



# Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports for Post-Acute Care



***Education and Outreach Webinar***

***Division of Chronic and Post-Acute Care (DCPAC)***

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

**10-16-2023**

# Introductions

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
- Acumen LLC

# Outline

## Overview of PAC Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports

- Description of Across- and Within- Provider Comparisons
- Example Walkthrough of Report Tables
- Looking Ahead

# Acronyms Used in This Training

- Asian American/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (AA and NHPI)
- Calendar Year (CY)
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
- Core-Based Statistical Area (CBSA)
- Discharge to Community (DTC)
- Division of Chronic and Post-Acute Care (DCPAC)
- Fee-for-Service (FFS)
- Fiscal Year (FY)
- Health Care Quality Information Systems (HCQIS)
- Home Health (HH)
- Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF)
- Medicare Bayesian Improved Surname Geocoding (MBISG)
- Medicare Enrollment Database (EDB)
- Medicare Spending per Beneficiary (MSPB)
- Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH)
- Post-Acute Care (PAC)
- Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF)
- Social Risk Factor (SRF)

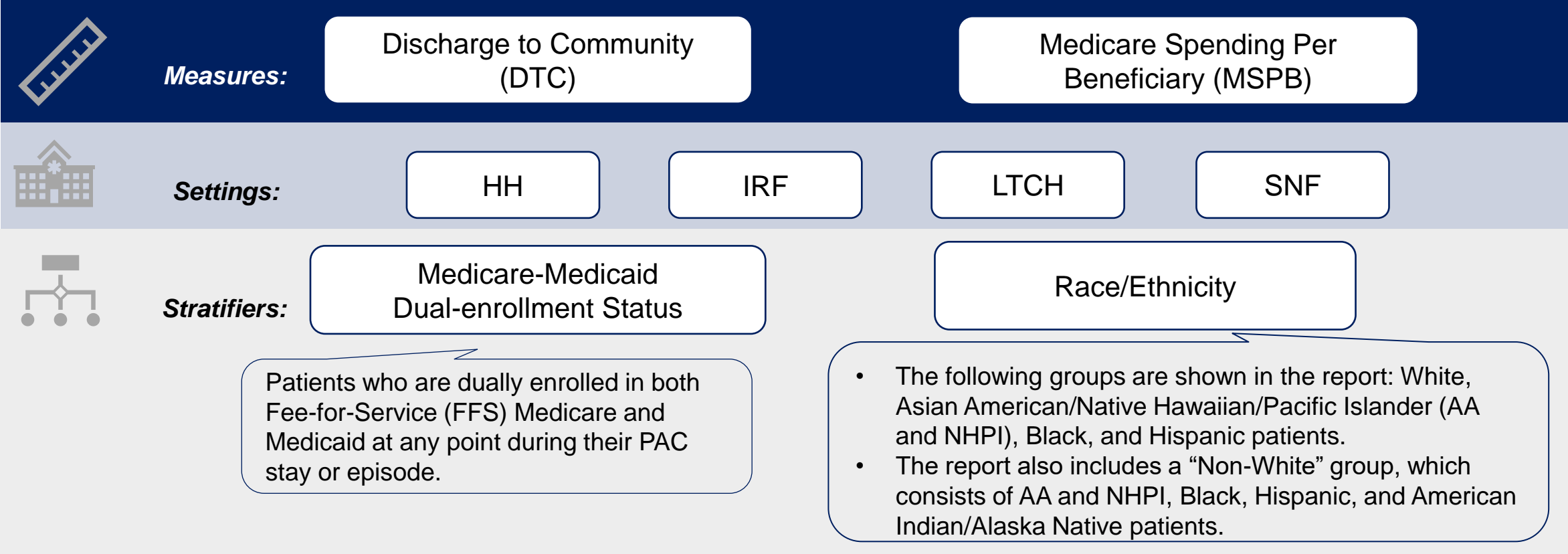
# CMS's Definition of Health Equity



CMS defines **health equity** as the attainment of the highest level of health for all people, where everyone has a fair and just opportunity to attain their optimal health regardless of race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, geography, preferred language, or other factors that affect access to care and health outcomes.

# Stratified Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports for Two PAC Measures

In Fall 2023, CMS is releasing stratified Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports for two Post-Acute Care (PAC) measures.



# Rationale for Stratified Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports

## ***Stratifiers***

- Research suggests that certain social risk factors (SRFs), such as having a low-income background or being of a particular race/ethnicity, may be associated with an increased risk of poor health outcomes.<sup>1</sup>
- Stratified Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports will provide data on whether differences in measure outcomes for patients with SRFs are occurring at your facility/agency. Providers can use these results to develop strategies to reduce the impacts of SRFs for their patients.

## ***Measures***

- The DTC and MSPB measures are important, valid, and reliable cross-setting PAC QRP measures.
  - The DTC measure captures an important patient outcome: successful discharge to community.
  - The MSPB measure captures the efficiency of care, e.g., care used to achieve successful discharge, as well as costs of negative events, such as emergency room or hospital admissions.

<sup>1</sup> See, for example, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Accounting for social risk factors in Medicare payment. Washington, DC: National Academies Press, 2017.

# PAC Health Equity Reports are Confidential

- Fall 2023 PAC Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports are **confidential**, and **not publicly reported**.
- Measure performance period for Fall 2023 reports:
  - HH: Calendar Year (CY) 2021-2022
  - IRF, LTCH, and SNF: Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022
- Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports will be **updated annually**.



# Data Sources for the Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports

Data for the reports come from multiple sources:



**Medicare Part A and B claims** are used to calculate measure outcomes and conduct risk-adjustment.



**Medicare Enrollment Database (EDB)** data are used to determine beneficiaries' dual-enrollment status.



**Medicare Bayesian Improved Surname Geocoding (MBISG) Version 2.1.1** method is used to identify beneficiaries' race/ethnicity.

# Accessing Your Report: Part 1 of 2



To locate your Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports in iQIES, please follow the instructions listed below:

1. Log into iQIES at <https://iqies.cms.gov/> using your Health Care Quality Information Systems (HCQIS) Access Roles and Profile (HARP) user ID and password.

If you do not have a HARP account, you may [register for a HARP ID](#).

2. From the Reports menu, select My Reports.

*(continued...)*

# Accessing Your Report: Part 2 of 2



3. From the My Reports page, locate and select the *Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports* folder link.
4. Displayed for you is a list of reports available for download.
5. Select the report name link to view the Health Equity Confidential Feedback Report data.

If there are questions regarding accessing the Health Equity Confidential Feedback reports in iQIES, please contact the iQIES Service Center by email at [iQIES@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:iQIES@cms.hhs.gov) or by phone at (800) 339-9313.

# Outline

✓ Overview of PAC Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports

## **Description of Across- and Within- Provider Comparisons**

- Example Walkthrough of Report Tables
- Looking Ahead

# Introducing Across- and Within- Provider Comparisons

**Across-Provider Comparisons** compare a given provider to all other providers *across* their same care setting (e.g., your LTCH compared to all LTCHs nationwide).

**Within-Provider Comparisons** compare stratified patient populations *within* the individual provider's care (e.g., your LTCH's duals compared to your LTCH's non-duals).

## Visual Approach

To help illustrate these concepts, the next few slides include figures to show how CMS compares providers' outcomes in the Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports.

### Figure Legend



= Your Facility/Agency (e.g., your LTCH)



= All Facilities/Agencies nationwide in your care setting (e.g., all LTCHs)



= One stratified patient population (e.g., duals)



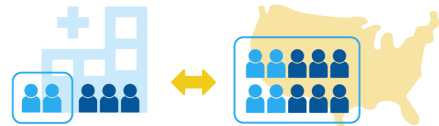
= Another stratified patient population (e.g., non-duals)

# Three Types of Comparisons are Presented in the Report (Summary)

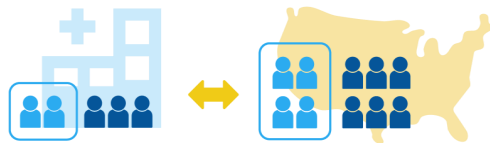
## Across-Provider Comparisons

Outcomes of a given population of patients at your facility/agency are compared to:

1 Compared to:  
**National Performance  
Among All Patients**



2 Compared to:  
**National Performance  
Among Same  
Population**



## Within-Provider Comparisons

3 Comparison of outcomes  
**between populations at  
your facility/agency**



The following slides describe each comparison in detail.

1

# Across-Provider Comparison to National Performance Among All Patients



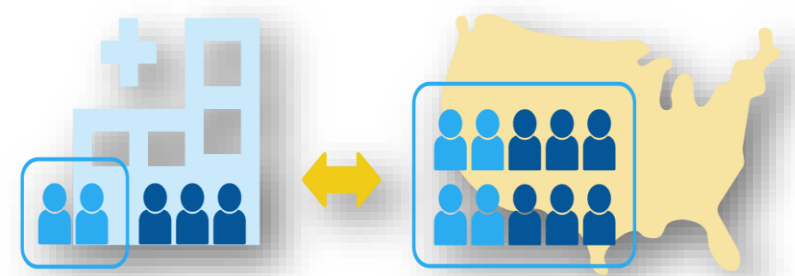
## Goal

Compare the measure outcome for your facility/agency's patient population to the national performance across all patients in your care setting (e.g., your LTCH's duals' DTC rate vs. the national DTC rate across all LTCH patients).



## Calculation Approach

The across-provider difference compared to the national performance among all patients is calculated as (=)  
Your patients' performance minus the national performance (e.g., your LTCH's duals' DTC rate minus the national DTC rate across all LTCH patients).



Outcome among a specific population at your facility (e.g., your LTCH's duals) vs Outcome among all patients nationwide (e.g., all LTCH patients nationwide)

2

# Across-Provider Comparison to National Performance Among the Same Population



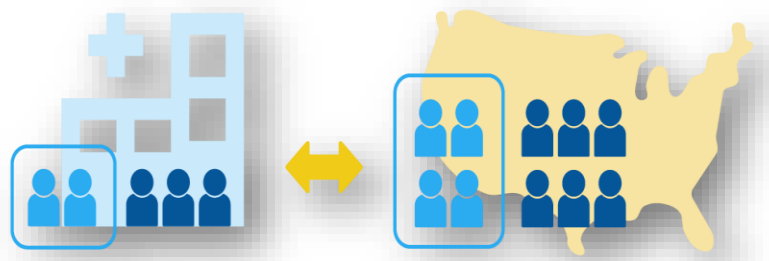
## Goal

Compare the measure outcome for your facility/agency's patient population to the national performance among the same population in your care setting  
(e.g., your LTCH's duals' DTC rate vs. the national DTC rate among all duals in LTCHs nationwide).



## Calculation Approach

The across-provider difference compared to the national performance among the same population is calculated as (=)  
Your patients' performance minus the national performance among same population  
(e.g., your LTCH's duals' DTC rate minus the national DTC rate among all duals in LTCHs nationwide).



Outcome among a specific population at your facility (e.g., your LTCH's duals) vs Outcome among the same specific population nationwide (e.g., all duals in LTCHs nationwide)



# 3 Within-Provider Comparison



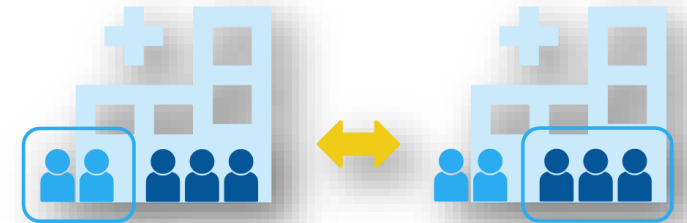
## Goal

Compare measure outcomes between patient populations within the same facility/agency (e.g., your LTCH's duals' DTC rate vs. your LTCH's non-duals' DTC rate).



## Calculation Approach

The within-provider difference calculated as (=)  
Your patients' performance for population A minus your patients' performance for population B.  
(e.g., your LTCH's duals' DTC rate minus your LTCH's non-duals' DTC rate).



Outcome among a specific population at your facility (e.g., your LTCH's duals)

vs

Outcome among a specific population at your facility (e.g., your LTCH's non-duals)

# Outline

- ✓ Overview of PAC Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports
- ✓ Description of Across- and Within- Provider Comparisons

## **Example Walkthrough of Report Tables**

- Looking Ahead

# Example DTC Health Equity Confidential Feedback Report for an LTCH



*Examples in this section use dummy data*

We will walk through an example DTC Health Equity Confidential Feedback Report for a facility with the following background:

- **Provider Type:** LTCH (“LTCH A”)
- **Location:** Washington, DC
- **Rural/Urban Category:** Urban
- **Core-Based Statistical Area (CBSA):** Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV
- **Region:** South Atlantic

The following is an example of a fictitious LTCH provider’s results.  
The same sets of tables are included in the Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports for HH, IRF, and SNF providers as well.

# The Report is Organized in Four Sets of Tables

1

Across-Provider Comparison Against the National Rate for All Patients (Summary and Detailed Tables)

*(Corresponding Health Equity Report Table: Table 1, 3)*

3

Within-Facility Comparison

*(Corresponding Health Equity Report Table: Table 5, 6)*

2

Across-Provider Comparison against the National Rate among Patients of the Same Population

*(Corresponding Health Equity Report Table: Table 4)*

4

Comparisons to LTCHs with Similar Geographical Locations / Similar Patient Composition

*(Corresponding Health Equity Report Table: Table 2, 7, 8)*

# Comparison Against the National Rate for All Patients: DTC

## (Summary Table)

*Across-Provider: All*

DTC Rates for Patients at Your Facility, Compared to All Patients Nationwide

| Population  | Difference from National Rate              |
|-------------|--|
| Dual        | Worse Outcome than National Rate           |
| Non-Dual    | Outcome is No Different than National Rate |
| White       | Outcome is No Different than National Rate |
| Non-White*  | Worse Outcome than National Rate           |
| AA and NHPI | Better Outcome than National Rate          |
| Black       | Worse Outcome than National Rate           |
| Hispanic    | Worse Outcome than National Rate           |

Note: AA and NHPI: Asian American and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander;

\* “Non-White patients” include patients of the following races/ethnicities: AA and NHPI, Black, Hispanic, and American Indian/Alaska Native.

*Corresponding Health Equity Report Table: Table 1*

# Comparison Against the National Rate for All Patients: DTC (Detail Table)

*Across-Provider: All*

DTC Rates for Patients at Your Facility, Compared to All Patients Nationwide

| Population                          |                          | DTC Rate | Performance Relative to National Rate            |                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|--|---------------------|---|
|                                     |                          |          | Difference<br>(Your Facility -<br>National Rate) | Confidence Interval | Category of the<br>Difference                 |
| Comparison Points<br>(All Patients) | National Rate            | 20.00%   | --   | --                  | --  |
|                                     | 90th Percentile Facility | 28.00%   | --   | --                  | --  |
| Your Facility                       | Dual                     | 10.00%   | -10.00%  | [-13.00%, -7.00%]   | Worse Outcome than<br>National Rate           |
|                                     | Non-Dual                 | 17.00%   | -3.00%   | [-7.00%, 1.00%]     | Outcome is No Different<br>than National Rate |
|                                     | White                    | 16.00%   | -4.00%   | [-10.00%, 2.00%]    | Outcome is No Different<br>than National Rate |
|                                     | Non-White                | 13.00%   | -7.00%   | [-10.00%, -3.00%]   | Worse Outcome than<br>National Rate           |
|                                     | AA and NHPI              | 27.00%   | 7.00%  | [6.00%, 8.00%]      | Better Outcome than<br>National Rate          |
|                                     | Black                    | 12.00%   | -8.00%   | [-12.00%, -4.00%]   | Worse Outcome than<br>National Rate           |
|                                     | Hispanic                 | 6.00%    | -14.00%  | [-20.00%, -8.00%]   | Worse Outcome than<br>National Rate           |

Corresponding Health Equity Report Table: Table 3

# Comparison against the National Rate Among Patients of the Same Population: DTC

*Across-Provider: Same Population*

DTC Rates for Patients at Your Facility, Compared to the Same Populations Nationwide

| Population  | DTC Rate      |               | Performance Relative to National Rate among the Same Population |                     |   |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|---|---------------------|---|
|             | Your Facility | National Rate | Difference (Your Facility - National Rate)                      | Confidence Interval | Category of the Difference  |
| Dual        | 10.00%        | 19.00%        | -9.00%  | [-11.00%, -7.00%]   | Worse Outcome than National Rate for Dual Patients                  |
| Non-Dual    | 17.00%        | 20.00%        | -3.00%  | [-6.00%, 0.00%]     | Outcome is No Different than National Rate for Non-Dual Patients    |
| White       | 16.00%        | 22.00%        | -6.00%  | [-13.00%, 1.00%]    | Outcome is No Different than National Rate for White Patients       |
| Non-White   | 13.00%        | 18.00%        | -5.00%  | [-12.00%, 2.00%]    | Outcome is No Different than National Rate for Non-White Patients   |
| AA and NHPI | 27.00%        | 21.00%        | 6.00%   | [-2.00%, 14.00%]    | Outcome is No Different than National Rate for AA and NHPI Patients |
| Black       | 12.00%        | 5.00%         | 7.00%   | [-4.00%, 18.00%]    | Outcome is No Different than National Rate for Black Patients       |
| Hispanic    | 6.00%         | 19.00%        | -13.00%   | [-27.00%, 1.00%]    | Outcome is No Different than National Rate for Hispanic Patients    |

Corresponding Health Equity Report Table: Table 4

# Within-Facility Comparison: DTC

## Differences in DTC Rates Within Your Facility (Dual Status)

|               | DTC Rate |           | Difference in DTC Rate         |                     |  |
|---------------|----------|-----------|--------------------------------|---------------------|--|
|               | Duals    | Non-Duals | Difference (Duals – Non-Duals) | Confidence Interval | Category of the Difference                       |
| National Rate | 19.00%   | 20.00%    | -1.00%                         | --                  | --   |
| Your Facility | 10.00%   | 17.00%    | -7.00%                         | [-11.00%, -4.00%]   | Worse Outcome for Dual Patients at Your Facility |

## Differences in DTC Rates Within Your Facility (Race/Ethnicity)

|               | DTC Rate  |        | Difference in DTC Rate         |                     |   |
|---------------|-----------|--------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---|
|               | Non-White | White  | Difference (Non-White – White) | Confidence Interval | Category of the Difference  |
| National Rate | 18.00%    | 22.00% | -4.00%                         | --                  | --  |
| Your Facility | 13.00%    | 16.00% | -3.00%                         | [-7.00%, 1.00%]     | Outcomes are No Different for Non-White and White Patients at Your Facility |

Corresponding Health Equity Report Tables: Tables 5 and 6



# Comparisons to Facilities in Similar Locations: Patient Composition

Patient Composition at Your Facility and Facilities in Similar Geographic Locations

| Population            | Your Facility | Same Rural/<br>Urban Location | Your CBSA   | Your State           | Your Region    | National |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|----------------|----------|
|                       |               | Urban                         | Washington-<br>Arlington-Alexandria,<br>DC-VA-MD-WV | District of Columbia | South Atlantic |          |
| Total Number of Stays | 300           | 72,00                         | 5,000   | 3,200                | 17,300         | 97,500   |
| Dual                  | 20.0%         | 13.0%                         | 20.0%   | 25.0%                | 21.0%          | 35.0%    |
| Non-Dual              | 80.0%         | 87.0%                         | 80.0%   | 75.0%                | 79.0%          | 65.0%    |
| White                 | 43.0%         | 80.0%                         | 43.0%   | 82.0%                | 80.0%          | 68.0%    |
| Non-White             | 57.0%         | 20.0%                         | 57.0%   | 18.0%                | 20.0%          | 31.0%    |
| AA and NHPI           | 11.0%         | 7.0%                          | 11.0%   | 5.0%                 | 8.0%           | 2.0%     |
| Black                 | 24.0%         | 7.0%                          | 24.0%   | 9.0%                 | 9.0%           | 20.0%    |
| Hispanic              | 17.0%         | 5.0%                          | 17.0%   | 3.0%                 | 2.0%           | 7.0%     |

Corresponding Health Equity Report Tables: Tables 2

# Comparisons to Facilities in Similar Locations: Outcomes

DTC Rates for Patients at Your Facility and for Patients in Similar Geographic Locations

| Population  | Your Facility | Your Rural/<br>Urban Location<br>Category | Your CBSA | Your State | Your Region | National |
|-------------|---------------|---|-----------|------------|-------------|----------|
| Dual        | 10.00%        | 17.00%                                    | 10.00%    | 13.00%     | 11.00%      | 19.00%   |
| Non-Dual    | 17.00%        | 18.00%                                    | 17.00%    | 23.00%     | 16.00%      | 20.00%   |
| White       | 16.00%        | 15.00%                                    | 16.00%    | 19.00%     | 21.00%      | 22.00%   |
| Non-White   | 13.00%        | 12.00%                                    | 13.00%    | 15.00%     | 10.00%      | 18.00%   |
| AA and NHPI | 27.00%        | 20.00%                                    | 27.00%    | 19.00%     | 23.00%      | 21.00%   |
| Black       | 12.00%        | 6.00%                                     | 12.00%    | 11.00%     | 7.00%       | 5.00%    |
| Hispanic    | 6.00%         | 11.00%                                    | 6.00%     | 20.00%     | 15.00%      | 19.00%   |

Corresponding Health Equity Report Tables: Table 7

# Defining Risk Brackets and Dual/Non-White Quintiles



## Risk Bracket

- “Facilities in Same Risk Bracket as You” indicates facilities with a similar average patient risk as you.
- Determined by first calculating the average risk score across all stays/episodes in your facility. We then divide facilities into deciles based on their average risk, resulting in ten risk brackets (bracket 1 has lowest average risk; bracket 10 has highest average risk).



## Dual/Non-White Quintile

- “Facilities with a Similar Proportion of Duals as You” indicates facilities with a similar proportion of duals as you.
- Determined by first calculating the proportion of your stays/episodes that belong to duals. We then divide facilities into quintiles based on their dual proportion, resulting in five groups (quintile 1 has lowest dual proportion, and quintile 5 has highest dual proportion).
- “Facilities with a Similar Proportion of Non-White Patients as You” is calculated in the same manner.

# Patient Outcomes among Facilities with Similar Patient Composition

DTC Rates for Patients at Your Facility and for Patients at Facilities with Similar Patient Composition

| Population  | Your Facility | Facilities with:              |                             |  | National |
|-------------|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|----------|
|             |               | Same Risk Bracket: Bracket #3 | Similar Proportion of Duals | Similar Proportion of Non-White Patients |          |
| Dual        | 10.00%        | 11.00%                        | 9.00%                       | 13.00%                                   | 19.00%   |
| Non-Dual    | 17.00%        | 16.00%                        | 19.00%                      | 17.00%                                   | 20.00%   |
| White       | 16.00%        | 16.00%                        | 21.00%                      | 18.00%                                   | 22.00%   |
| Non-White   | 13.00%        | 12.00%                        | 8.00%                       | 10.00%                                   | 18.00%   |
| AA and NHPI | 27.00%        | 25.00%                        | 19.00%                      | 29.00%                                   | 21.00%   |
| Black       | 12.00%        | 9.00%                         | 8.00%                       | 12.00%                                   | 5.00%    |
| Hispanic    | 6.00%         | 5.00%                         | 13.00%                      | 6.00%                                    | 19.00%   |

Corresponding Health Equity Report Table: Tables 8

# Comparison Against the National Average for All Patients: MSPB

- To highlights some important differences with interpreting MSPB report results compared to the DTC report, the next slide demonstrates an example table from the **MSPB** report

# Comparison Against the National Average for All Patients: MSPB (Detail Table)

*Across-Provider: All*

Average MSPB Amount for Patients at Your Facility, Compared to All Patients Nationwide

| Population                          |                          | Average MSPB Amount | Performance Relative to National Average      |                      |   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---|----------------------|---|
|                                     |                          |                     | Difference (Your Facility - National Average) | Confidence Interval  | Category of the Difference                    |
| Comparison Points<br>(All Patients) | National Average         | \$31,199            | --  | --                   | --  |
|                                     | 10th Percentile Facility | \$24,122            | --  | --                   | --  |
| Your Facility                       | Dual                     | \$32,199            | \$1,000                                       | [\$233, \$1,767]     | Worse Outcome than National Average           |
|                                     | Non-Dual                 | \$30,199            | -\$1,000                                      | [\$-3,112, \$1,112]  | Outcome is No Different than National Average |
|                                     | White                    | \$29,000            | -\$2,199                                      | [\$-3,195, \$-1,203] | Better Outcome than National Average          |
|                                     | Non-White                | \$36,000            | \$4,801                                       | [\$3,802, \$5,800]   | Worse Outcome than National Average           |
|                                     | AA and NHPI              | \$32,010            | \$811   | [\$-1,021, \$2,643]  | Outcome is No Different than National Average |
|                                     | Black                    | \$37,281            | \$6,082                                       | [\$4,123, \$8,041]   | Worse Outcome than National Average           |
|                                     | Hispanic                 | \$34,421            | \$3,222                                       | [\$2,123, \$4,321]   | Worse Outcome than National Average           |

Corresponding Health Equity Report Table: Table 3

# Outline

- ✓ Overview of PAC Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports
- ✓ Description of Across- and Within- Provider Comparisons
- ✓ Example Walkthrough of Report Tables

## Looking Ahead

# Making a Change Towards Greater Health Equity



Stratified Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports will provide data on whether differences in measure outcomes for patients with SRFs are occurring at your facility/agency. Providers can use these results to develop strategies to reduce the impacts of SRFs for their patients.

CMS is continuing to explore the potential of expanding this confidential feedback report approach to other measures and other SRFs and/or demographic variables for future reporting.

CMS is also exploring the use of PAC assessments data as a source for SRFs and demographic variables.



# Education and Outreach Resources

For further information regarding the 2023 Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports, please refer to:

- Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports Fact Sheet (2023).
- Upcoming resources: November 16<sup>th</sup> Questions and Answers Webinar session, FAQ document, and Methodology Report (Planned release in Winter 2023).
- Education and Outreach materials are available here:
  - [HH QRP Training page](#)
  - [IRF QRP Training page](#)
  - [LTCH QRP Training page](#)
  - [SNF QRP Training page](#)

# Access Resources

For more information regarding access to your Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports, please review the [iQIES Report User Manual](#) or visit the [Post-Acute Quality Initiatives Home Page](#).

If you would like to request a 508 compliant version of your PAC Health Equity Confidential Feedback Report, or if you have questions about the report, please email: [HomeHealthQualityQuestions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:HomeHealthQualityQuestions@cms.hhs.gov), [IRF.questions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:IRF.questions@cms.hhs.gov), [LTCHQualityQuestions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:LTCHQualityQuestions@cms.hhs.gov), or [SNFQualityQuestions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:SNFQualityQuestions@cms.hhs.gov)

# Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports



Thank you for listening to this webinar.

*Division of Chronic and Post-Acute Care (DCPAC)  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services*