

# HEDIS<sup>®1</sup> 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 92 measures across 6 domains of care.

Items available for public comment are being considered for HEDIS Measurement Year 2022, which will be published in August 2021.

## HEDIS Measure Development Process

NCQA's consensus development process involves rigorous review of published guidelines and scientific evidence, as well as 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 HEDIS 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 giving feedback on new and existing measures.

## Synopsis

NCQA seeks public feedback on proposed new HEDIS measures, revisions to existing measures and proposed measure retirement. Reviewers are asked to submit comments to NCQA in writing via the Public Comment website by **11:59 p.m. (ET), Thursday, March 11**.

## Submitting Comments

Submit all comments via NCQA's Public Comment website at <https://my.ncqa.org/>

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

<sup>1</sup>HEDIS<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

## How to Submit a Comment

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1. Go to <https://my.ncqa.org/>.
2. Once logged in, click to select **Public Comment**.
3. Click **Add Comment**.
4. In the **Product** field, click to select **HEDIS Public Comment** from the drop-down menu.
5. Click the **Instructions** link to view public comment materials, including instructions and proposed measure specifications.
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 comments in the **Comments** box.  
*Note: Comments may not be more than 2,500 characters. 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 your submitted comments.

**All comments are due Thursday, 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, but NCQA advisory panels and the Committee on Performance Measurement will consider comments and advise NCQA staff.

## Items for Public Comment

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

### Future of HEDIS

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- *Introduction of Race and Ethnicity Stratification Into Select HEDIS Measures.*
- *Roadmap for Electronic Clinical Data Systems Reporting Method.*

### Proposed New Measures

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- *Advance Care Planning.*
- *Deprescribing of Benzodiazepines in Older Adults.*
- *Antibiotic Utilization for Acute Respiratory Conditions.*

## Proposed Changes to Existing Measures

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- *Acute Hospital Utilization.*
- *Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain.*
- *Mental Health Utilization.*
- *Identification of Alcohol and Other Drug Services.*
- *Initiation and Engagement of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence Treatment.*
- *Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence.*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care.*

## Proposed Measure Retirement

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- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing.*
- *Antibiotic Utilization.*

## Questions?

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