Safety Net Medical Home Initiative
Threshold Reference Table

Background and Description

The Threshold Reference Table is a coaching resource developed by Qualis Health, the MacColl Center for Health Care Innovation at the Group Health Research Institute, and practice coaches for the Safety Net Medical Home Initiative (SNMHI). The table provides examples of a variety of performance thresholds for select clinical quality measures that can be used to demonstrate progress in a PCMH transformation project. The term "threshold" (rather than "benchmark") is used in this document as some of the performance levels identified here are national averages, not best practices.

This report is a compilation of various data sources:

- 2012 NCQA Accreditation Benchmarks and Thresholds (http://www.ncqa.org/tabid/123/Default.aspx) This document reports national benchmarks and national and regional thresholds for HEDIS® measures and HEDIS/CAHPS® 4.0H survey results and will be used to score health plans for accreditation year 2012.
- Oregon Regional Coordinating Center Targets established based on literature review, HEDIS 90th percentile thresholds and in conjunction with CHCs. This work was completed in 2009.
- The National Quality Measures Clearinghouse (http://qualitymeasures.ahrq.gov/index.aspx) is a public resource for evidence-based quality measures and measure sets sponsored by AHRQ.
- The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Heart/Stroke Recognition Program (HSRP) (http://www.ncqa.org/tabid/140/Default.aspx) launched in 2003, designed to recognize clinicians who use evidence-based measures and provide excellent care to persons with cardiovascular disease (CVD) or who have had a stroke.

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Safety Net Medical Home Initiative

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The objective of the Safety Net Medical Home Initiative is to develop and demonstrate a replicable and sustainable implementation model to transform primary care safety net practices into patient-centered medical homes with benchmark performance in quality, efficiency, and patient experience. The Initiative is administered by Qualis Health and conducted in partnership with the MacColl Institute for Healthcare Innovation at the Group Health Research Institute. Five regions were selected for participation (Colorado, Idaho, Massachusetts, Oregon and Pittsburgh), representing 65 safety net practices across the U.S.







Measure	HEDIS Measure Definition	2012 National Threshold (90th/75th) Commercial	2012 National Threshold (90th/75th) Medicare	2012 National Threshold (90th/75th) Medicaid	2010 AHRQ NHQR	2010 Medicaid HMO Rate	Healthy People 2020 Goals	Other
Blood Pressure Control for Patients with Hypertension	The percentage of adults 18–85 years of age who had a diagnosis of hypertension and whose blood pressure was adequately controlled (<140/90) during the measurement year.	(68/65)	(73/68)	(66/60)		55.6	61.2	52
Breast Cancer Screening	The percentage of women 40–69 years of age who had at least one mammogram to screen for breast cancer in the past two years.	(80/76)	(84/79)	(65/59)		51.3		
Cervical Cancer Screening	The percentage of women 21–64 years of age who received one or more Pap test to screen for cervical cancer in the past three years.	(82/79)		(79/74)		67.2	93	75
Colorectal Cancer Screening	The percentage of adults 50–75 years of age who had appropriate screening for colorectal cancer with any of the following tests: fecal occult blood test during the measurement year; flexible sigmoidoscopy during the measurement year or the four years prior to the measurement year; or colonoscopy during the measurement year or in any of the nine years prior to the measurement year.	(70/63)	(72/63)	NA	67.1			
HbA1cTesting	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) testing.	(93/91)	(95/93)	(90/86)		82.0		87
HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%)	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had HbA1c poor control (>9.0%).	(19/23)	(10/15)	(28/34)		44.0	14.6	
HbA1c Control (<8.0%)	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had HbA1c control (<8.0%).	62.3**	65.6**	46.9**		46.9		60
HbA1c Control (<7.0%)	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had HbA1c control (<7.0%) for a selected population.	42.5**		34.7**	55	34.7		

**These values are averages, not percentiles as the column heading indicates.

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LDL-Cholesterol Screening	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had LDL-C screening.	(89/87)	(94/91)	(84/80)		74.7		
LDL-Cholesterol Control (<100 mg/dL)	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had LDL-C control (<100 mg/dL).	47.7**	52.1**	34.6**		34.6		42
Medical Attention for Nephropathy	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had medical attention for nephropathy.	(88/85)	(94/91)	(86/83)		77.7		
BP Control for Patients with Diabetes (<130/80 mm Hg)	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had BP control (<130/80 mm Hg).					32.2		40
BP Control for Patients with Diabetes (<140/90 mm Hg)	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had BP control (<140/90 mm Hg).				60	60.4		
Eye Exams referrals only)	Not clear from report.	(74/66)	(82/73)	(70/64)		53.1		70
Flu Shots in Adults in 50-64	A rolling average represents the percentage of commercial members 50–64 years of age who received an influenza vaccination between September 1 of the measurement year and the date when the CAHPS 4.0H survey was completed.	(61/56)	(83/78)	NA				
Timeliness of Prenatal Care	The percentage of deliveries that received a prenatal care visit in the first trimester or within 42 days of enrollment in the health plan.	(97/95)	NA	(92/89)			77	

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Childhood Immunizations	The percentage of children 2 years of age who had four diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis (DTaP); three polio (IPV); one measles, mumps and rubella (MMR); three H influenza type B (HiB); three hepatitis B (HepB); one chickenpox (VZV); four pneumococcal conjugate (PCV); two hepatitis A (HepA); two or three rotavirus (RV); and two influenza (flu) vaccines by their second birthday. This measure calculates a rate for each vaccine and nine separate combination rates, including a comprehensive rate.	(89/85)	NA	(86/82)	84		80	77
Treatment of Upper Respiratory Infections in Children	The percentage of children 3 months–18 years of age who were diagnosed with a URI and were not dispensed an antibiotic prescription.	(93/90)	NA	(95/92)		87.2		
Cholesterol Screening for Cardiovascular Disease	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age who were discharged alive for acute myocardial infarction (AMI), coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) or percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI) from January 1–November 1 of the year prior to the measurement year, or who had a diagnosis of ischemic vascular disease (IVD) during the measurement year and the year prior to the measurement year and had LDL-C screening during the measurement year.					82.0		80

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Cholesterol Control for Cardiovascular Disease	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age who were discharged alive for acute myocardial infarction (AMI), coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) or percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI) from January 1–November 1 of the year prior to the measurement year, or who had a diagnosis of ischemic vascular disease (IVD) during the measurement year and the year prior to the measurement year and had LDL-C control (<100 mg/dL) during the measurement year.	(92/90)	(94/92)	(89/85)		42.8		50
Asthma Patients 5-11 years Prescribed Medication	The percentage of patients 5–11 years of age during the measurement year who were identified as having persistent asthma and who were appropriately prescribed medication during the measurement year.	97**		91.8**		91.8		
Asthma Patients 2-50 years Prescribed Medication	The percentage of patients 12–50 years of age during the measurement year who were identified as having persistent asthma and who were appropriately prescribed medication during the measurement year.	(96/94)	NA	(93/91)		85.8		
Spirometry Testing	This measure estimates the percentage of adults 40 years of age and older with a new diagnosis or newly active COPD who received spirometry testing to confirm the diagnosis.	(50/45)	(46/41)	(47/36)		31.3		
Depression Screening	The percentage of patients with a diagnosis of depression and a documented Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ) score within the last six months.							70
Effective Acute Phase Treatment for Depression	The percentage of newly diagnosed and treated people who remained on an antidepressant medication for at least 84 days (12 weeks).	(72/68)	(78/72)	(65/54)		50.7		

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Effective Continuation Phase Treatment for Depression	The percentage of newly diagnosed and treated people who remained on an antidepressant medication for at least 180 days (six months).	(56/52)	(66/61)	(46/38)		34.4		
Initiation of Alcohol and Other Drug Dependence (AOD) Treatment	The percentage of people who initiated treatment through an inpatient AOD admission, outpatient visit, intensive outpatient encounter or partial hospitalization within 14 days of the diagnosis.					42.9		
Engagement of AOD Treatment	The percentage of people with a diagnosis of AOD use or dependence who initiated treatment and had two or more additional services within 30 days of the initiation visit.					14.2		
Lead Testing in Children	This measure assesses the percentage of children 2 years of age who had one or more capillary or venous lead blood test for lead poisoning by their second birthday.					66.2		
Anti-Platelet Therapy in CAD patients	The percentage of patients with CAD who have documentation of a recommendation for Anti-Platelet Therapy (aspirin or equivalent).							80

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Beta-blocker Treatment After Heart Attack	The percentage of adults 18 years of age and older during the measurement year who were hospitalized with a diagnosis of AMI and discharged alive from July 1 of the year prior to the measurement year to June 30 of the measurement year, and who received persistent beta-blocker treatment for six months after discharge.	(85/79)	(92/88)	NA		76.3		
Advising Smokers and Tobacco Users to Quit	A rolling average represents the percentage of adults 18 years of age and older who are current smokers or tobacco users and who received cessation advice from a physician during the measurement year.	(84/80)	(89/84)	(81/78)		73.6		50
Discussion of Cessation Medication	A rolling average represents the percentage of adults 18 years of age and older who are current smokers or tobacco users and who discussed or were recommended cessation medications by a physician during the measurement year.					38.5		
Discussing Cessation Strategies	A rolling average represents the percentage of adults 18 years of age and older who are current smokers or tobacco users who discussed or were provided cessation methods or strategies by a physician during the measurement year.					42.7		

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