

Performance Measures Coordinating Committee Meeting Summary May 5, 2023

Present: Sharon Eloranta, Judy Zerzan-Thul, Peggy Evans, Sara Hallvik, Gary Franklin, Pat Justis, David Mancuso, Rick Rubin, Pam Schlauderhaff, Ginny Weir

Absent: Sue Birch, Vishal Chaudhry, Patrick Connor, Frances Gough, Becky Harless, Eli Kern, Larry Kessler, Dale P. Reisner, Paul Sherman

HCA Staff: Laura Pennington, and Heleena Hufnagel

Guests: Dr. Drew Oliveira, Jim Andrianos

Welcome and Introduction:

Dr. Zerzan-Thul, Co-chair of the Performance Measures Coordinating Committee, welcomed attendees and thanked them for participating in the meeting and also introduced the two newest members of the PMCC, Pam Schlauderhaff from Mason Health and Peggy Evans, OneHealthPort. In addition, Dr. Zerzan-Thul took a moment to acknowledge the passing of Dr. Jonathan Sugarman, a longtime member of the PMCC and a leader in the Washington healthcare community and champion of quality healthcare for all.

Dr. Zerzan-Thul reviewed housekeeping items and reminded everyone of the importance of keeping this a transparent process, allowing for public input and opportunities for participation, and sharing all meeting materials and summaries on the Healthier WA website. Dr. Zerzan-Thul reviewed the objectives for the meeting which included:

1. Brief recap of January 2023 meeting
2. 2021 Performance Results for WSCMS Measures Community Checkup
3. Potential Changes to 2024 Washington State Common Measure Set
4. Opportunity for public comment
5. Wrap Up

1.) Brief recap of January 2023 PMCC meeting

Dr. Zerzan-Thul provided a brief recap of the discussion from the January 2023 PMCC meeting, including:

- Status of the letter from the PMCC to the Legislature to confirm PMCC role/responsibilities. The letter has been finalized, however it is on hold for the present, as HCA addresses some operational requirements. The current plan is to submit it prior to the 2024 legislative session.
- Learned about rural health systems in Washington and current efforts to address quality, which will help inform PMCC priorities in the future.
- Discussed updates to the PMCC administrative processes, including reinstating the quorum process, and ensuring all members receive public meeting training.
- The PMCC discussed a request to consider the addition of obesity measures to the Washington State Common Measure Set. The committee agreed to put this in the parking lot until there are viable measures that have been thoroughly tested and endorsed at the national level.

2.) 2021 Performance Results for WSCMS Measures Community Checkup

Jim Andrianos, HE consultant for the Washington Health Alliance presented the results of the [17th WHA Community Measures Checkup](#).

The main topics of the presentation were:

- Comparison of quality in WA to national performance
 - Gaps to quality and need for improvement
- Primary Care Quality in WA
 - Attributable PCP leads to better quality of care
 - Approximately 1/3 of commercial and Medicaid enrollees do not have a PCP
- Area Deprivation Index (ADI) is a type of geocoding used to rank/group neighborhoods by socioeconomic status. It is housed at The [Neighborhood Atlas](#) website and is operated by the University of Wisconsin.
 - Includes seventeen measures of social/economic advantage/disadvantage in several domains including but not limited to:
 - Income
 - Education
 - Employment
 - Housing quality
 - Stratification examples
 - Identifying how location impacts quality and health outcomes
- Washington Health Alliance's quality and total costs of care stratified by ADI reports and highlights can be found [here](#).

Committee discussion:

- Are we too focused on “comparing ourselves to ourselves?”
 - If plans are reporting it could be biased against state level performance
 - More opportunities to conduct national comparisons and learn from other states
- Why is Medicaid outperforming commercial carriers in certain measures (ie. Maternity measures)?
 - Lower premiums or greater access?
 - Federal requirements vs. WA state VBP models
 - Are current VBP incentives supporting quality of care?
 - Measure set review: HEDIS in WA may be very different than other places
- Some clinics are doing better than others
 - Are there more screenings occurring in these areas?
 - What are these providers doing better?
 - EHR or proactive outreach (i.e. avoidable ER encounters)?
 - What is the staffing/ capacity issues for those who are underperforming?
 - Opportunity to explore population by ACH and hand pick deciles at county levels or by medical group.
- Why do 1/3 of individuals not have identified PCP (based on claims)?

- WHA identifies 2 visits/2 years as having a PCP
- Current methodology cannot identify the specific assigned PCP
- Staffing shortages and delayed care coordination could be leading clients to seek alternative providers.
 - Tableau may allow for tracking of clients not attributable to a PCP.
- National comparison mapping may be done with the [Neighborhood Atlas](#) tool.
 - Data agreements restrict “deep dives” into some of this data but this doesn’t mean we can’t look at neighborhood maps and formulate ideas around accessibility in those areas.

Next Steps:

WA Community Checkup has identified 22 specific calls to action for 2023.

Further review is needed to explore opportunities to improve on these performance results. The data presented in this meeting will be used in upcoming ad hoc meetings to review bi-annual measures, with gaps/ poor performance to be reviewed first and success highlights will be reviewed second, with the opportunity to share what is working well.

3.) Potential Changes to the WSCMS for 2024:

Laura Pennington of the Washington State Health Care Authority discussed proposed NCQA HEDIS updates including HEDIS additions and retirement and potential impacts to the WSCMS. These updates included:

- [Proposed HEDIS measures for retirement for MY 2024, currently on the WSCMS:](#)
 - Antidepressant Medication Management (AMM)
 - Justification: The measure only addresses adherence to antidepressants as a treatment for depression and does not address other guideline recommended treatments such as psychotherapy.
 - Ambulatory Care (AMB)
 - Use of Spirometry Testing in the Assessment and Diagnosis of COPD (SPR)
- [MY 2023 proposed updates to existing measures on the WSCMS:](#)
 - Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Control for Patients With Diabetes (HBD)
 - Added glucose management indicator (GMI) as an option to meet numerator criteria
 - Updated the event/diagnosis criteria
 - Updated the measure title:
 - Glycemic Status Assessment for Patients With Diabetes (GSD)
 - Eye Exam for Patients With Diabetes (EED)
 - Removed the Hybrid reporting method
 - Updated the event/diagnosis criteria
 - Updated required exclusions
- [Proposed Changes to Gender Documentation and Inclusion](#)
 - Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)
 - Cervical Cancer Screening (CCS)
- Expansion of number of HEDIS Measures requiring stratification by Race and Ethnicity
 - NCQA has proposed a [list of candidate measures](#) in which to expand the stratification in MY 2024. They are also seeking feedback on any additional measures not on this list.
 - NCQA intends to add a minimum of 5 new measures for MY 2024.

In addition to the proposed NCQA changes to HEDIS MY2024, the following proposed changes will be discussed at the next PMCC meeting:

- Addition of HIV Viral Suppression Measure
 - Previously recommended for addition to WSCMS, but we did not have a data source
- NCQA Retirement in MY2023 of Pneumococcal Vaccination Status for Older Adults (PNU)
- Recommended for PNU replacement with Adult Immunization Status (AIS-E)
 - This measure is an NCQA approved alternative for PNU

- **Biennial evaluation of the WSCMS:**
 - As required in state statute the PMCC is required to conduct a review of the measures in the WSCMS every two years.
 - A small workgroup will convene over the summer to evaluate the measures in the WSCMS and present recommendations to the PMCC for consideration at the next meeting

6.) Public comments/Other topics:

- No questions or comments received from the public.

7.) Wrap up and next steps

Next steps:

- 2023 Biennial evaluation of WSCMS
 - Convene evaluation workgroup over summer 2023
 - Please send any nominations or recommendations for participants to HCA
- Monitor final changes to NCQA HEDIS MY 2024 measures
- Bring proposed changes to 2024 WSCMS for final vote

Next Meeting:

- October 2023 (TBD) Proposed agenda topics:
 - Initial vote of proposed changes to the 2024 WSCMS
 - Revisit rural health quality
 - Send additional topics to Laura P.