

# Health Insurance Marketplace Quality Rating Information



Guidance for Navigators and Assisters

Information for the 2020 Open Enrollment Period

*November 1, 2019 - December 15, 2019* 

November 22, 2019

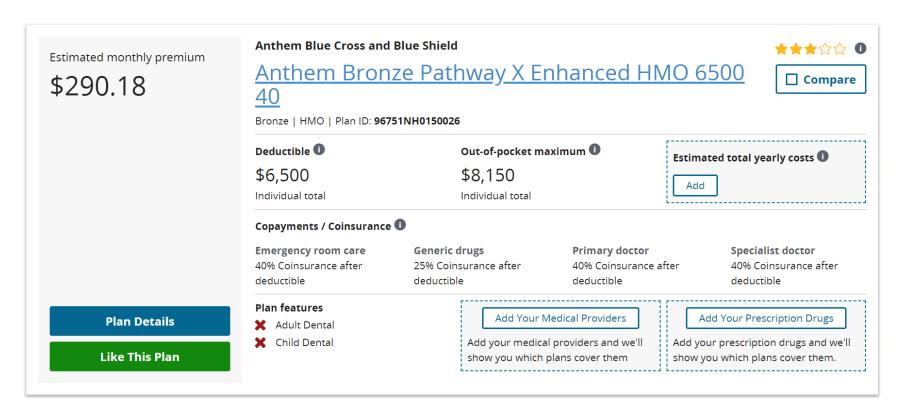
#### **Objectives**

- To provide guidance about the Marketplace Quality Rating information to help you:
  - ✓ Educate enrollees about the Marketplace quality ratings
  - ✓ Advise enrollees on how to use the quality ratings to compare health plans in their Marketplaces
  - ✓ Answer questions from enrollees about the Marketplace quality ratings

## What is the Marketplace Quality Rating Information?

- Also referred to as "quality ratings"
- Another way to compare health plans offered through a Marketplace by
  - Quality of health care services
  - Enrollee experience
- Consumers can still compare by cost and other factors too
  - Premium price range, yearly deductible, Marketplace health plan category (Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, Catastrophic), health plan type (e.g. HMO or PPO), Health Savings Account (HSA) eligibility

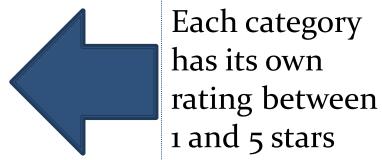
### Sample of quality ratings display



Details and explanation of the quality ratings display are provided on slide 8

#### How are quality ratings determined?

- CMS collects clinical and survey measure data
  - Calculates an overall quality rating—between 1 and 5 stars
  - Combines quality category data across 3 quality categories
    - Member Experience
    - Medical Care
    - Plan Administration



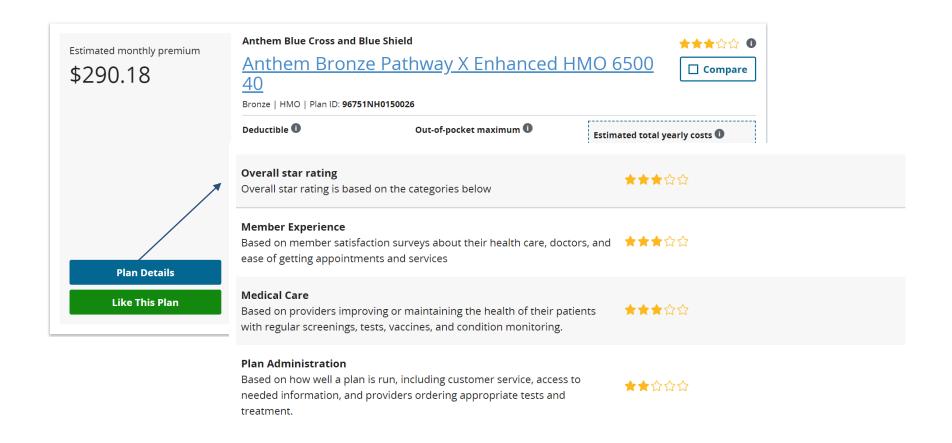
#### What quality topics are included?

- The topics include, but aren't limited to:
  - How easy it is to get care when needed
  - If the doctors, hospitals, and others in the plan's network give members health care that achieves the best results
  - Member experience (i.e., how other plan members rate their doctors and the care they get)
  - How informed and up-to-date doctors are about a patient's health care status, blood tests, and X-ray results
  - How well doctors in the plan's network monitor certain conditions
  - If the plan coordinates the care members get from different providers

### **Quality ratings**

- A quality rating of 3 means that a health plan is considered on average compared to other Marketplace plans in a given year.
- A quality rating **higher than 3** means that a health plan performed better than average compared to other Marketplace plans in a given year.
- A quality rating **lower than 3** means that a health plan's performance was below average compared to other Marketplace plans in a given year.

#### **Explanation of quality ratings display**

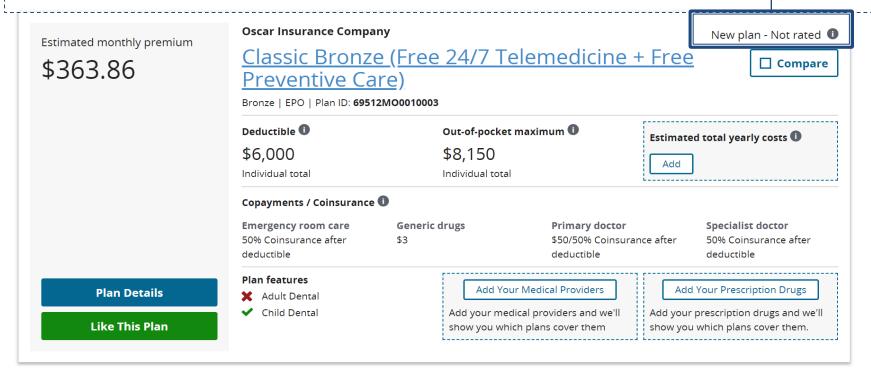


### When quality ratings aren't available

- In some cases like when plans are new or have low enrollment – ratings aren't available
  - This doesn't mean the plans are low quality
  - CMS will display "New Plan quality ratings unavailable" or "Not Rated" for these plans
- In addition, some types of health plans (like childonly plans and stand-alone dental plans) offered through a Marketplace aren't currently required to submit quality ratings data

### Sample of new plan rating display

HealthCare.gov only rates plans that have existed on the Marketplace for 3 consecutive years and meet the enrollment standards.



## What are the benefits of the quality rating information?

#### • Gives consumers:

- A snapshot of the quality of available health plans offered through the Marketplace in their state
- Objective information on how health plans perform in the Marketplace
- An easy way to compare the quality of health plans offered through the Marketplaces
  - Health plans offered though the Marketplaces are rated with the same criteria

# Which Federally-facilitated Marketplaces (FFM) will display quality rating information?

- All Marketplaces that use HealthCare.gov will display quality rating information beginning with the 2020 Open Enrollment Period.
- During the 2017, 2018, and 2019 benefit years, HealthCare.gov included Quality Rating System (QRS) quality ratings in select FFM states as a pilot.

### What about State-based Marketplaces (SBMs)?

- SBMs, which operate their own technology platforms, will also display quality rating information beginning with the 2020 Open Enrollment Period.
- SBMs have some flexibility to customize the display of their health plan quality rating information so there may be differences in the information provided on SBM websites.

#### For more information

- Marketplace Service Desk (reference "Marketplace Quality Initiatives")
  - <u>CMS FEPS@cms.hhs.gov</u> or 1-855-CMS-1515 (1-855-267-1515)
- HealthCare.gov Website
  - https://www.healthcare.gov/quality-ratings/
- Consumer Fact Sheet on Marketplace Quality
  - https://marketplace.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/choosing-a-high-quality-plan.pdf
- 2019 QRS Display Guidance
  - https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment Instruments/QualityInitiativesGenInfo/Downloads/Quality-Rating-Information-Bulletin-for Plan-Year-2020.pdf
- FAQs on Different QHP types for different needs
  - https://marketplace.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/5-questions-to-ask-choosing-a-plan.pdf