



January 13, 2016

RE: Clarification #3 for 2016 Quality Assurance Reporting Requirements Technical Specifications

Dear Colleague:

This clarification contains information about Qualified Health Plan (QHP) reporting requirements for Comprehensive Diabetes Care measure included in 2016 Quality Assurance Reporting Requirements (QARR). Information from this clarification should be incorporated into the 2016 QARR Technical specifications manual (dated December 21, 2015). Information in this clarification applies to all products in the QHP program, but is limited to only QHPs and is not applicable to commercial HMO, PPO or Medicaid products.

This clarification addresses the issue of misalignment between CMS' QRS requirements for QHPs and 2016 QARR requirements for numerators associated with Comprehensive Diabetes Care (CDC). 2016 QARR requires the reporting of all numerators for the CDC measure including HbA1c control (<7.0%) for a selected population. As per HEDIS® 2016 specifications, the requirement for the systematic sample size for the HbA1c control (<7.0% for selected populations is 548. As CMS' QRS is not requiring this numerator for the CDC, there have been questions of whether two separate samples need to be drawn (411 for QRS reporting and 548 for QARR reporting). The following guidance is provided to clarify 2016 QARR requirements for QHPs for the CDC measure:

- 2016 QARR is not requiring HbA1c control (<7.0%) for selected populations for QHPs (includes all QHP products).
- For 2016 QARR, QHPs should use the same systematic sample drawn for the QRS (n = 411) for QARR reporting.
- QHPs will report the following six CDC numerators for 2016 QARR: 1) HbA1c testing, 2) HbA1c poor control (> 9.0%), 3) HbA1c control (<8.0%), 4) Eye Exam 5) Medical Attention to Nephropathy and 6) BP control (<140/90 mm Hg)
- For HbA1c poor control and BP control, which are not required in CMS' QRS, QHPs should use the commercial specifications in HEDIS® 2016
- If a QHP is choosing to apply the optional exclusion criteria, use only the 4 numerators listed in the QRS technical specifications (HbA1C testing, HbA1c control (<8.0%), Eye Exam, and Medical attention for nephropathy) when removing members who must be numerator negative for at least one indicator.

If there are any questions about the information contained in this clarification, please feel free to contact me at (518) 486-9012 or via email at nysqarr@health.ny.gov.

Sincerely,

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Enclosure
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