HEDIS® Perinatal Depression Quality Measures: Field Test

NCQA is aiming to specify and test existing HEDIS® depression care quality measures for prenatal/postpartum women. **We are seeking health plans and provider groups to participate in a field test.**

With funding from the California Health Care Foundation and the Colorado-based Zoma Foundation, NCQA will use its multi-stakeholder process to develop the measures. **Our overall goal** is to assess whether the existing depression measures can be stratified or adapted for perinatal women, or whether other options exist for capturing these quality issues.

**Measures**

There are **three HEDIS measures** assessing depression screening and follow-up, monitoring and remission/response for adolescent and adult health plan members. These measures require reporting from electronic clinical data systems that include:

- **Claims data**
  - Provide information on care received (e.g., psychotherapy visits, medication claims)

- **Clinical databases (EHRs, registries)**
  - Capture information on depression screening or assessments (e.g., whether a depression screen was positive and change in score over time)

- **Case management systems**
  - Track members with depression over time to monitor symptoms, severity and access to appropriate follow-up services

**Project Phases and Anticipated Timeline**

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<th>Testing Phase</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Anticipated Timeline</th>
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| **Phase One: Patient-level data submission** | - Test sites collect data on depression screening/care for prenatal/postpartum women and provide patient-level csv data file to NCQA.  
- Test sites participate in conference calls to discuss experiences with retrieving the requested data and specific challenges and lessons learned from the process. | Data collection: July-August 2018  
Feasibility interviews: September 2018 |
| **Phase Two: Certification of measure calculations** | - Test sites program digital measure specifications  
- NCQA creates unique sets of sample data or "test decks" for each measure  
- Test sites process test decks through their downloaded measure code and return results for each patient in the test data  
- NCQA determines if measures compute correctly in the organization’s system by comparing results for each patient to expected results. | Certification process: January-March 2019 |

Plans and provider groups can participate in one or both testing phases and an honorarium will be provided.

For more information or to participate, contact Cindy Manaoat (manaoat@ncqa.org).

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