication adherence	4
CMS Administrative Data	Administrative data collected by CMS related to health plan service capabilities and performance	13
IRE (Independent Review Entity)	Timeliness and fairness of decisions associated with Appeals	4

The methodology used by CMS is subject to change and final guidelines are released during the fall each year. This methodology was developed to:

- · Aid consumer choice among plans on Medicare.gov and strengthen beneficiary protections
- · Strengthen CMS' ability to distinguish stronger health plans for participation in Medicare Parts C and D
- · Penalize consistently poor performing health plans

Understanding the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Stars Rating System...cont

Utilize the attached "Physician Guidance for a Quick Health Check" to ensure CMS' expectations are met with regard to care for Medicare beneficiaries.

What are the Benefits?

The value of improving performance is well worth the investment for the health plan, its members and the provider community.

Benefits to Members	Benefits to Providers	Benefits to the health plan
Member receives quality care that leads to	· Improved quality of care and health outcome	· Improved quality of care and health
positive health outcome	· Encourages guideline concordant care	outcome
Greater health plan focus on access to care	· Improved patient relations and health plan relations	· Improved provider relations
· Improved relations with their doctors	· Increased awareness of patient safety issues	· Improved member relations
Increased levels of customer service	· Greater focus on preventive medicine and early	· Process Improvement
Early detection of disease and health care	disease detection	· Key component in financing health
that meets their individual needs	Strong benefits to support chronic condition	care benefits for MA plan enrollees
	management	

Tips for Providers - What you can do

- · Continue to encourage patients to obtain preventive screenings annually or when recommended
- · Create office practices to identify all gaps in care at the time of their appointment
- · Submit complete and correct encounters/claims with appropriate codes and properly document medical chart for all members
- · Review the gap in care files listing members with open gaps that is provided by your health plan at www.mhswi.com/for-providers/

Physicians Guidance for Member Quick Health Check

Patient Name:	Patient DOB:
Member ID#:	Practitioner Name:

1. Have you had any of the following problems with your work or regular activities because of your physical health? (HOS) Circle response

Accomplished less than you would like	YES	NO	UNSURE
Limited in the kind of work or other activities you could do	YES	NO	UNSURE
Have a hard time doing things like moving a table, pushing a vacuum cleaner, or playing golf	YES	NO	UNSURE
Have a hard time bathing, dressing, eating, getting in or out of chairs, walking or using the toilet	YES	NO	UNSURE
Needed assistance or special equipment to do normal chores	YES	NO	UNSURE

2. Have you fallen in the past 12 months? (HOS)

3. Have you had trouble with your balance in the past 12 months? (HOS)

Physician Guidance – Discuss patient balance/fall problem and document preventive intervention

4. Have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities because of emotional problems? (HOS) Circle response

Physician Guidance – Identify interventions to improve mental health status and document communication.

Accomplished less than you would like	YES	NO	UNSURE
Felt downhearted or blue	YES	NO	UNSURE
Didn't do work or other activities as carefully as usual	YES	NO	UNSURE
Didn't have a lot of energy	YES	NO	UNSURE
Felt sad and depressed most days	YES	NO	UNSURE

5. During the past four weeks, has pain stopped you from doing things you want to do?

Please rate on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the worst.(HOS)

Physician Guidance -Complete pain screening using the "Pain Assessment" section in the attached "Care for Older Adults Assessment Form". Identify/Document interventions.

Physicians Guidance for Member Quick Health Check

- 6. Are you able to refill your prescription before your current supply depletes? Do you have difficulty remembering to take your prescriptions as prescribed?
- 7. Have you received a pneumonia immunization or vaccine? If no, why not? Would you like to receive one?
- 8. When did you last receive your flu shot? If not in the last year, why? Would you like to receive one?
- 9. WOMEN Have you ever had a bone density test to check for osteoporosis? If no, why? (HOS) Physician Guidance Order bone density test and encourage patient to comply
- 10. Are you pleased with the amount of time your doctor talks to you and how he or she explains your health care needs? (CAHPS)

Physician Guidance - Consider options to improve communication

11. Do you think you can get care you need without delay? (CAHPS)

Physician Guidance – Determine how or why patient perceives difficulty in getting timely care. Discuss realistic expectations for obtaining an appointment. Differentiate between getting appointments with the primary care physician versus specialists offices. Help the patient understand how to navigate the process better to receive timely care. Also look for areas to improve office procedures, if determined to be a problem.

12. Are you pleased with the quality of your health care?

Please rate on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the most pleased.

Quality Improvement Form

Date of Patient Assessment:	sessment:/ Patient Name:		DOB:/			
Member ID#::	Practitioner Name:					
ROUTINE CARE/SCREENING	(COMPLETE AS	APPLICABLE FOR ALL M	IEMBERS)			
Date: BMI:				D:/		
BP treatment if hypertensive:	Yes	No				
Optometrist or Ophthalmologi	ist:					
Last Bone Density Test (female	es > 67 yrs.):	Date:	Is member using ost	eoporosis Rx?	Yes	No
Last Mammogram (females 50)-74 yrs.):	_ Date:				
Has patient had 2 unilateral m	astectomies or a	a bilateral mastectomy?	Yes No			
Bilateral mastectomy date:	Right unila	teral mastectomy date:	Left unilater	al mastectomy date:	:	
FOR ALL MEMBERS, REFER TO (COMPLETE AS APPLICABLE For Level of physical activity a Bladder control, as well as Emotional or mental health Risk for falls, problems wit Adherence to medication roughly and preumonia vaccing	O "PHYSICIANS FOR ALL MEMBE and recommenda s related manage h concerns, incluich walking or bala regimen as order	GUIDANCE FOR MEMBE ERS) ations (i.e., maintain, statement and treatment planding interference with a pance ance red by practitioner	er QUICK HEALTH Cl ert, increase, or other	HECK" ON PREVIOU	JS PAGES.	
COLORECTAL CANCER SCREE	ENING (COMPLE					
Annual guaiac (gFOBT) or i		' '	2:			
Flexible sigmoidoscopy wit			e:			
Colonoscopy within the las	-		e:			
The patient has a colon car	_		e of Initial Diagnosis:			
The patient has had a total	. colectomy	Date	e of Initial Surgery:			
DIABETIC MEMBER ONLY (CO	MPLETE FOR M	EMBERS AGE < 75 YEAR	S)			
Most recent HbA1c Result:		Date of Test:	· ·	tions:		
Most recent LDL-C Result:		Date of Test:	Statin: _			
Urine Microalbumin Test Date:	: :	Urine Macroa	lbumin Test result:			
Annual Retinal Eye Exam Date	:	No Retinopat	hy			
Optometrist or Ophthalmolog	ist:					
OTHER CHRONIC CONDITION Does the Patient have:	I MANAGEMENT	(COMPLETE AS APPLIC	CABLE)			
Cardiovascular diagnosis? Ye	es No	Most recent LDL-C resu	ult. Data:			
_			Yes No			
ACE-I/ARB:		· ·				
Comments/Notes:						
This information is accurate ar						
Practitioner Signature:	•			//	/	
Name and Credentials (Printed				//	/	
Traine and Credentials (Fillite	J					

Care of Older Adult Assessment Form

Date of Patient Assessment:// Patient Name:DOB:// Member ID#::						
FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMENT Choose the scoring point for the statement that most closely corresponds to the patient's current level of ability for the following 10 items. Modified Barthel Index of Daily Living" Source: Mahoney, Barthel. Functional evaluation: the Barthel Index. (1965)						
BOWELS	BLADDER	TOILET USE	GROOMING	FEEDING		
 0 = incontinent (needs to be given enema) 1 = accident less than once a week 2 = continent 	 0 = incontinent, or catheterized & unable to manage 1 = accident less than once a day 2 = continent 	 0 = dependent 1 = needs some help, but can do some things alone 2 = independent (on & off, dressing, wiping) 	 0 = needs help with personal care 1 = independent face/hair/teeth/shaving (proper tools provided) 	 0 = unable 1 = needs some help (cutting, spreading butter, etc.) 2 = independent if food is within reach 		
TRANSFER	MOBILITY	DRESSING	STAIRS	BATHING		
 0 = unable (no sitting balance) 1 = can sit, but needs major help (one or two people, physical) 2 = minor help (verbal or physical) 3 = independent 	 0 = immobile 1 = wheelchair independent, including corners 2 = walks with help of one person (verbal or physical) 3 = independent (but may use an aid, e.g., cane) 	 0 = dependent 1 = needs some help 2 = independent (including laces, buttons, & zippers) 	 0 = unable 1 = needs help (verbal, physical, carrying aid) 2 = independent up and down 	0 = dependent1 = independent (or in shower)		
FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMEI Sum the scores for each item reflect a probable genuine ch	Lower score indicates increa					
ADVANCE CARE PLANN Indicate with a "X" for YES (Y						
Date Advance Care Plannir Member Refusal (Y) (Member previously execut Copy or Documented in Ch Comments/Notes:	N) ed an advance care plan (' nart (Y) (N)	Y) (N) (documer	nt in comments)			

Care of Older Adult Assessment Form

MEDICATION REVIEW LIST Indicate with a "X" for YES (Y) or NO (N)	
Member on Medication: (Y) (N) Date performed:/ Reviewing Practitioner name:	

Medication Review. Review of all a member's medications, including medication names only or may include medication names, dosages and frequency, over-the-counter (OTC) medications and herbal or supplemental therapies by a prescribing practitioner or clinical pharmacist and the date when it was performed.

Medication	Dose/Frequency	Medication	Dose/Frequency

Reminder: Both medications review and medication list must be submitted together for the same date of service

PAIN ASSESSMENT

Complete the Pain Assessment by completing the form below















Under Pain Management Plan: (Y) ____ (N) ____ Under Pain Treatment: (Y) ____ (N)____

Reminder: Notation of a pain management plan alone, notation of a pain treatment alone, notation of screening for chest pain alone, or documentation of chest pain alone does not meet criteria for a completed Pain Assessment.

Any Pain? Y/N	Location	Level of Pain (1-5)	Date of Assessment	Comments/Additional information
Reviewing Practiti	ioner's Signature:			Date performed:/

CPT IDENTIFICATION CODES for claim submission and documentation: Functional Status Assessment CPT Cat II: 1170F; Advance Directive: CPT II: 1157F, 1158F; Pain Screening: CPT II: 1125F, 1126F; Medication Review: CPT Cat II 1160F; Medication List: CPT Cat. II: 1159F