

# HEDIS Measures Rate Quality of Care

The Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set better known as HEDIS, is a group of measures related to quality of care that is reported by most health plans across the nation.

In 2007, 845 health plans submitted HEDIS data covering more than 100 million Medicare, Medicaid and commercial members. Overall, care improved for the ninth consecutive year. While the rates improved for the commercial plans and a lesser extent for the Medicare plans, the Medicaid results tended to be flat.

Although there are over 100 measures in the HEDIS set, Johns Hopkins HealthCare (JHHC) included the results of three measures that were reported across the top three JHHC plans; Priority Partners, US Family Health Plan (USFHP), and Employer Health Programs (EHP).

To determine the ranking by measure rate the measures were compared to a national benchmark, the Quality Compass produced by NCQA. The Medicaid Quality Compass is used for Medicaid plans (Priority Partners), and the commercial version is used for commercial plans (USFHP and EHP) which account for the different numbers on the reports.

Additional HEDIS responsibilities include gathering data from claims, encounters, and medical records to determine the rates. This data is processed through a HEDIS system that has met exacting audit standards. The data is analyzed and accounts for measures that don't meet the plan standards. As an example, Priority Partners scored below the fiftieth percentile on the "Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma." After examining the records of the members who qualified for the measure as asthmatics but were considered noncompliant according to HEDIS specifications, most were receiving Albuterol, or other rescue medicine as their only medication. This HEDIS measure looks to see that diagnosed asthmatics are also receiving a long-term controller medication.

The results for the Breast Cancer Screening measure shows that USFHP and EHP are above the fiftieth percentile on the Quality Compass while Priority Partners is below the fiftieth percentile for both age groups and the measure total. This measure remains a priority for the HEDIS Department and for the JHHC Quality Improvement Workgroup.

Due to the growing rate of diabetes in the United States, the Comprehensive Diabetes Care measure is one that is included for all three JHHC plans. Recognizing the importance of weight and nutrition in the control of many diseases, diabetes in particular, NCQA has added two new measures that JHHC will include for HEDIS 2009: Adult BMI Assessment: Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children.

**US Family Health Plan  
2008 HEDIS Measures**

Measure	HEDIS 2006 Rate	HEDIS 2007 Rate	HEDIS 2008 Rate	Quality Compass 2008 50th Percentile	Quality Compass 2008 75th Percentile	Quality Compass 2008 90th Percentile
<b>Uniformed Services Family Health Plan</b>						
<b>Comprehensive Diabetes Care</b>						
HbA1c Testing	89%	90.51%	86.62%	85.16	89.31	91.97
Poor HbA1c Control	20%	24.82%	24.09%	31.83	24.82	19.95
Good HbA1c Control	New	50.36%	45.50%			
Eye Exam	63%	75.43%	73.72%	46.73	57.89	67.69
LDL-C Screening	93%	86.13%	82.48%	81.18	85.03	88.08
LDL-C Level <100	55%	52.00%	50.61%	40.65	46.72	51.34
Med. Attention of Nephropathy	54%	88.32%	86.13%	77.21	82.48	86.62
BP Level < 130/80	New	45.00%	38.20%	30.47	35.28	38.93
BP Level < 140/90	New	74.00%	68.13%	63.43	67.99	72.13
<b>Breast Cancer Screening</b>						
42 to 51 Years	New	65.92%	66.53%	63.97	68.33	73.02
52 to 69 Years	51%	70.56%	71.31%	69.15	73.68	79.07
Total	New	69.13%	69.84%	66.67	70.95	76.03
<b>Use of Appr. Meds for People with Asthma</b>						
Use of Appr. Meds for People with Asthma 5-9	New	100.00%	100.00%	97.36	98.55	100.00
Use of Appr. Meds for People with Asthma 10-17	New	100.00%	100.00%	94.84	96.17	97.44
Use of Appr. Meds for People with Asthma 18-56	New	95.45%	96.59%	91.56	93.10	94.38
Total	New	97.12%	97.93%	92.80	94.01	95.29