

Quality Improvement & Health Equity Committee (QIHEC) Activity Summary Q2 2025

Topics Discussed

1. Dental Services: Staff provided an update on the dental services integration pilot, which is in its fourth year. The program has increased access to orthodontic services by easing prior authorization requirements. The program has also expanded coverage for preventive services and new technologies, such as hydroxyapatite. The second round of changes will go live in July, and providers are being informed about the updates.
2. Measurement Year 2024/Reporting Year 2025 HEDIS Results: Staff presented the Health Effectiveness Data Information Set (HEDIS) results, highlighting improvements in several measures, including childhood immunizations, breast cancer screening, and prenatal and postpartum care. The Plan had no measures below the minimum performance level and six measures above the high-performance level for the DHCS Managed Care Accountability (MCAS) measure set. This indicates a strong overall performance in the HEDIS results.
 - a. Childhood Immunizations: Staff highlighted significant improvements in childhood immunizations, with the plan to achieve high performance levels. This improvement is attributed to better data capture and increased efforts to ensure children receive their vaccinations on time.
 - b. Prenatal and Postpartum Care: The Plan performed well in prenatal and postpartum care measures, with the postpartum care measure being very close to the high-performance level. This indicates effective care for pregnant members and new mothers.
 - c. Diabetes Management: Staff discussed improvements in diabetes management, particularly in glycemic control. The Plan has seen positive trends in managing diabetes, which is attributed to ongoing efforts and incentives for providers.
 - d. Developmental Screenings: Staff highlighted significant improvements in developmental screenings, with rates increasing substantially. This improvement is due to better data capture and coding by providers, ensuring that screenings are appropriately documented.
 - e. Depression Screening: Staff discussed the challenges of capturing

depression screening data, particularly the need for actual screening tool total score values. The Plan is working to establish data feeds with providers to capture these values accurately

- f. Plan All-Cause Readmissions: Staff presented the Plan's all-cause readmissions data, showing improvements in the observed rate for both Medicare and Medicaid populations. They explained the methodology for calculating the observed-to-expected ratio and noted that the Plan aims to keep this ratio below one.
- g. Race and Ethnicity Stratification: Staff explained the stratification of HEDIS measures by race and ethnicity, noting that the Plan captures more granular categories, but reports based on HEDIS specifications. They discussed the challenges of capturing accurate race and ethnicity data and the importance of addressing disparities in health outcomes. The Plan uses stratified data to identify and address disparities, ensuring that all populations receive equitable care.

Actions Taken:

- 1) The committee reviewed and approved the following:
 - a) QIHEC minutes from March 20, 2025
 - b) Clinical Quality Committee minutes from February 24, 2025
 - c) Peer Review Committee minutes from February 11, 2025 and April 8, 2025
 - d) Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee minutes from September 17, 2024, November 26, 2024 and February 26, 2025
 - e) California Children's Services Clinical Advisory minutes from September 26, 2024 and December 4, 2024
 - f) Dental Advisory Group minutes from September 20, 2024, October 18, 2024, November 15, 2024 and April 18, 2025