

FFY 2016 Adult Core Set Reporting: Data Quality Checklist for States

This data quality checklist was developed to help states improve the completeness, accuracy, consistency, and documentation of data reported for the 2016 Adult Core Set measures. This will enable more accurate understanding of variations across states due to deviations from the technical specifications or unique aspects of a state’s Medicaid program. The checklist includes common issues noted in the data reported for FFY 2015. States can use the checklist below to assess their data as it is entered in MACPro. Please note that some data checks have been updated to reflect the features of the MACPro system. To obtain technical assistance with reporting the Adult Core Set measures, please contact the TA mailbox at MACQualityTA@cms.hhs.gov.

Data Completeness	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Numerators, denominators, and rates should be reported for all measures that the state chooses to report for FFY 2016. For measures that the state chooses not to report, please provide specific information on the reasons for not reporting the measure for FFY 2016.
<input type="checkbox"/>	For all measures that include rates stratified by age or have multiple rate categories (ABA, AMM, BCS, CBP, CDF, CTR, FUH, HA1C, HPC, HVL, IET, MPM, MSC, OHD, PCR, PQI01, PQI05, PQI08), numerators, denominators, and rates should be reported for all age groups and rate categories. If one or more rates within a measure cannot be reported, states should use the text box provided in MACPro to explain why the rate is not being reported.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If a measure was calculated using the hybrid method, states should report as much information as possible about how the state calculated the state-level rate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> States should enter the numerator and denominator that were used to calculate the state-level rate in the Numerator and Denominator fields. If this information is not available, states should enter 0 in these fields and explain why the information is unavailable in the “Additional Notes/Comments on Measure” section in MACPro. States should also complete the additional fields in MACPro for measures calculated using the hybrid method, including the Sample Size and Measure-Eligible Population fields. In most cases, the Denominator should equal the Sample Size reported in MACPro. If the Sample Size differs from the Denominator (for example, due to weighting or oversampling), the state should explain the difference in the “Additional Notes/Comments on Measure” section in MACPro. If the state-level rate is based on data from multiple reporting units, states should provide as many of the following items as possible for each reporting unit in the “Additional Notes/Comments on Measure” section in MACPro: numerator, denominator, measure-eligible population, and rate.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The reported data for each measure should include the total measure-eligible population as defined by the Adult Core Set Technical Specifications. All enrollees who are eligible for the services or outcomes assessed in the measure should be included. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If eligible groups were excluded from the measure (such as programs, delivery systems, or populations), the excluded group(s) should be described; the percentage of the eligible population excluded should be noted; and

■ This technical assistance resource is a product of the Medicaid/CHIP Health Care Quality Measures Technical Assistance and Analytic Support Program, sponsored by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. The program team is led by Mathematica Policy Research, in collaboration with the National Committee for Quality Assurance and Center for Health Care Strategies.

	<p>the reason for the exclusion should be explained in the “Definition of Population Included in the Measure” section. States should report this information for all applicable measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the field “Which delivery systems are represented in the Denominator?” states should provide information about each delivery system in the state (fee-for-service, primary care case management, managed care, integrated care models, and other). In this field, states should estimate the percentage of measure-eligible enrollees from that delivery system included in the data for the measure. For example, if the population included in the reported data represents all of the state’s managed care enrollees and half of the state’s fee-for-service enrollees, states should enter 100 percent for managed care and 50 percent for fee-for-service. States should also enter the number of health plans included in the data. If some of the health plans are missing from a measure, the state should identify the number of missing MCOs and explain why they are missing in the “Additional Notes” section. States should report this information for each measure. • In addition to reporting the populations included in each measure, states can also provide information about the delivery systems that are used for the state’s total adult Medicaid population in the “Delivery System” section on the Administration Screen in MACPro. This information provides important context about the population included in and excluded from reported measures.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Data sources and methods (such as administrative, medical records, and hybrid) should be reported for each measure in the “Data Source” section and should adhere to the measure’s specifications. Any deviations to data sources and methods should be described in the “Deviations from Measurement Specifications” section in MACPro and states should explain how their data source or method differed from Core Set technical specifications.</p>
Data Accuracy	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Reported rates should be calculated according to the Adult Core Set Technical Specifications for each measure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All deviations from Core Set Specifications should be described in the “Deviations from Measurement Specifications” section. • If the state used “Other” specifications to report a measure, the “Other” specifications should be described in the “Measurement Specification” section and the explanation should describe how the state’s methodology differs from the Core Set specifications.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>For most measures, numerators should be less than (or equal to) denominators.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Rates should be rounded and reported to one decimal point. For example: If a state calculates a rate of 74.13, then 74.1 is the correct format for reporting, and 74 and 74.0 are incorrect.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>For all measures using administrative data only, MACPro will automatically calculate a rate to one decimal based on the reported numerator and denominator. States should review this rate during data entry.</p> <p>States should calculate and manually enter rates for measures reported using the hybrid method or a combination of administrative and hybrid methods; MACPro will not calculate these rates automatically.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For most measures, rates should be reported as percentages in the range of 0.0 to 100.0 and calculated using the following formula: $(\text{numerator}/\text{denominator}) * 100$. • For the PQI measures (PQI01, PQI05, PQI08, PQI15), rates should be reported per 100,000 enrollee months and calculated using the following formula: $(\text{Number of hospital admissions}/\text{number of enrollee months}) * 100,000$. • For the OHD measure, rates should be reported per 1,000 enrollees and calculated using the following formula: $(\text{numerator}/\text{denominator}) * 1,000$.

Data Consistency	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Reporting for related measures should be consistent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HA1C/HPC: The method and denominators for these measures should be the same. • PQI01/PQI08: The denominators for these measures should be the same.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>For measures with multiple rates, reporting should be consistent for all rates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AMM: The Acute Phase rate should be greater than (or equal to) the Continuation Phase rate and the denominator for both rates should be the same. • FUH: The 7-day rate should be less than (or equal to) the 30-day rate and the denominator for both rates should be the same. • IET: The Initiation rate should be greater than (or equal to) the Engagement rate and the denominator for both rates should be the same. • MPM: Numerators and denominators for each medication should sum to the Total numerator and denominator.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>For measures that are included in both the Child and Adult Core Sets (CHL, FUH, PPC), reporting should be consistent for both Core Sets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the measure is reported for one Core Set (that is, Adult or Child), it should also be reported for the other Core Set. If not, the reason for not reporting should be explained in the “Please explain why you are not reporting on the measure” section. • The same method (administrative, hybrid) should be used to calculate the measures in both Core Sets. • The denominators should be calculated consistently in both Core Sets.
Data Documentation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>For measures not reported for FFY 2016, reasons for not reporting should be explained in detail in the “Please explain why you are not reporting on the measure” section.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>For each measure, states should report the measurement period that was used to calculate the denominator for that measure in the “Start Date” and “End Date” fields. For many measures, the denominator measurement period for FFY 2016 corresponds to calendar year 2015 (January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015). Some measures, however, also require states to review utilization or enrollment prior to this period to identify the measure-eligible population. States should not include these additional review periods (sometimes referred to as “look-back” periods) in the Start and End date range. The FFY 2016 measurement periods for denominators and numerators for each measure are available at http://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid-chip-program-information/by-topics/quality-of-care/downloads/fffy-2016-adult-core-set-measurement-periods.pdf for the Adult Core Set measures.</p> <p>For example: For FFY 2016, the Antidepressant Medication Management measurement specifications instruct states to identify enrollees with antidepressant prescriptions that started May 1, 2014 through April 30, 2015. To review the medication history for these enrollees, states should also review each enrollee’s medication history for 105 days prior to the start of the index prescription. Although states will need to review data prior to May 1, 2014, the denominator is based on prescriptions that start between May 1, 2014 and April 30, 2015 and states that followed the Core Set specifications for FFY 2016 should enter “May 1, 2014” in the Start Date field and “April 30, 2015” in the End Date field.</p> <p>Any deviations from the specified measurement period for the denominator or the numerator of a measure should be explained in the “Additional Notes/Comments on Measure” section in MACPro.</p>

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>If state-level rates include multiple reporting units (such as multiple managed care organizations or a combination of managed care and fee-for-service delivery systems), the method for combining and weighting rates should be explained in the “Combined Rate from Multiple Reporting Units” section. For measures reported based on data from multiple reporting units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State-level values should be entered in the Rate, Numerator, and Denominator fields. • The reporting units included in the data should be defined in the “Additional Notes/Comments on Measure” section. For example, if data from multiple MCOs were combined, the number of MCOs included should be noted in the “Additional Notes/Comments on Measure” section. • If the state reports that rates were weighted using “Other” methods, the weighting method should be described in the “Additional Notes/Comments on Measure” section.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>For measures that have optional exclusions in the specifications, states should explain in the “Additional Notes/Comments on Measure” section whether optional exclusions were applied.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>States should compare their FFY 2016 data to data reported for previous years. If denominators or rates have changed substantially for a measure, please document these changes, as well as any possible explanations for these changes, in the “Additional Notes/Comments on Measure” section. This information should provide context about changes in the state’s data over time (such as changes in populations or calculation methodologies).</p> <p>When assessing performance, states should be aware that lower rates are better on the following measures: HPC, OHD, PC01, PCR, PQI01, PQI05, PQI08, and PQI15.</p>

For Further Information

Additional information about the 2016 Adult Core Set measures, including the 2016 Resource Manual and Technical Specifications, is available at <http://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid-chip-program-information/by-topics/quality-of-care/adult-health-care-quality-measures.html>.

Additional resources for reporting Adult Core Set data in MACPro are available at <https://www.medicaid.gov/state-resource-center/medicaid-and-chip-program-portal/medicaid-and-chip-program-portal.html>.

To obtain technical assistance with reporting the Medicaid/CHIP Health Care Quality Measures, please contact the TA mailbox at MACQualityTA@cms.hhs.gov.