

Understanding the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) Stars Rating System

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What is CMS Quality Star Ratings program?

CMS evaluates health insurance plans and issues star ratings each year; these ratings may change from year to year. The CMS plans rating uses quality measurements that are widely recognized within the health care and health insurance industry to provide an objective method for evaluating health plan quality. The overall plan rating combines scores for the types of services the health plan offers. CMS compiles its overall score for quality of services based on measures such as:

- · How the health plan helps members stay healthy through preventive screenings, test and vaccines
- · How often the members receive preventive screenings, tests and vaccines
- How the health plan helps members manage chronic conditions
- · Scores of member satisfaction with the health plan
- · How often members filed a complaint against the health plan
- · How well the health plan handles calls from members

In addition, because the health plan offers prescription drug coverage, CMS also evaluates the health plans for the quality of services covered such as:

- · Drug plan customer service
- · Drug plan member complaints and Medicare audit findings
- · Member experience with drug plan
- · Drug pricing and patient safety

What Are CMS Star Ratings?

CMS developed a set of Quality Performance Ratings for Health Plans that includes specific Clinical, Member Perceptions, and Operational measures. The Quality Performance Ratings for 2015 services include 47 measures derived from six (6) data sources. Percentile performance is converted to Star Assignments based on CMS specifications as 1 – 5 stars, where 5 stars indicate higher performance. This rating system applies to all Medicare Advantage (MA) lines of business: Health Maintenance Organization (HMO), Preferred Provider Organization (PPO), Private Fee-for-Service (PFFS). In addition, the ratings are posted on the CMS consumer website, www.medicare.gov, to give beneficiaries help in choosing among the MA plans offered in their area.

Data Source	Description	# of Metrics
HEDIS (Healthcare Effectiveness Data & Information Set)	Subset of broad HEDIS data set used to measure health plans' ability to drive compliance with preventive care guidelines and Evidence Based medical treatment guidelines	13
CAHPS (Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems)	Survey of randomly selected members focusing on member perception of their ability to access quality medical care	9
HOS (Healthcare Outcomes Survey)	Survey of randomly selected members focusing on members' perception of their own health and recollection of specific provider care delivered	4
Pharmacy/Medication Adherence	Data set used to measure health plans' ability to drive compliance with medication adherence	4
CMS Administrative Data	Administrative data collected by CMS related to health plan service capabilities and performance	13
IRE (Independent Review Entity)	Timeliness and fairness of decisions associated with Appeals	4

The methodology used by CMS is subject to change and final guidelines are released during the fall each year. This methodology was developed to:

- · Aid consumer choice among plans on Medicare.gov and strengthen beneficiary protections
- · Strengthen CMS' ability to distinguish stronger health plans for participation in Medicare Parts C and D
- · Penalize consistently poor performing health plans--

Understanding the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Stars Rating System...cont

Utilize the attached "Physician Guidance for a Quick Health Check" to ensure CMS' expectations are met with regard to care for Medicare beneficiaries.

What are the Benefits?

The value of improving performance is well worth the investment for the health plan, its members and the provider community.

Benefits to Members	Benefits to Providers	Benefits to the health plan
Member receives quality care that leads to	Improved quality of care and health outcome	· Improved quality of care and health
positive health outcome	Encourages guideline concordant care	outcome
Greater health plan focus on access to care	· Improved patient relations and health plan relations	· Improved provider relations
Improved relations with their doctors	· Increased awareness of patient safety issues	· Improved member relations
Increased levels of customer service	Greater focus on preventive medicine and early	· Process Improvement
Early detection of disease and health care	disease detection	· Key component in financing health
that meets their individual needs	Strong benefits to support chronic condition	care benefits for MA plan enrollees
	management	

Tips for Providers - What you can do

- · Continue to encourage patients to obtain preventive screenings annually or when recommended
- · Create office practices to identify all gaps in care at the time of their appointment
- · Submit complete and correct encounters/claims with appropriate codes and properly document medical chart for all members
- Review the gap in care files listing members with open gaps that is provided by your health plan at www.BuckeyeHealthPlan. com/for-providers/

Physicians Guidance for Member Quick Health Check

Patient Name:	Patient DOB:
Member ID#:	Practitioner Name:

1. Have you had any of the following problems with your work or regular activities because of your physical health? (HOS) Circle response

Accomplished less than you would like	YES	NO	UNSURE
Limited in the kind of work or other activities you could do	YES	NO	UNSURE
Have a hard time doing things like moving a table, pushing a vacuum cleaner, or playing golf	YES	NO	UNSURE
Have a hard time bathing, dressing, eating, getting in or out of chairs, walking or using the toilet	YES	NO	UNSURE
Needed assistance or special equipment to do normal chores	YES	NO	UNSURE

2. Have you fallen in the past 12 months? (HOS)

3. Have you had trouble with your balance in the past 12 months? (HOS)

Physician Guidance – Discuss patient balance/fall problem and document preventive intervention

4. Have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities because of emotional problems? (HOS) Circle response

Physician Guidance – Identify interventions to improve mental health status and document communication.

Accomplished less than you would like	YES	NO	UNSURE
Felt downhearted or blue	YES	NO	UNSURE
Didn't do work or other activities as carefully as usual	YES	NO	UNSURE
Didn't have a lot of energy	YES	NO	UNSURE
Felt sad and depressed most days	YES	NO	UNSURE

5. During the past four weeks, has pain stopped you from doing things you want to do?

Please rate on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the worst.(HOS)

Physician Guidance -Complete pain screening using the "Pain Assessment" section in the attached "Care for Older Adults Assessment Form". Identify/Document interventions.

Physicians Guidance for Member Quick Health Check

- 6. Are you able to refill your prescription before your current supply depletes? Do you have difficulty remembering to take your prescriptions as prescribed?
- 7. Have you received a pneumonia immunization or vaccine? If no, why not? Would you like to receive one?
- 8. When did you last receive your flu shot? If not in the last year, why? Would you like to receive one?
- 9. WOMEN Have you ever had a bone density test to check for osteoporosis? If no, why? (HOS) Physician Guidance Order bone density test and encourage patient to comply
- 10. Are you pleased with the amount of time your doctor talks to you and how he or she explains your health care needs? (CAHPS)

Physician Guidance - Consider options to improve communication

11. Do you think you can get care you need without delay? (CAHPS)

Physician Guidance – Determine how or why patient perceives difficulty in getting timely care. Discuss realistic expectations for obtaining an appointment. Differentiate between getting appointments with the primary care physician versus specialists offices. Help the patient understand how to navigate the process better to receive timely care. Also look for areas to improve office procedures, if determined to be a problem.

12. Are you pleased with the quality of your health care?

Please rate on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the most pleased.

Quality Improvement Form

Date of Patient Assessment	::/	/	_ Patient	atient Name:DOB:/_		/					
Member ID#::			Practitioner Name:								
ROUTINE CARE/SCREENIN	IG (COMF	PLETE AS	APPLICAE	BLE FOR AL	L MEMI	BERS)					
Date: BMI:							Recent BP:	/			
BP treatment if hypertensiv	e:	Yes	No								
Optometrist or Ophthalmo											
Last Bone Density Test (fen	1ales > 67	yrs.):		Date:	Is m	ember	using oste	oporosis R	x?	Yes	No
Last Mammogram (females	50-74 yr:	s.):	_	Date:							
Has patient had 2 unilatera	l mastect	omies or	a bilateral	mastecton	ny?	Yes	No				
Bilateral mastectomy date:	F	Right unila	ateral mas	tectomy da	ite:	Lef	t unilatera	l mastecto	my date: _		
HEALTH OUTCOME SURVE APPLICABLE FOR ALL MEN (COMPLETE AS APPLICABI Level of physical activit Bladder control, as wel Emotional or mental he Risk for falls, problems Adherence to medication	MBERS, RI LE FOR AL Ly and rec I as relate alth conc with walk on regime	EFER TO " LL MEMBI ommenda ed manage erns, incluing or bal n as orde	FPHYSICIA ERS) ations (i.e ement and uding inte ance red by pra	., maintain, d treatment	start, in	R MEMI	BER QUICI	K HEALTH (CHECK" (ON PREV	IOUS PAGES.
Tobacco use and cessat Flu and pneumonia vac		nmendatı	ons								
COLORECTAL CANCER SCI Annual guaiac (gFOBT) Flexible sigmoidoscopy Colonoscopy within the The patient has a colon The patient has had a to	or immun within the last ten y cancer di	nochemica e last five rears iagnosis	al (iFOBT)	0 0 0	Date: Date: Date: Date of I	nitial Di	 iagnosis: _				
DIABETIC MEMBER ONLY (COMPLE.	TE EOR M	EMREDS /	AGE / 75 VE	APC)						
Most recent HbA1c Result: Most recent LDL-C Result: Urine Microalbumin Test Da Annual Retinal Eye Exam Da Optometrist or Ophthalmo	 ate:			Date of Tes	st: st: roalbur		Statin:	ons:			
OTHER CHRONIC CONST	ONINA	A O E 14 E 1	T (00145)	ETE AO AS	N 10 4 5	- \					
OTHER CHRONIC CONDITION Does the Patient have:	ON MAN	AGEMEN	I (COMPL	ETE AS API	PLICABI	-E)					
Cardiovascular diagnosis?	Yes	No	Most red	ent LDL-C r	esult:		Date:				
Rheumatoid arthritis? ACE-I/ARB:	Yes	No	DMARD	prescribed?) 	Yes	No				
Comments/Notes:											
This information is accurate				,	0						
Practitioner Signature:							_ Date:	/	/		
Name and Credentials (Prin	ited):										

Care of Older Adult Assessment Form

Date of Patient Assessment	t:/ Patie	nt Name:	DOB:/	-/		
Member ID#::						
	the statement that most clos	sely corresponds to the patier Barthel. Functional evaluation		the following 10 items.		
BOWELS	BLADDER	TOILET USE	GROOMING	FEEDING		
 0 = incontinent (needs to be given enema) 1 = accident less than once a week 2 = continent 	 0 = incontinent, or catheterized & unable to manage 1 = accident less than once a day 2 = continent 	 0 = dependent 1 = needs some help, but can do some things alone 2 = independent (on & off, dressing, wiping) 	0 = needs help with personal care1 = independent face/hair/teeth/shaving (proper tools provided)	 0 = unable 1 = needs some help (cutting, spreading butter, etc.) 2 = independent if food is within reach 		
TRANSFER	MOBILITY	DRESSING	STAIRS	BATHING		
 0 = unable (no sitting balance) 1 = can sit, but needs major help (one or two people, physical) 2 = minor help (verbal or physical) 3 = independent 	 0 = immobile 1 = wheelchair independent, including corners 2 = walks with help of one person (verbal or physical) 3 = independent (but may use an aid, e.g., cane) 	 0 = dependent 1 = needs some help 2 = independent (including laces, buttons, & zippers) 	 0 = unable 1 = needs help (verbal, physical, carrying aid) 2 = independent up and down 	0 = dependent1 = independent (or in shower)		
Sum the scores for each item. Lower score indicates increased disability. If used to measure improvement, changes of more than two points reflect a probable genuine change. Change on one item from full dependent to independent is also likely to be reliable.						
ADVANCE CARE PLANN Indicate with a "X" for YES (Y						
Date Advance Care Planning materials offered & discussed:/Living Will (Y) (N) Member Refusal (Y) (N) Member previously executed an advance care plan (Y) (N) (document in comments) Copy or Documented in Chart (Y) (N) Comments/Notes:						

Care of Older Adult Assessment Form

MEDICATION REVIEW LIST Indicate with a "X" for YES (Y) or NO (N)	
Member on Medication: (Y) (N) Date performed:/ Reviewing Practitioner name:	

Medication Review. Review of all a member's medications, including medication names only or may include medication names, dosages and frequency, over-the-counter (OTC) medications and herbal or supplemental therapies by a prescribing practitioner or clinical pharmacist and the date when it was performed.

Medication	Dose/Frequency	Medication	Dose/Frequency

Reminder: Both medications review and medication list must be submitted together for the same date of service

PAIN ASSESSMENT

Complete the Pain Assessment by completing the form below















Under Pain Management Plan: Under Pain Treatment:

(Y) ____ (N) ____ (Y) ____ (N)____

Reminder: Notation of a pain management plan alone, notation of a pain treatment alone, notation of screening for chest pain alone, or documentation of chest pain alone does not meet criteria for a completed Pain Assessment.

Any Pain? Y/N	Location	Level of Pain (1-5)	Date of Assessment	Comments/Additional information
Reviewing Practiti Comments:	ioner's Signature:			Date performed:/

CPT IDENTIFICATION CODES for claim submission and documentation: Functional Status Assessment CPT Cat II: 1170F; Advance Directive: CPT II: 1157F, 1158F; Pain Screening: CPT II: 1125F, 1126F; Medication Review: CPT Cat II 1160F; Medication List: CPT Cat. II: 1159F