# HEDIS®[1] Public Comment Overview

## HEDIS Overview

HEDIS is a set of standardized performance measures designed to ensure that purchasers and consumers can reliably compare the performance of health plans. It also serves as a model for emerging systems of performance measurement in other areas of health care delivery.

HEDIS is maintained by NCQA, a not-for-profit organization committed to evaluating and publicly reporting on the quality of health plans, ACOs, physicians, and other organizations. The HEDIS measurement set consists of 91 measures across 6 domains of care.

Items available for public comment include proposed measure retirements, new measures, revisions to existing measures and changes that apply across various HEDIS measures. Changes that apply to the next HEDIS volume (HEDIS 2020) will be published in July 2019 and reported in June 2020, based on activity that occurred during 2019 (and, where applicable, in prior years).

## HEDIS Measure Development Process

To develop measures, NCQA uses a consensus development process that involves a rigorous review of published guidelines and published scientific evidence and feedback from multi-stakeholder advisory panels. The NCQA Committee on Performance Measurement, a diverse panel of independent scientists and representatives from health plans, consumers, federal policymakers, purchasers and clinicians, oversees the evolution of the measurement set. Numerous Measurement Advisory Panels provide clinical and technical knowledge required to develop the measures. Additional HEDIS Expert Panels and the Technical Measurement Advisory Panel provide invaluable assistance by identifying methodological issues and providing feedback on new and existing measures.

## Synopsis

NCQA seeks feedback on proposed measure retirements, new measures, revisions to existing measures and changes that apply across various HEDIS measures. Reviewers are asked to submit comments to NCQA in writing via the Public Comment website by **11:59 p.m. (ET), Monday, March 11.**

## Submitting Comments

Submit all comments via NCQA's Public Comment website, using the following link: https://my.ncqa.org/

*Note: NCQA does not accept comments via mail, email or fax.*

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

## How to Submit a Comment

1. Go to https://my.ncqa.org/.

2. Under **My Services**, click to select **Public Comment**.

3. Click **Add Comment**.

4. Click to select **HEDIS 2020 Public Comment** from the drop-down menu.

5. Click the **Instructions** to view public comment materials, including instructions, proposed specifications and measures.

6. Click to select the **Topic** and **Element** (measure) on which you want to comment.

7. Click to select your support option (e.g., **Support, Do not support, Support with modifications**).
   *Note: If you chose* **Do not support,** *include the reason in the text box. If you chose* **Support with modifications,** *enter the suggested modifications in the text box.*

8. Enter your comments in the **Comments** box.
   *Note: Comments may not be more than 2,500 characters. Feedback should be brief and to the point. We suggest you develop comments in Word to check your character limit and save a copy for reference. Use the "cut and paste" function to copy your comment into the* **Comments** *box.*

9. Click **Submit** after each comment. After you have submitted all comments, click **Close**. You will be able to view and download all submitted comments.

**All comments are due Monday, March 11, by 11:59 PM ET.**

## NCQA Review of Public Comments

NCQA appreciates the time and effort required to submit comments, and reviews all feedback submitted within the Public Comment period. Due to the high volume of comments received, NCQA cannot respond to individual comments; however, NCQA advisory panels and the Committee on Performance Measurement will consider comments and advise NCQA staff.

## Value Set Directory

Code tables are not included in measure specifications; they are included in the Value Set Directory, a separate Excel workbook. Measure specifications reference value sets that must be used for HEDIS reporting.

A **value set** contains the complete set of codes used to identify the service or condition included in the measure. Codes for the measures listed below are in the HEDIS Public Comment Value Set Directory, which is included with the measure materials on the NCQA Public Comment webpage.

## Items for Public Comment

Refer to the NCQA Public Comment page for detailed documentation (memos, specifications, evidence workups, performance data, guidelines, value sets) on the items listed below.

### Proposed Measures for Retirement

1. *Ambulatory Care* <u>and</u> *Inpatient Utilization- General Hospital/Acute Care*
2. *Disease-Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug Therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis*
3. *Osteoporosis Testing in Older Women*
4. *Use of Multiple Concurrent Antipsychotics in Children and Adolescents*
5. Removal of four measures from the CAHPS®2 5.0H Survey

### Proposed New Measures

1. *Follow-Up After High Intensity Care for Substance Use Disorder*
2. *Pharmacotherapy for Opioid Use Disorder*
3. *Prenatal Depression Screening and Follow-Up*
4. *Postpartum Depression Screening and Follow-Up*

### Proposed Changes to Existing Measures

1. *Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals With Schizophrenia*
2. *Antibiotic Measures*
3. *Care for Older Adults*
4. *Cervical Cancer Screening*
5. *Safe and Judicious Use of Antipsychotics in Children and Adolescents*
6. *Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture*
7. *Prenatal and Postpartum Care*
8. *Potentially Harmful Drug-Disease Interactions in the Elderly* <u>and</u> *Use of High-Risk Medications in the Elderly*
9. *Use of Opioids at High Dosage*

### Cross-Cutting Topics

1. Telehealth
2. Digital Measure Strategy

## Questions?

Contact NCQA Customer Support at **888-275-7585,** Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (ET).

---

2CAHPS® is a registered trademark of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).