# HEDIS® Perinatal Depression Quality Measures: Field Test

NCQA is aiming to specify and test existing HEDIS®[1] 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:

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|---|---|
| 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 sytems | •Track members with depression over time to monitor symptoms, severity and access to appropriate follow-up services |

Plans report these measures using a structured technical specification that directs the collection of data from multiple sources in a consistent fashion.

Measures using this reporting method have conformance rules requiring the sharing of this information with the providers at the point of care.

## *Project Phases and Anticipated Timeline*

| Testing Phase | Description | Anticipated Timeline |
|---|---|---|
| **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.<br>• 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<br><br>Feasibility interviews: September 2018 |
| **Phase Two: Certification of measure calculations** | • Test sites program digital measure specifications<br>• NCQA creates unique sets of sample data or "test decks" for each measure<br>• Test sites process test decks through their downloaded measure code and return results for each patient in the test data<br>• 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).

[1]HEDIS® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)