

Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans: Diabetes Care HEDIS Measures

July 2016

California Health Policy Strategies



Introduction to HEDIS Measures

Both Medi-Cal Managed Care plans and commercial plans are required to report common health outcome measures called HEDIS (Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set) scores.

There are 53 Medi-Cal managed care plans that serve over 10 million Californians .

The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) tracks and publishes HEDIS scores of all Medi-Cal Managed Care plans. In their annual reports, the DHCS establishes a **minimum performance level**, which is based on the 25th percentile of all Medicaid plans' performance across the nation. Medi-Cal Managed Care plans with scores below this threshold are deemed to have not met the minimum performance level.



Introduction to HEDIS Measures

Six different HEDIS measures focus on treating diabetic patients

- Blood pressure control: % of patients with blood pressure less than 140/90 mm Hg
- Retinal/Eye Exam: % of patients who received a retinal/eye exam
- Hemoglobin A1c Test: % of patients who received a blood sugar test
- Hemoglobin Control: % of patients with blood sugar level of <8%
- Hemoglobin Poor Control: % of patients with blood sugar level of >9%
- Nephropathy: % of patients who received kidney disease screening test



California Health Policy Strategies, LLC

HEDIS Measure – Blood Pressure Control

Background - Diabetic patients are at higher risk for hypertension, or high blood pressure, and other cardiovascular diseases.

Controlling diabetic patients' blood pressure is important to lower the risk for cardiovascular complications. Patients with elevated blood pressure (higher than 140/90 mm Hg) are deemed “not controlled.” Medical providers will often prescribe blood pressure medication and recommend lifestyle changes to lower diabetic patients' blood pressure.

Performance - Overall, the average score of Medi-Cal Managed Care plans compare favorably to national medicaid plans' average on this measure. However, some Medi-Cal Managed Care plans repeatedly score below the minimum performance level.



HEDIS Measure – Blood Pressure Control

Six Medi-Cal Managed Care plans failed to meet the 2015 minimum performance level for patients’ blood pressure:

| Health Plan | Ranking (out of 53) | HEDIS Score | Number of years since 2011 failed to meet minimum performance | Covered Lives |
|---|---------------------|--------------|---|---------------|
| <i>Weighted average for all Medi-Cal Plans</i> | - | 62.63 | - | - |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Contra Costa | 48 th | 52.30 | 4 | 29,699 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Sacramento | 49 th | 49.88 | 2 | 173,475 |
| Care 1 st Partner Plan – San Diego | 50 th | 48.66 | 2 | 73,114 |
| Molina Healthcare – Imperial | 51 st | 46.93 | 1 | 16,226 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Alameda | 52 nd | 45.58 | 5 | 61,471 |
| Alameda Alliance for Health – Alameda | 53 rd | 40.39 | 1 | 255,269 |



HEDIS Measure – Eye Care and Diabetes

Background - Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness in adults ages 20 to 74. Eye care and vision screenings are important for diabetic patients, who are more likely to develop glaucoma, cataracts, or retinopathy.

Performance - For the past 3 years, California's Medi-Cal Managed Care plans have generally *underperformed* on this measure compared to Medicaid plans nationwide.

In 2015, 75% of Medicaid plans nationwide met the minimum performance level, yet only 70% of California's Medi-Cal Managed Care plans met the minimum level.



HEDIS Measure – Eye Care and Diabetes

Sixteen Medi-Cal Managed Care plans failed to reach the minimum performance level for eye/retinal exams.

| Health Plan | Ranking (out of 53) | HEDIS Score | Number of years since 2011 failed to meet minimum performance | Covered Lives |
|--|---------------------|--------------|---|---------------|
| Weighted average for all Medi-Cal Plans | - | 53.34 | - | - |
| Alameda Alliance for Health – Alameda | 38 th | 46.23 | 1 | 255,269 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Contra Costa | 39 th | 45.94 | 4 | 29,699 |
| Molina Healthcare of CA – Riverside/San Bernardino | 40 th | 43.93 | 1 | 163,662 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Region 1 | 41 st | 41.76 | 1 | 73,492 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Sacramento | 42 nd | 40.60 | 4 | 173,475 |
| Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. – Sacramento | 43 rd | 39.90 | 3 | 123,997 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Fresno | 44 th | 39.58 | 1 | 110,063 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Alameda | 45 th | 39.53 | 5 | 61,471 |



HEDIS Measure – Eye Care and Diabetes

Continued....Sixteen Medi-Cal Managed Care plans failed to reach the minimum performance level for eye/retinal exams.

| Health Plan | Ranking (out of 53) | HEDIS Score | Number of years since 2011 failed to meet minimum performance | Covered Lives |
|---|---------------------|--------------|---|---------------|
| Weighted average for all Medi-Cal Plans | - | 53.34 | - | - |
| California Health & Wellness Plan – Region 1 | 46 th | 39.20 | 1 | 66,465 |
| Partnership HealthPlan of CA – Northwest | 47 th | 39.17 | 1 | 62,455 |
| California Health & Wellness Plan – Region 2 | 48 th | 38.14 | 1 | 63,624 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Kings | 49 th | 37.05 | 3 | 19,266 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Region 2 | 50 th | 36.28 | 1 | 89,094 |
| Health Plan of San Joaquin – Stanislaus | 51 st | 36.25 | 2 | 213,061 |
| Partnership HealthPlan of CA – Northeast | 52 nd | 34.79 | 1 | 92,972 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – San Benito | 53 rd | 34.29 | 1 | 7,673 |



California Health Policy Strategies, LLC

HEDIS Measure – Hemoglobin A1c

Background – The Hemoglobin (Hb) A1c test is the diagnostic test for diabetes. Hb A1c is a key indicator of a diabetic patient’s disease and how well the disease is being managed. This HEDIS measure conveys the percent of diabetic patients who had this blood glucose test, regardless of the result of the test.

Performance - Overall, California’s Medi-Cal Managed Care plans slightly outperform medicaid plans nationally. For the past four years, Medi-Cal Managed Care plans have administered this blood glucose test to 80-85% of their diabetic patients.



HEDIS Measure – Hemoglobin A1c

Eight Medi-Cal Managed Care plans failed to meet the minimum performance level for screening patients’ Hb A1c level:

| Health Plan | Ranking (out of 53) | HEDIS Score | Number of years since 2011 failed to meet minimum performance | Covered Lives |
|---|---------------------|--------------|---|---------------|
| <i>Weighted average for all Medi-Cal Plans</i> | - | <i>85.81</i> | - | - |
| Health Plan of San Joaquin - San Joaquin | 46 th | 79.32 | 2 | 117,371 |
| CalViva Health – Kings | 47 th | 79.08 | 2 | 25,803 |
| Health Net Community Solutions – Sacramento | 48 th | 78.59 | 3 | 123,997 |
| Health Net Community Solutions – San Diego | 49 th | 77.62 | 2 | 72,389 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – San Benito | 50 th | 77.14 | 1 | 7,673 |
| Molina Healthcare of California – Sacramento | 51 st | 77.04 | 1 | 60,585 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Sacramento | 52 nd | 76.80 | 4 | 173,475 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Kings | 53 rd | 74.43 | 3 | 19,266 |



HEDIS Measure – Hemoglobin A1c Control

Background - Unlike the previous measure, this HEDIS measure shows how many diabetic patients have controlled blood sugar. An Hb A1c level of less than 8% is considered controlled and can be achieved by an appropriate medication regimen and lifestyle.

Performance – Medi-Cal Managed Care plans have generally outperformed national medicaid plans for the past 4 years. Roughly half of Medi-Cal Managed Care diabetic patients having controlled Hb A1c levels, whereas the national Medicaid average is just over 45%.



HEDIS Measure – Hemoglobin A1c Control

Five Medi-Cal Managed Care plans failed to meet the minimum performance level for controlling patients’ Hb A1c level:

| Health Plan | Ranking (out of 53) | HEDIS Score | Number of years since 2011 failed to meet minimum performance | Covered Lives |
|--|---------------------|--------------|---|---------------|
| <i>Weighted average for all Medi-Cal Plans</i> | - | 49.08 | - | - |
| Molina Healthcare of California – Riverside/San Bernardino | 49 th | 37.76 | 1 | 163,662 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Kings | 50 th | 34.76 | 3 | 19,266 |
| California Health and Wellness Plan – Imperial | 51 st | 32.28 | 1 | 57,826 |
| Molina Healthcare of California – Imperial | 52 nd | 26.27 | 1 | 16,226 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – San Benito | 53 rd | * | 1 | 7,673 |



* Numerator is less than 11, and therefore suppressed to protect patients’ privacy.

California Health Policy Strategies, LLC

HEDIS Measure – Hemoglobin A1c Poor Control

Background – The Hemoglobin A1c poor control measures the percent of diabetic patients who have a Hb A1c level of greater than 9 or did not receive the test. Different from the other diabetic care measures, scoring high on this measure is a sign for poor diabetic care; health plans want as many diabetic patients as possible to have a Hb A1c level lower than 9.

Performance – Medi-Cal Managed Care plans, on average, score better than medicaid plans nationally. Roughly 40% of diabetic patients in Medi-Cal Managed Care plans have poor control, while 45% of diabetic patients in medicaid plans nationally have poor control.



HEDIS Measure – Hemoglobin A1c Poor Control

Four Medi-Cal Managed Care plans failed to meet the minimum performance level for controlling patients’ Hb A1c level:

Note: Lower scores denote better performance.

| Health Plan | Ranking (out of 53) | HEDIS Score | Number of years since 2011 failed to meet minimum performance | Covered Lives |
|---|---------------------|--------------|---|---------------|
| Weighted average for all Medi-Cal Plans | - | 39.35 | - | - |
| California Health and Wellness Plan - Imperial | 50 th | 56.35 | 1 | 57,816 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Kings | 51 st | 57.05 | 3 | 19,266 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – San Benito | 52 nd | 62.86 | 1 | 7,673 |
| Molina Healthcare of California – Imperial | 53 rd | 67.15 | 1 | 16,226 |



HEDIS Measure – Kidney Disease

Background – Diabetes is a leading cause of nephropathy, or kidney disease. Annually screening diabetic patients for kidney disease is important.

Performance – Overall, California’s Medi-Cal Managed Care plans performed very well on this measure outperforming national medicaid plans by roughly 5 percentage points and, in 2015, matching commercial plans’ performance.



HEDIS Measure – Kidney Disease

Three Medi-Cal Managed Care plans failed to meet the minimum performance level for screening patients' kidney damage:

| Health Plan | Ranking (out of 53) | HEDIS Score | Number of years since 2011 failed to meet minimum performance | Covered Lives |
|---|---------------------|--------------|---|---------------|
| Weighted average for all Medi-Cal Plans | - | 84.45 | - | - |
| Health Net Community Solutions - Stanislaus | 51 st | 75.43 | 1 | 75,316 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – Region 2 | 52 nd | 73.19 | 1 | 89,094 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan – San Benito | 53 rd | 54.29 | 1 | 7,673 |



Summary of all Plans and Diabetes HEDIS Measures

The following chart shows all 53 Medi-Cal Managed Care plans and the six HEDIS scores for diabetes care, as well as a calculated composite score summarizing each plan's diabetes care.

Numbers highlighted in **red** denote a score below the minimum performance level.

The plans are organized by their composite diabetes score (the far right column).



| Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan (Green denotes top quintile. Red denotes lowest quintile) | Comprehensive Diabetes Care | | | | | | Calculated Average of all six measures |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| | Blood Pressure (% of members with Blood Pressure <140/90 mm Hg) | Eye exam given (% of members who received retinal/dilated eye exam) | HbA1c test given (% of members given hemoglobin A1c blood test) | HbA1c Result (% of members with a HbA1c result of 8.0 or less) | Medical Attention for Nephropathy (% of members who received a screening for kidney disease) | HbA1c result too high (% of members whose hemoglobin A1c is greater than 9)* | |
| KP Cal LLC (Kaiser SoCal) - San Diego | 86.34 | 85.7 | 95.72 | 65.85 | 92.71 | 78.96 | 84.21 |
| KP Cal LLC (Kaiser NorCal) - KP North | 83.19 | 64.13 | 94.97 | 57.87 | 92.96 | 72.04 | 77.53 |
| San Francisco Health Plan - San Francisco | 75.41 | 68.91 | 91.42 | 62.41 | 87.94 | 74.94 | 76.84 |
| CenCal Health - Santa Barbara | 70.6 | 71.36 | 90.95 | 61.06 | 85.18 | 70.85 | 75.00 |
| CalOptima - Orange | 74.07 | 63.89 | 89.81 | 61.57 | 82.64 | 72.22 | 74.03 |
| Gold Coast Health Plan - Ventura | 63.75 | 60.1 | 90.51 | 57.91 | 83.7 | 67.15 | 70.52 |
| CenCal Health - San Luis Obispo | 68.33 | 65.59 | 84.29 | 54.61 | 83.29 | 65.34 | 70.24 |
| Santa Clara Family Health Plan - Santa Clara | 60.58 | 48.66 | 91.48 | 58.15 | 90.51 | 70.32 | 69.95 |
| Molina Healthcare of CA - San Diego | 58.72 | 60.93 | 89.85 | 55.19 | 87.42 | 65.56 | 69.61 |
| Health Plan of San Mateo - San Mateo | 60.1 | 63.75 | 89.29 | 54.99 | 83.94 | 61.8 | 68.98 |
| CalViva Health - Madera | 67.4 | 63.02 | 88.32 | 50.12 | 83.45 | 61.56 | 68.98 |
| Community Health Group Partnership Plan - San Diego | 56.45 | 54.74 | 91 | 54.26 | 89.29 | 63.99 | 68.29 |
| Partnership HealthPlan of CA - Southeast | 61.95 | 54.15 | 88.05 | 53.66 | 84.88 | 64.63 | 67.89 |
| Inland Empire Health Plan - Riverside/San Bernardino | 64.35 | 57.41 | 86.11 | 50.23 | 84.49 | 63.43 | 67.67 |
| Partnership HealthPlan of Ca - Northwest | 58.39 | 39.17 | 92.21 | 56.2 | 85.89 | 68.86 | 66.79 |
| Central CA Alliance for Health - Monterey/Santa Cruz | 67.4 | 59.85 | 87.83 | 46.96 | 82 | 56.2 | 66.71 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - Santa Clara | 54.29 | 52.44 | 84.69 | 56.61 | 83.99 | 66.59 | 66.44 |
| Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. - Los Angeles | 59.85 | 55.72 | 86.37 | 45.74 | 86.13 | 61.8 | 65.94 |
| Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. - Tulare | 61.8 | 50.61 | 84.18 | 49.39 | 87.83 | 59.12 | 65.49 |
| Central CA Alliance for Health - Merced | 66.18 | 52.31 | 86.37 | 45.99 | 84.91 | 56.2 | 65.33 |
| L.A. Care Health Plan - Los Angeles | 65.13 | 49.65 | 83.14 | 45.96 | 86.61 | 58.2 | 64.78 |
| CalViva Health - Fresno | 60.58 | 53.77 | 84.67 | 47.69 | 82 | 56.69 | 64.23 |
| Contra Costa Health Plan - Contra Costa | 60.44 | 55.1 | 83.98 | 44.17 | 82.52 | 58.74 | 64.16 |
| Health Plan of San Joaquin - San Joaquin | 70.56 | 47.2 | 79.32 | 46.72 | 81.75 | 57.91 | 63.91 |
| Care 1st Partner Plan, LLC - San Diego | 48.66 | 53.53 | 87.59 | 48.42 | 84.18 | 60.58 | 63.83 |
| Partnership HealthPlan of Ca - Southwest | 64.48 | 49.15 | 87.1 | 46.72 | 76.64 | 56.69 | 63.46 |
| Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. - San Joaquin | 54.39 | 53.82 | 81.87 | 45.33 | 84.7 | 58.92 | 63.17 |
| Health Plan of San Joaquin - Stanislaus | 72.26 | 36.25 | 80.78 | 51.82 | 77.13 | 60.1 | 63.06 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - San Francisco | 60.42 | 48.61 | 83.56 | 46.3 | 84.95 | 53.7 | 62.92 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - Madera | 62.68 | 54.35 | 84.06 | 42.39 | 84.78 | 48.19 | 62.74 |
| California Health & Wellness Plan - Imperial | 72.61 | 56.79 | 90.2 | 32.29 | 80.62 | 43.65 | 62.69 |
| Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. - Stanislaus | 63.75 | 46.47 | 80.29 | 47.2 | 75.43 | 58.64 | 61.96 |
| Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. - Kern | 55.72 | 47.93 | 83.21 | 42.82 | 86.13 | 54.26 | 61.68 |
| Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. - Sacramento | 59.12 | 39.9 | 78.59 | 47.69 | 84.67 | 59.85 | 61.64 |
| Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. - San Diego | 57.91 | 49.15 | 77.62 | 47.2 | 80.54 | 56.69 | 61.52 |
| Kern Health Systems - Kern | 65.88 | 49.45 | 83.03 | 39.78 | 81.57 | 48.36 | 61.35 |
| California Health & Wellness Plan - Region 1 | 70.6 | 39.2 | 84.63 | 40.31 | 76.17 | 55.01 | 60.99 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - Tulare | 64.58 | 46.3 | 82.87 | 42.13 | 78.24 | 51.62 | 60.96 |
| CalViva Health - Kings | 57.18 | 49.15 | 79.08 | 44.28 | 82.24 | 53.28 | 60.87 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - Contra Costa | 52.3 | 45.94 | 81.27 | 46.64 | 79.15 | 57.6 | 60.48 |
| California Health & Wellness Plan - Region 2 | 61.2 | 38.14 | 87.8 | 40.13 | 83.37 | 51.88 | 60.42 |
| Partnership HealthPlan of CA - Northeast | 56.69 | 34.79 | 87.35 | 48.91 | 76.16 | 57.42 | 60.22 |
| Molina Healthcare of CA - Sacramento | 53.64 | 48.79 | 77.04 | 44.81 | 80.57 | 56.07 | 60.15 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - Region 1 | 63.74 | 41.76 | 86.54 | 39.84 | 76.1 | 49.45 | 59.57 |
| Molina Healthcare of CA - Riverside/San Bernardino | 54.75 | 43.93 | 81.68 | 37.75 | 86.31 | 48.57 | 58.83 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - Sacramento | 49.88 | 40.6 | 76.8 | 46.17 | 81.67 | 56.15 | 58.55 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - Fresno | 54.17 | 39.58 | 83.1 | 42.13 | 81.02 | 48.61 | 58.10 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - Region 2 | 63.41 | 36.28 | 83.6 | 39.43 | 73.19 | 49.21 | 57.52 |
| Alameda Alliance of Health - Alameda | 40.39 | 46.23 | 87.1 | 41.85 | 80.05 | 48.91 | 57.42 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - Alameda | 45.58 | 39.53 | 83.02 | 40.93 | 77.67 | 49.77 | 56.08 |
| Molina Healthcare of CA - Imperial | 46.93 | 54.51 | 86.64 | 25.27 | 81.59 | 32.85 | 54.63 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - Kings | 56.39 | 37.05 | 74.43 | 34.75 | 81.97 | 42.95 | 54.59 |
| Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan - San Benito | 62.86 | 34.29 | 77.14 | 11 | 54.29 | 37.14 | 46.12 |

* For the sixth HEDIS measure titled "HbA1c too high", these data above show the inverse (100 - the value) of this measure so that a higher score is positive and a lower score is negative

Data Sources

“2015 HEDIS® Aggregate Report for Medi-Cal Managed Care” by the California Department of Health Care Services.

“2014 HEDIS® Aggregate Report for Medi-Cal Managed Care” by the California Department of Health Care Services.

“2013 HEDIS® Aggregate Report for Medi-Cal Managed Care” by the California Department of Health Care Services.

“2012 HEDIS® Aggregate Report for Medi-Cal Managed Care” by the California Department of Health Care Services.

“2011 HEDIS® Aggregate Report for Medi-Cal Managed Care” by the California Department of Health Care Services.

All HEDIS reports are located here: <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/reports/Pages/MMCDQualPerfHEDIS.aspx>

“Medi-Cal Managed Care Enrollment Reports” by the California Department of Health Care Services.

<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/reports/Pages/MMCDMonthlyEnrollment.aspx>

