

PCMH Quality Metrics Subcommittee
Meeting Summary
September 7, 2016

Attendees

Dr. Rob Stenger, Partnership Health Center and Council Chair

Dr. Janice Gomersall, Community Physicians Group

Paula Block, MPCA

Todd Harwell, DPHHS-Public Health and Safety Division Administrator

Kathy Myers, DPHHS – Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Bureau Chief

Anna Buckner, Montana Medicaid

Kristen Schuster, Glacier Medical Associates

Derinda Grimshaw, Bozeman Health

Patty Kosednar, Health Technology Services

Jody Haines, Providence Health and Services

Desa Osterhout, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana

Erwin Austria, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana

Ashley Coldiron, Southwest Montana Community Health Center

Carolyn Perry, MTDPHHS- Immunizations Section

Heather Zimmerman, MT DPHHS-Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Bureau

Carol Winchell, Billings Clinic

Christina Schreckengost

CSI Staff

Amanda Roccabruna Eby

Catherine Wright

The subcommittee reviewed and discussed the second draft of the 2017 quality metric reporting guidance, which includes the edits and suggestions made at the August subcommittee meeting.

Each section was reviewed, beginning with the Draft Guidance Cover Sheet. The cover sheet was approved as is.

The Draft Reporting Form (Attachment 1) was approved with only one notation. On page 1, it was suggested to add under the Option 2 requirements, *2014 or later, certified EHR*

Next, the group considered the Draft Reporting Guidance (Attachment 2). Amanda noted that the guidance now includes a link to the electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQM) flow charts for each measure on how to pull the patient population for the numerator and the denominator.

The subcommittee had the following recommendations and comments:

- Add the link to the CMS eCQM webpage to each measure description;
- Remove the bold on the 99xxx codes in each denominator criteria for the adult measures;
- In the immunization and tobacco measures, fix formatting for improved readability by breaking up narrative with bullets;
- A discrepancy was noted on the depression screening measure. Specifically, the denominator includes “all patients aged 12 years and older before the beginning of the measurement period” however the Denominator criteria also states “patients aged 12 years or older **on date of encounter**”. According to Heather Zimmerman, a DPHHS epidemiologist, the data analysis only

included patients aged 12 years and older **before** the measurement period. Some clinics commented and another clinic followed up by phone after the meeting that it would be better to only exclude patients not 12 years on the date of their encounter because PQRS recommended best practices are to screen everyone old enough to be eligible. In the case of a child who turns 12 very early in the year, it would be unfair to clinics to analyze the data that way because while they may have screened the child later in the year, they would get included in the denominator but not the numerator.

Next, the subcommittee reviewed the required data elements and data dictionary (Attachment 3). The pending question is whether to keep the data elements as is or consider aligning with CMS standards. After some earlier research by Patty Kosednar and others, the subcommittee learned that the technical upgrades are not available yet for most EHRs to produce reports aligning with the QRDA. Also, the patient-level data elements required by PQRS were agreed to be mostly unnecessary for evaluation and population health management. Lastly, it would be best to keep the elements the same so that the data collected from the first three years could be comparable.

The subcommittee agreed to keep the data elements as is, with the following additions:

- amendments to the immunization measure (based on the changed measure)
- and the possible addition of a data element to Depression screening measure: *Was the Patient Screened: yes/no*

Amanda will poll the clinics that submitted patient-level data for depression screening for their input on adding the data element to the measure.

The subcommittee will finalize the complete guidance packet at their October 12 for recommendation to the stakeholder council.