# Child and Adult Core Sets Annual Review Workgroup: <br> Meeting to Prepare for the 2026 Review 

## January 10, 2024

## Technical Instructions

- If you are experiencing technical issues during the webinar, please send a message through the Q\&A function to All Panelists.

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## Technical Instructions (continued)

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## Welcome and Meeting Objectives

Progress Together

## Meeting Objectives

- Discuss the strategy and criteria for assessing measures
- Identify the measures suggested by Workgroup members for removal from or addition to the 2026 Child and Adult Core Sets
- Describe the resources available to Workgroup members for reviewing measures
- Present the agenda and approach for measure discussion at the voting meeting (February 6-7, 2024)
- Provide an opportunity for public comment


## Mathematica Core Sets Review Team

- Margo Rosenbach, Project Director
- Chrissy Fiorentini, Researcher
- Caitlyn Newhard, Managing Consultant
- Maria Dobinick, Researcher
- Deb Haimowitz, Health Associate
- Talia Parker, Health Associate
- Alli Steiner, Senior Researcher


## 2026 Core Sets Annual Review Workgroup

| Voting Members |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Co-Chair: Kim Elliott, PhD, MA, CPHQ, CHCA | Health Services Advisory Group |
| Co-Chair: Rachel La Croix, PhD, PMP <br> Nominated by the National Association of Medicaid Directors | Florida Agency for Health Care Administration |
| Benjamin Anderson, JD | Families USA |
| Richard Antonelli, MD, MS | Boston Children's Hospital |
| Stacey Bartell, MD <br> Nominated by the American Academy of Family Physicians | American Academy of Family Physicians |
| Tricia Brooks, MBA | Georgetown University Center for Children and Families |
| Emily Brown | Free From Market |
| Joy Burkhard, MBA | Policy Center for Maternal Mental Health |
| Stacey Carpenter, PsyD, IMH-E® | ZERO TO THREE |
| Roshanda Clemons, MD <br> Nominated by the Medicaid Medical Directors Network | Nevada Department of Health and Human Services |
| Lindsay Cogan, PhD, MS | New York State Department of Health |
| James Crall, DDS, ScD, MS <br> Nominated by the American Dental Association | UCLA School of Dentistry |
| Erica David Park, MD, MBA, FAAPMR | AmeriHealth Caritas |

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## 2026 Core Sets Annual Review Workgroup (continued)

## Voting Members

| Anne Edwards, MD <br> Nominated by American Academy of Pediatrics | American Academy of Pediatrics |
| :--- | :--- |
| Clara Filice, MD, MPH, MHS <br> Nominated by the Medicaid Medical Directors Network | MassHealth |
| Angela Filzen, DDS <br> Nominated by the American Dental Association | Mississippi State Department of Health |
| Sara Hackbart, MS <br> Nominated by the National MLTSS Health Plan Association | Elevance Health |
| Richard Holaday, MHA <br> Nominated by the National Association of Medicaid Directors | Delaware Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance |
| Jeff Huebner, MD, FAAFP <br> Nominated by the National Association of Medicaid Directors | Wisconsin Department of Health Services |
| Sarah Johnson, MD, MPH | IPRO |
| David Kelley, MD, MPA | Pennsylvania Department of Human Services |
| David Kroll, MD <br> Nominated by the American Psychiatric Association | Department of Psychiatry, Mass General Brigham Health, Harvard |
| Medical School |  |
| Jakenna Lebsock, MPA | Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) |
| Hannah Lee-Brown, PharmD, RPh, CPHQ <br> Nominated by the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy | Healthfirst |

## 2026 Core Sets Annual Review Workgroup (continued)

| Voting Members | New Mexico Human Services Department |
| :--- | :--- |
| Katherine Leyba <br> Nominated by the National Association of Medicaid Directors | CVP |
| Lisa Patton, PhD | Washington Health Care Authority |
| Laura Pennington, MHL <br> Nominated by the Medicaid Medical Directors Network | Alaska Department of Health |
| Grant Rich, PhD, MA | American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists |
| Lisa Satterfield, MS, MPH, CAE, CPH <br> Nominated by the American College of Obstetricians and <br> Gynecologists | California Department of Health Care Services |
| Linette Scott, MD, MPH | Colorado Department of Health Care Policy \& Financing |
| Bonnie Silva <br> Nominated by ADvancing States | Illinois Contraceptive Access Now of AllianceChicago and Erie <br> Family Health Center |
| Kai Tao, ND, MPH, FACNM <br> Nominated by the American College of Nurse Midwives | Indiana Family and Social Services Administration |
| Ann Zerr, MD | UCLA-Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior |
| Bonnie Zima, MD, MPH <br> Nominated by the American Academy of Child and Adolescent <br> Psychiatry and American Psychiatric Association |  |

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## 2026 Core Sets Annual Review Workgroup: Federal Liaisons

## Federal Liaisons (Non-voting)

| Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, DHHS |
| :--- |
| Center for Clinical Standards and Quality, CMS, DHHS |
| Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, DHHS |
| Health Resources and Services Administration, DHHS |
| Indian Health Service, DHHS |
| Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, DHHS |
| Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, DHHS |
| Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, DHHS |
| US Department of Veteran Affairs |

## 2026 Core Sets Annual Review Workgroup Milestones



## Measure Review Strategy and Criteria

## Using the Child and Adult Core Sets to Advance Access, Quality, and Equity

- The Child and Adult Core Sets are a foundational tool for understanding the quality of health care provided in Medicaid and CHIP
- The Core Sets help CMS and states:
- Assess access to and quality of health care being provided to Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries
- Identify and improve understanding of the health disparities experienced by Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries
- CMS encourages states to use Core Set data to identify disparities in care and to develop targeted quality improvement efforts to advance health equity
- Charge to the 2026 Core Sets Annual Review Workgroup: Assess the existing Core Sets and recommend measures for removal or addition to strengthen and improve the Core Sets for Medicaid and CHIP
Source: CMCS Informational Bulletin (11/15/2022).


## Role of the Workgroup in Strengthening the 2026 Child and Adult Core Sets

- The annual Workgroup process is designed to identify gaps in the existing Core Sets and suggest updates to strengthen and improve the Core Sets
- The Workgroup discussion must balance the desirability, feasibility, and viability of measures from the perspective of state-level quality measurement and improvement
- Example: Quality measures that reflect health outcomes may be more desirable than process measures, but they may be more challenging to report based on data availability and resource intensity



## Preparing for Mandatory Reporting

- States must report on all Child Core Set measures and the behavioral health measures on the Adult Core Set for FFY 2024 state reporting and annually thereafter
- States must adhere to reporting guidance in the resource manuals and TA briefs issued by CMS
- For more information on the mandatory reporting requirements, see https://www.medicaid.gov/sites/default/files/2023-12/sho23005 0.pdf
- Feasibility and viability of state-level reporting of current and future Core Set measures are key considerations as mandatory reporting begins
- Another key consideration is the ability to stratify measures by factors such as race, ethnicity, sex, geography, age, disability, and language
- States will be required to report data stratified by race, ethnicity, sex, and geography for a subset of mandatory measures beginning with FFY 2025 Core Set reporting
- Workgroup recommendations for the 2026 Core Sets should consider the feasibility for all states to report a measure for all Medicaid and CHIP populations within two years of the measure being added to the Core Sets


## Criteria for the 2026 Child and Adult Core Sets Annual Review

- To assess measures for inclusion in the Child and Adult Core Sets, Workgroup members will use criteria in three areas:
- Minimum Technical Feasibility Requirements
- Actionability and Strategic Priority
- Other Considerations
- To be considered for the 2026 Child and Adult Core Sets, all measures must meet minimum technical feasibility requirements


## Criteria for Assessing Measures for Removal

## Technical Feasibility

$\checkmark$ The measure is not fully developed and does not have detailed technical measure specifications, preventing production of the measure at the state level (e.g., numerator, denominator, and value sets).
$\checkmark$ States report significant challenges in accessing an available data source that contains all the data elements necessary to calculate the measure, including an identifier for Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries (or the ability to link to an identifier).
$\checkmark$ The specifications and data source do not allow for consistent calculations across states (e.g., there is variation in coding or data completeness across states).
$\checkmark$ The measure is being retired by the measure steward and will no longer be updated or maintained.

## Actionability and Strategic Priority

$\checkmark$ Taken together with other Core Set measures, the measure does not contribute to estimating the overall national quality of health care in Medicaid and CHIP.
$\checkmark$ The measure is not suitable for comparative analyses of disparities among Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries by factors such as race, ethnicity, sex, age, rural/urban status, disability, and language.
$\checkmark$ The measure does not address a strategic priority for improving health care delivery and outcomes in Medicaid and CHIP (e.g., it does not promote effective care delivery, does not address the unique and complex needs of Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries, or there is a lack of evidence that this measure will lead to quality improvement).
$\checkmark$ The measure cannot be used to assess state progress in improving health care delivery and outcomes in Medicaid and CHIP (e.g., the measure is topped out, trending is not possible, or improvement is outside the direct influence of Medicaid and CHIP programs/providers).

## Other Considerations

$\checkmark$ The prevalence of the condition or outcome being measured is not sufficient to produce reliable and meaningful results across states, considering Medicaid and CHIP population sizes and demographics.
$\checkmark$ The measure and measure specifications are not aligned with those used in other CMS programs, or another measure is recommended for replacement.
$\checkmark$ All states may not be able to produce the measure for Core Set reporting within two years of the reporting cycle under review or may not be able to include all Medicaid and CHIP populations (e.g., all age groups, eligibility categories, and delivery systems).

## Criteria for Assessing Measures for Addition

## Minimum Technical Feasibility Requirements

$\checkmark$ The measure must be fully developed and have detailed technical specifications that enable production of the measure at the state level (e.g., numerator, denominator, and value sets).
$\checkmark$ The measure must have been tested in state Medicaid and/or CHIP programs or be in use by one or more state Medicaid and/or CHIP programs.
$\checkmark$ An available data source or validated survey instrument exists that contains all the data elements necessary to calculate the measure, including an identifier for Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries (or the ability to link to an identifier).
$\checkmark$ The specifications and data source must allow for consistent calculations across states (e.g., coding and data completeness).
$\checkmark$ The measure must include technical specifications (including code sets) that are provided free of charge for state use in the Core Sets.

## Actionability and Strategic Priority

$\checkmark$ Taken together with other Core Set measures, the measure can be used to estimate the overall national quality of health care in Medicaid and CHIP.
$\checkmark$ The measure should be suitable for comparative analyses of disparities among Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries by factors such as race, ethnicity, sex, age, rural/urban status, disability, and language.
$\checkmark$ The measure addresses a strategic priority for improving health care delivery and outcomes in Medicaid and CHIP.
$\checkmark$ The measure can be used to assess state progress in improving health care delivery and outcomes in Medicaid and CHIP (e.g., the measure has room for improvement, performance is trendable, and improvement can be directly influenced by Medicaid and CHIP programs/providers).

## Other <br> Considerations

$\checkmark$ The prevalence of the condition or outcome being measured is sufficient to produce reliable and meaningful results across states, taking into account Medicaid and CHIP population sizes and demographics.
$\checkmark$ The measure and measure specifications are aligned with those used in other CMS programs, where possible (e.g., Core Quality Measures Collaborative Core Sets, Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program, Merit-Based Incentive Payment System, Qualified Health Plan Quality Rating System, Medicare Advantage Star Ratings, and/or Medicare Shared Savings Program).
$\checkmark$ All states should be able to produce the measure for Core Set reporting within two years of the measure being added to the Core Sets and be able to include all Medicaid and CHIP populations (e.g., all age groups, eligibility categories, and delivery systems).

## Measures Suggested for Removal from or Addition to the 2026 Child and Adult Core Sets

## Measures Suggested for Removal or Addition That Will Be Reviewed at the Voting Meeting

| Domain | Measure Name | Measure <br> Steward | Data Collection <br> Method |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Measures Suggested for Removal | PQA | Administrative |  |
| Care of Acute and <br> Chronic Conditions | Use of Opioids at High Dosage in Persons Without Cancer (OHD-AD) | Administrative or EHR |  |
| Behavioral Health Care | Initiation and Engagement of Substance Use Disorder Treatment (IET-AD) | NCQA |  |
| Measures Suggested for Addition | NCQA | ECDS $^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| TBD | Prenatal Depression Screening and Follow-Up | NCQA | ECDS $^{\text {a }}$ |
| TBD | Social Need Screening and Intervention |  |  |

a The ECDS data collection method includes data from administrative claims, electronic health records, case management systems, and health information exchanges/clinical registries. More information about ECDS is available at https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/the-future-of-hedis/hedis-electronic-clinical-data-system-ecds-reporting/.

ECDS = Electronic Clinical Data System; EHR = Electronic Health Record; NCQA = National Committee for Quality Assurance; PQA = Pharmacy Quality Alliance.

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## Summary of the Measures Suggested for Removal or Addition That Will Be Reviewed at the Voting Meeting

| Characteristic | Measures <br> Suggested for <br> Removal | Measures <br> Suggested for <br> Addition |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Data Collection Methods | 1 | - |  |
| Administrative only | 1 | - |  |
| Administrative or EHR | - | 2 |  |
| ECDS |  |  |  |
| Level of Reporting for Which the Measure was Developed |  |  |  |
| Plan level | 2 | 2 |  |

## Questions from Workgroup Members

## Guidance to Workgroup Members for Reviewing Measures

## Guidance for Measure Review

- Before the voting meeting, Workgroup members should review all the measures suggested for consideration by the Workgroup
- Mathematica will provide additional resources to help Workgroup members assess the measures for removal from or addition to the Child and Adult Core Sets
- To guide their review, Workgroup members should refer to the criteria for removal of existing measures and addition of new measures
- The Measure Review Worksheet can be used to record and organize notes, questions, and planned vote for each measure suggested for removal or addition


## Measure Information Sheet: Removal

Mathematica. MEASURE INFORMATION SHEET
CHILD AND ADULT CORE SETS REVIEW WORKGROUP: MEASURES SUGGESTED FOR REMOVAL FROM THE 2026 CORE SETS

| Measure Information |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Measure name | Initiation and Engagement of Substance Use Disorder Treatment (IET-AD) |
| Description | Percentage of new substance use disorder (SUD) episodes that result in treatment initiation and engagement. Two rates are reported: <br> - Initiation of SUD Treatment. The percentage of new SUD episodes that result in treatment initiation through an inpatient SUD admission, outpatient visit, intensive outpatient encounter, partial hospitalization, telehealth visit, or medication treatment within 14 days. <br> - Engagement of SUD Treatment. The percentage of new SUD episodes that have evidence of treatment engagement within 34 days of initiation. |
| Measure steward | National Committe for Quality Assurance (NCQA) |
| Core 5 | Adult Core Set |
| Core Set domain | Behaxioral Health Care |
| Meaningful Measures area | Behavioral Health |
| Measure type | Process |
| If measure is removed, does it leave a gap in the Core Set? | No. The Workgroup member (WGM) who suggested this measure for removal indicated that removing the measure would not leave a gap in the Core Set. |
| Has another measure <br> heen proposed for <br> substution (new or <br> existint <br> measure)? | No |
| Is there another related measure in the Core set? | - Use of Pharmacotherapy for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD-AD) <br> - Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Substance Use: Age 18 and Older (FUA-AD) |
| $\begin{array}{l}\text { Use in other CMS } \\ \text { programs }\end{array}$ | - Merit-Based Incentive Payment System Program <br> - Marketplace Quality Rating System <br> - Medicaid Health Home Core Set |

[^0]- Measure information and technical specifications
- Nominating Workgroup member reasons for removal, by criteria
- Core Set reporting history and reporting challenges identified by states
- Other information, including measure alignment across programs
- Summary of prior Workgroup discussions, if previously discussed
- Performance measure rates, if publicly reported


## Measure Information Sheet: Addition

## h Mathematica. measure information sheet

CHILD AND ADULT CORE SETS REVIEW WORKGROUP: MEASURES SUGGESTED FOR ADDITION TO THE 2026 CORE SETS
 Nor
Technical Specifications


- Measure information and technical specifications
- Information on minimum technical feasibility
- Whether the data source allows for stratification by racial, ethnic, and sociodemographic characteristics
- Nominating Workgroup member comments on feasibility, actionability, and strategic priority
- Other information, including condition prevalence in Medicaid and CHIP and measure alignment across programs
- Summary of prior Workgroup discussions, if previously discussed


## Guidance for Measure Review

1. Review Measure Information Sheet and record notes and questions in measure review worksheet
2. Consult other available resources as needed
> Medicaid and CHIP Beneficiary Profile: Beneficiary characteristics, prevalence of conditions, and expenditures
$>$ Core Set History Table: When measures were added to or removed from the Core Sets
$>$ Chart Packs and Measure Performance Tables: State reporting and measure rates
> Core Sets Resource Manuals and Technical Specifications: Instructions on how to calculate the measures
> List of Measures Previously Discussed: Years considered and Workgroup recommendations for measures that have been previously discussed
3. Assess the measure in relation to the criteria for addition or removal
4. Record preliminary vote in measure review worksheet

## Voting Meeting Approach

## Voting Meeting Logistics

- The virtual meeting will be held February 6-7, 2024
- Registration is now available at www.Mathematica.org/MACCoreSetReview
- The meeting will be open to the public
- More information about the meeting agenda and resources will be posted on our website before the voting meeting: www.Mathematica.org/MACCoreSetReview


## Approach to Measure Discussion

- The Workgroup will discuss 4 measures during the voting meeting, including 2 suggested for removal and 2 suggested for addition
- The Workgroup will first discuss measures suggested for removal followed by measures suggested for addition
- Measures will be considered in their specified form


## Voting Process

- Voting will take place by measure after Workgroup discussion and public comment
- Workgroup members will vote on each measure in its specified form
- Measure for removal:
- Yes = I recommend removing the measure from the Core Set
- No = I do not recommend removing the measure from the Core Set
- Measures for addition:
- Yes = I recommend adding the measure to the Core Set
- No = I do not recommend adding the measure to the Core Set
- Measures will be recommended for removal or addition if two-thirds of eligible Workgroup members vote "yes"


## Discussion of Gaps at the Voting Meeting

- Every year, the Workgroup identifies a list of gaps in the Core Sets
- The list of gaps is intended to inform the Call for Measures for the subsequent annual review
- Beginning with the 2027 Child and Adult Core Sets Annual Review cycle, Mathematica will conduct a Public Call for Measures
- During the Voting Meeting next month, Mathematica will engage the Workgroup in a discussion about priorities and criteria for the 2027 Public Call for Measures
- Public comment on priorities and criteria for the Public Call for Measures will be invited


## Workgroup Homework

- Review the Measure Information Sheets and record notes and questions in measure review worksheet
- Prepare for the discussion on the Public Call for Measures by reviewing measure criteria and previously identified gaps
- If you have questions while reviewing the materials, please email MACCoreSetReview@mathematica-mpr.com
- Thank you for taking the time to prepare for the discussion and voting!


## Questions from Workgroup Members

## Opportunity for Public Comment

## Wrap Up

## Next Steps for Measure Review

- Workgroup members and federal liaisons will receive the measure review materials via email by COB tomorrow, January 11th
- Measure information sheets will be posted publicly before the voting meeting
- Workgroup members should email Mathematica with any questions about the measures suggested for removal or addition, voting meeting process, or other logistics
- Contact us at MACCoreSetReview@mathematica-mpr.com


## For More Information

- Information on the Child Core Set is available at www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/performance-measurement/adult-and-child-health-care-quality-measures/childrens-health-care-quality-measures/index.html
- Information on the Adult Core Set is available at www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/performance-measurement/adult-and-child-health-care-quality-measures/adult-health-care-quality-measures/index.html
- Information on the Child and Adult Core Sets Annual Review is available at www.mathematica.org/features/MACCoreSetReview


## Questions

If you have questions about the Child and Adult Core Sets Annual Review, please email the Mathematica Child and Adult Core Sets Review Team at: MACCoreSetReview@mathematica-mpr.com

## Thank you for participating!


[^0]:    | FFY 2024 Technical Specifications |
    | :--- | :--- |
    | Ages |


    | Data collection method | Age 18 and older as of the SUD episode date. |
    | :--- | :--- |


    | Denominator | Administrative or electronic health records (EHR). |
    | :--- | :--- |
    |  | The number of beneficiaries age <br> date who had |

