

Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Performance Information on Medicare Care Compare 2020 Doctors and Clinicians Public Reporting

Overview

The Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) of 2015 amends Section 1848(q)(9)(A)(ii) of the Social Security Act (the Act) to make available for public reporting the names of eligible clinicians in Advanced Alternative Payment Models (APMs) and, to the extent feasible, the names and performance of Advanced APMs. In the calendar year (CY) 2017 Quality Payment Program (QPP) Final Rule, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) finalized linking eligible clinicians and groups to their relevant APM data when possible (81 FR 77398).

As part of fulfilling this mandate, CMS is publicly reporting 2020 QPP performance information for Next Generation Model Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) and Medicare Shared Savings Program ACOs on [Medicare Care Compare](#) and in the [Provider Data Catalog \(PDC\)](#). This document includes the plain language measure titles and descriptions for the ACO performance information that is publicly reported. Plain language measure titles and descriptions are used on Care Compare profile pages to allow Medicare patients and caregivers to understand the information more easily.

For questions about public reporting for doctors and clinicians, visit the [Care Compare: Doctors and Clinicians Initiative page](#) or contact the QPP Service Center at QPP@cms.hhs.gov.

ACO Performance Information

ACO Quality Measures

CMS is publicly reporting 5 quality measures on ACO profile pages. These measures are reported as performance scores.

Measure #	Technical Measure Title	Plain Language Measure Title	Plain Language 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 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' gait 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 older patients treated by the ACO's clinicians who were checked for risk of falling.</p>
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 problems the flu causes.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of this ACO's patients seen during flu season who could get the flu shot and who either got one from a clinician in this ACO or from someone else.</p>
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 screened more patients for tobacco use and provided counseling to more patients who used tobacco and encouraged them to quit.</p> <p>Asking patients if they use tobacco can lead to interventions to help patients quit using tobacco. Quitting tobacco lowers a patient's chances of getting heart and lung diseases.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of patients treated by clinicians in this ACO who were asked if they used tobacco. If patients were using tobacco, the clinicians in this ACO spoke with them about ways to help them quit or gave them medicine to help them quit using tobacco.</p>

ACO Performance Information

Measure #	Technical Measure Title	Plain Language Measure Title	Plain Language 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 patients ages 50 to 75 for colorectal cancer.</p> <p>All patients ages 50 to 75 should be checked for colorectal cancer. Early detection of colorectal cancer can lead to effective treatment and increased survival.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of patients treated by clinicians in this ACO ages 50 to 75 who were appropriately screened for colorectal cancer.</p>
ACO-20	Breast Cancer Screening	Screening for breast cancer.	<p>A higher score is better because it means more of the female patients treated by clinicians in this ACO had a mammogram to check for breast cancer.</p> <p>Mammograms can help find breast cancer early, which is when treatment works best. All women ages 50 and older should get a mammogram at least every two years.</p> <p>To give this ACO a score, Medicare looked at the percentage of female patients ages 51 to 74 treated by clinicians in this ACO who got a mammogram within a 27-month period.</p>

CAHPS for ACOs Measures

CMS is not publicly reporting CAHPS for ACOs Survey measures as the CAHPS Survey requirement was waived for performance year 2020¹.

¹ 85 FR 84794