

Physician Compare 2016 Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Measures

Publicly Reported in December 2017

Overview

If your Accountable Care Organization (ACO) reported any of the following 2016 ACO measures, the performance scores were added to your ACO's [Physician Compare](#) profile page per the 2016 Physician Fee Schedule final rule (80 FR 71124 through 71129). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is publicly reporting the same Web Interface measures for ACOs and groups that reported under the 2016 Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS). The 2016 ACO measures that are publicly reported are organized under the following categories:

- ✓ [Preventive care: General health](#)
- ✓ [Preventive care: Cancer screening](#)
- ✓ [Patient safety](#)
- ✓ [Diabetes](#)
- ✓ [Behavioral health](#)

In addition, patient survey scores from the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) for ACO summary survey measures are publicly reported on Physician Compare per the 2016 Physician Fee Schedule final rule (80 FR 71124). These measures are reported as the average (mean) scores of all responses.

Preventive care: General health			
Measure number	Technical measure title	Plain language measure title	Plain language measure description
ACO-14	Preventive Care and Screening: Influenza Immunization	Getting a flu shot during flu season.	<p>A higher score is better because it means more of this ACO's patients got a flu shot during flu season (October 1 to March 31) when appropriate.</p> <p>Getting a flu shot during flu season can help prevent the flu and the problems the flu causes.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of this ACO's patients who could get the flu shot and either got one from a clinician in this ACO or from someone else during flu season.</p>
ACO-15	Pneumonia Vaccination Status for Older Adults	Making sure older adults have gotten a pneumonia vaccine.	<p>A higher score is better because it means more of this ACO's older patients got a pneumonia vaccine when appropriate.</p> <p>Pneumonia is a common cause of illness and death in older adults and people with certain health conditions. A pneumonia vaccine helps prevent pneumonia and problems pneumonia causes.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of this ACO's patients who had ever gotten a pneumonia vaccine.</p>

Preventive care: General health			
Measure number	Technical measure title	Plain language measure title	Plain language measure description
ACO-16	Preventive Care and Screening: Body Mass Index (BMI) Screening and Follow-Up Plan	Screening for an unhealthy body weight and developing a follow-up plan.	<p>A higher score is better because it means clinicians in this ACO checked more patients' weight and created a follow-up plan if their weight was not in the normal range for their body type and height.</p> <p>When patients have a higher or lower than normal weight for their body type and height, they are at risk for certain health conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, or malnourishment.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of this ACO's patients who had their weight checked at least once in the last six months. And, if the patient's weight was higher or lower than normal for his or her body type and height, had a follow-up plan documented.</p>

Preventive care: Cancer screening			
Measure number	Technical measure title	Plain language measure title	Plain language measure description
ACO-19	Colorectal Cancer Screening	Screening for colorectal (colon or rectum) cancer.	<p>A higher score is better because it means clinicians in this ACO screened more older patients for colorectal cancer.</p> <p>All patients ages 50 and older should be checked for colorectal cancer.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of this ACO's patients who were appropriately screened for colorectal cancer using one of three tests (fecal occult blood test, flexible sigmoidoscopy, or colonoscopy).</p>

Patient safety			
Measure number	Technical measure title	Plain language measure title	Plain language measure description
ACO-13	Falls: Screening for Future Fall Risk	Screening older patients' risk of falling.	<p>A higher score is better because it means clinicians in this ACO checked more older patients for their risk of falling.</p> <p>Older patients can have a higher risk of falling and seriously injuring themselves. Clinicians can check patients' vision, muscle strength, and balance to determine if they are at risk of falling. If patients know they have a high risk of falling, they can take preventive steps to avoid future falls.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of this group's older patients who were checked for risk of falling.</p>

Diabetes

Measure number	Technical measure title	Plain language measure title	Plain language measure description
ACO-41	Diabetes: Eye Exam	Eye exam for patients with diabetes.	<p>A higher score is better because it means clinicians in this ACO gave an eye exam to more patients with diabetes.</p> <p>Diabetes is characterized by high blood sugar levels. Untreated diabetes can cause many problems, including eye damage, vision loss, and blindness. Retinal or dilated eye exams are recommended yearly for patients with both type 1 and type 2 diabetes.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of this group's patients with diabetes who received a retinal or dilated eye exam.</p>

Behavioral health			
Measure number	Technical measure title	Plain language measure title	Plain language measure description
ACO-17	Preventive Care and Screening: Tobacco Use: Screening and Cessation Intervention	Screening for tobacco use and providing help quitting when needed.	<p>A higher score is better because it means clinicians in this ACO provided counseling to more patients who used tobacco and encouraged them to quit.</p> <p>Quitting tobacco lowers a patient's chance of getting heart and lung diseases.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of this ACO's patients who were asked if they used tobacco at least once in the last two years. If patients were using tobacco, the clinician spoke with them about ways to help them quit using tobacco.</p>
ACO-18	Preventive Care and Screening: Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow-Up Plan	Screening for depression and developing a follow-up plan.	<p>A higher score is better because it means clinicians in this ACO screened more patients for depression and created a follow-up plan for patients with depression.</p> <p>Managing depression can lead to better coping and outcomes for patients.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of this ACO's patients who were checked for depression and, if they have depression, received a follow-up plan.</p>

Patient survey scores	
Technical measure title	Plain language measure title
<p>CAHPS for ACO summary survey measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting timely care, appointments, and information. • How well your providers communicate. • Health promotion and education. • Patients' rating of provider. • Stewardship of patient resources. 	<p>CAHPS for ACO summary survey measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting timely care, appointments, and information. • How well clinicians communicate. • Health promotion and education. • Patients' rating of clinicians. • Attention to patient medicine cost.

Questions or feedback? Contact us at PhysicianCompare@Westat.com.