

DATE: October 20, 2016

TO: Performance Measures Coordinating Committee (PMCC)

FROM: Dorothy Teeter, Administrator, WA State Health Care Authority
Nancy Giunto, Executive Director, WA State Health Alliance

RE: **Recommended Modifications to the Currently Approved
Common Measure Set (Attachment 2)**

Introduction

The Washington Health Alliance convened representatives from each of the organizations/state agencies that submit results for the Common Measure Set to determine whether any modifications need to be made to the currently approved measure set. These representatives are individuals with subject matter expertise in quality and measurement. This same process occurred in 2015 to prepare for 2016. This process was approved by the WA State Health Care Authority.

Based on feedback from this group, there are two measures that require attention in preparation for 2017.

1. **FOLLOW-UP AFTER DISCHARGE FROM THE ER FOR MENTAL HEALTH,
ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUG DEPENDENCE @ 30 DAYS**

Recommended Action: Delay use of this measure for one more year and in 2018 proceed with publicly reporting results at the state and health plan levels, utilizing data licensed from NCQA Quality Compass.

Explanation: This measure was approved for the Common Measure Set in 2016 after being recommended by the Behavioral Health Measures Selection Work Group. At the time the measure was approved, however, it was decided to delay implementation of the measure for one year. At the time, this measure was a new measure developed by NCQA and endorsed by NQF in March 2015. It was not included in the 2016 HEDIS measure set required for health plan accreditation but was being considered for inclusion in the 2017 NCQA-HEDIS measure set.

Fast forward to 2016 and we now know that this measure has been approved for 2017 HEDIS. However, because this is a first year HEDIS measure in 2017, results will not be publicly released by NCQA Quality Compass (this is their standard practice). Therefore, we do not have a source for audited health plan results in 2017. Assuming it remains a HEDIS measure in 2018, we will have access to results at that time.

2. **MEDICATION MANAGEMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH ASTHMA**

Recommended Action: In 2017, report results for this measure as follows: The percentage of members who remained on an asthma controller medication at least **75%** of their treatment period.

Explanation: When this measure was approved in 2015, for inclusion in the 2016 Common Measure Set, the measure was approved as follows: The percentage of members who remained on an asthma controller medication at least **50%** of their treatment period.

Making this change will bring us into alignment with CMS and NCQA. NCQA Quality Compass reports results at the 75% compliance level even though the measure includes two rates (50% and 75%). The Health Care Authority includes this measure in its contracts and wishes to use a version of the measure for which we will have a national 90th percentile benchmark – this is the 75th compliance level.

This measure was also considered by the Pediatric Measures Selection Work Group and they concur with this recommended action.