

Technical Specifications for Community Checkup Measures

March 2025

About the Technical Specifications

The 2025 *Community Checkup* relies on three categories of data to produce results:

- The Washington Health Alliance (the Alliance) maintains a robust database that includes health care claims and encounter data from 33 data suppliers. Results for many measures in the Community Checkup are calculated at the medical group, clinic, hospital, county, accountable community of health (ACH) and state levels using this database.
- Results for other measures in the Community Checkup are provided by partner organizations who have agreed to provide de-identified and aggregated results for public reporting. These partners include the Washington State Hospital Association, the Washington State Department of Health, the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, the Washington State Health Care Authority, the Foundation for Health Care Quality, the National Committee on Quality Assurance (NCQA) and health plans serving Washington state. Results for these measures have been provided at the hospital, health plan, county and state levels.
- Patient experience results (hospital) are from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Hospital Compare and are updated quarterly.

The specifications provide information about the source, reporting period, and measure logic for all results included in the Community Checkup. Additional measures with data sources other than those presented below are described within the technical specification.

Measures Sourced from the Washington Health Alliance Database

The medical group and clinic measures used in the Community Checkup report are primarily based on the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) specifications developed by NCQA. HEDIS® is a set of standardized performance measures designed to ensure that purchasers and consumers have the information they need to reliably compare health care quality. All other non-HEDIS measures are noted accordingly.

The results for many of the measures that the Alliance produces are reported at the clinic level. In order to report at this level, the Alliance must assign or “attribute” the care of a patient to an individual clinician.

This document includes the methodology used for the attribution process. The results in the report are based on administrative claims data with a measurement year of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. For all measures where NCQA is the measure steward, the Washington Health Alliance summarizes NCQA descriptions of numerators and denominators.

For more detailed information, please refer to the NCQA HEDIS® specifications directly. To obtain detailed specifications regarding HEDIS measures, including eligibility definitions, age ranges, procedure codes, diagnosis codes, specified dates of service, exclusions, continuous eligibility requirements, etc. please reference “HEDIS MY 2023 Volume 2: Technical Specifications for Health Plans, NCQA.” NCQA specifications may be purchased by contacting Customer Support at 888-275-7585 or www.ncqa.org/publications

Health Plan Results

The primary source for health plan results is Quality Compass® 2024 and is used with the permission of the NCQA. Quality Compass® 2024 health plan results are produced from information submitted for calendar year 2023. Any analysis, interpretation, or conclusion based on these data is solely that of the authors, and NCQA specifically disclaims responsibility for any such analysis, interpretation, or conclusion.

Measures Sourced from the Washington State Department of Health

Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), supported in part by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Cooperative Agreement U58/SO000047-02, -03. The Washington State Immunization Information System is a lifetime registry that tracks immunization records for people of all ages in Washington state (denominators are based on birth certificate entries). It is a secure, web-based tool for healthcare providers and schools administered by the Department of Health DOH. Results are based upon immunizations that occurred between January 1 – December 31, 2023.

Common Measure Set

An * designates the measure is part of the Washington State Common Measure Set for Health Care Quality and Cost. HEDIS® and Quality Compass® are registered trademarks of NCQA.

Table: Measure Specification Details

Measure Name	Score Methodology	Numerator: Definition for Compliance of Measure	Denominator: Definition of Eligible Population	Measurement Period	Data Source / Measure Steward
Access to care measures:					
Adult access to primary care* · ages 20 to 44 years · ages 45 to 64 years · ages 65+ years.	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	For commercially insured: adults who had a preventive care visit in the past three years. For Medicaid insured: adults with a preventive care visit in the past year. Report each of the three age ranges separately.	Eligible adults are defined as: Adults aged 20 and older as of the last date in the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Child and adolescent access to primary care · ages 12 to 19 years · ages 7 to 11 years	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of children age 12 months to 6 years with a primary care physician (PCP) visit in the past year, or the number of children age 7 to 19 with a PCP visit in the past 2 years.	Eligible children are defined as: Children aged 12 months to 19 years as of the last date in the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS® 2023

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · ages 2 to 6 years · ages 12 to 24 months 		Report each of the four age ranges separately.			
Prenatal and postpartum care*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher is better	<p>Timeliness of prenatal care: The percentage of deliveries of live births that received a prenatal care visit in the first trimester or within 42 days of enrollment between October 8 of the year prior to the measurement year and October 7 of the measurement year.</p> <p>Postpartum care: The percentage of deliveries of live births that had a postpartum visit between 7 and 84 days after delivery between October 8 of the year prior to the measurement year and October 7 of the measurement year.</p>	Women who delivered a live birth on or between October 8 of the year prior to the measurement year and October 7 of the measurement year. This includes women who delivered in any setting.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	<p>Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023</p> <p>NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023</p>

Asthma & COPD measures:

Asthma medication ratio*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The percentage of members 5-64 years of age who were identified as having persistent asthma and had a ratio of controller medications to total asthma medications of 0.50 or greater during the measurement year.	The eligible population are members within the age range. This excludes members in hospice.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	<p>Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023</p> <p>NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023</p>
Spirometry testing to assess and diagnose COPD*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of patients age 40 and older with a new diagnosis of COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) or newly active COPD who had appropriate spirometry testing to confirm diagnosis. This testing should occur in the 2 years	Adults with COPD are defined as: Patients age 40 and older with a new diagnosis of COPD or newly active COPD during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	<p>Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023</p> <p>NCQA Quality</p>

		before the diagnosis of COPD or up to 180 days after the diagnosis.			Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Hospitalization for COPD or asthma	Rate per 100,000 enrollees - lower rate is better	Hospital admissions with a principal diagnosis of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or asthma for people age 40 and older; this measure is reported as a rate per 100,000 population and excludes obstetric admissions and transfers from other institutions.	Eligible population is described as: Enrollees age 40 and over during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / AHRQ
Behavioral health measures:					
Adult obesity*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - lower is better	The age-adjusted number of adults 18 years and older self-reporting a body mass index (BMI) of >30 (calculated based on self-reported height and weight).	Eligible adults are defined as: Those 18 years and older during the measurement period.	Jan. 2018-Dec. 2022	DOH / DOH
Follow-up after emergency department visit for mental illness*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	A follow-up visit within 30 days of an ED visit for a patient age 6 or older with a principal diagnosis of mental illness within the measurement period.	The number of all ED visits for patients age 6 or older with a principal diagnosis of mental illness within the measurement period.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023
Follow-up after emergency department visit for alcohol and other drug abuse or dependence*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	A follow up visit within 30 days of an ED visit for a patient age 13 or older with a principal diagnosis of alcohol or other drug (AOD) abuse or dependence within the measurement period.	The number of all ED visits for patients age 13 or older with a principal diagnosis of AOD dependence within the measurement period.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Follow-up after hospitalization for mental illness (7 Days)*	Rate compared to NCQA benchmarks - higher rate is better	An outpatient visit, intensive outpatient visit, or partial hospitalization with a mental health practitioner within seven days of discharge (includes: Outpatient visits, intensive outpatient visits, or	The number of all discharges (for Medicaid population age 6 or older as of discharge date) from an acute inpatient setting with a principal	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023

		partial hospitalizations that occur on the date of discharge).	diagnosis of mental illness in the first 11 months of the measurement year.		
Follow-up after hospitalization for mental illness (30 Days) *	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	An outpatient visit, intensive outpatient visit, or partial hospitalization with a mental health practitioner within 30 days of discharge (includes: outpatient visits, intensive outpatient visits, or partial hospitalizations that occur on the date of discharge).	The number of all discharges (for Medicaid population age 6 or older as of discharge date) from an acute inpatient setting with a principal diagnosis of mental illness in the first 11 months of the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Hospital readmissions within 30 days (psychiatric conditions)	Percentage. A lower rate is better	Medicaid enrollees, age 18 to 64, who had an acute readmission for a psychiatric diagnosis within 30 days of initial psychiatric acute admission during the measurement year.	Medicaid enrollees, age 18 to 64, with an acute inpatient psychiatric admission during the measurement year and were continuously enrolled from one year prior to index admission through the month after index admission.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	DSHS (Medicaid only) / DSHS
Mental health services for adults*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	Adults, age 18 to 64 with a mental health service need who received at least one qualifying service during the measurement year, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · mental health service modality · visit with a qualifying specialist · qualifying mental health procedure · primary care service with qualified provider specialty and mental health-related diagnosis. 	Adults, age 18 to 64 by the end of the measurement period meet the mental health service need, including: receipt of a mental health service or diagnosis, or psychotropic medication within the measurement year or the year prior.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Health plans and DSHS / DSHS
Mental health services for children*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	Children, age 6 to 17 with a mental health service need who received at least one qualifying service during the measurement year, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · mental health service modality 	Children, age 6 to 17 by the end of the measurement period meet the mental health service need, including: Receipt of a mental health service or diagnosis,	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Health plans and DSHS / DSHS

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · visit with a qualifying specialist · qualifying mental health procedure · primary care service with qualified provider specialty and mental health-related diagnosis. 	or psychotropic medication within the measurement year or the year prior.		
Substance use disorder services for children (Medicaid insured) *	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	Children, age 12 to 17 with a substance use disorder service need who received substance use disorder services during the measurement period.	Children, age 12 to 17 with a substance use disorder service need within the measurement year or the year prior.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	DSHS (Medicaid Only) / DSHS
Substance use disorder services for adults (Medicaid insured) *	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	Adults, age 18 and older with a substance use disorder service need who received substance use disorder services during the measurement period.	Adults, age 18 and older with a substance use disorder service need.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	DSHS (Medicaid Only) / DSHS
Youth obesity	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - lower is better	The number of 10th graders self-reporting a body mass index (BMI) of >30 (calculated based on self-reported height and weight).	Eligible children are defined as: Children enrolled in 10th grade during the measurement period.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	DOH / DOH
Youth use of cigarettes	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - lower is better	The number of 10th graders who smoked cigarettes in the past 30 days.	Eligible children are defined as: Children enrolled in 10th grade during the measurement period.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	DOH / DOH
Youth use of electronic vapor products	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - lower is better	The number of 10th graders who used electronic vapor products in the past 30 days.	Eligible children are defined as: Children enrolled in 10th grade during the measurement period.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	DOH / DOH
Cardiovascular disease measures:					
30-day death rates for heart attack*	Risk-adjusted observed to expected ratio compared against national average	The number of patients who died in or out of the hospital within 30 days of being admitted to the hospital for a heart attack.	The total number of patients age 18 and older who were discharged from the hospital with a principal diagnosis of heart attack (acute myocardial	Jul. 2020-Jun. 2023	Hospital Compare / CMS

		A risk-adjusted expected rate of mortality is also calculated. The actual observed mortality rate is then compared against the risk-adjusted expected rate.	infarction or AMI) during the measurement period.		
Blood pressure control for people with cardiovascular disease*	Rate compared to NCQA benchmarks - higher rate is better	Members of the following age range and BP whose most recent blood pressure (BP) (systolic and diastolic) is considered adequately controlled during the measurement year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · members age 18 to 59 as of the end of the measurement year whose BP was <140/90 mm Hg. · members age 60 to 85 as of the end of the measurement year flagged with a diagnosis of diabetes and whose BP was <140/90mm Hg. · Members age 60 to 85 as of the end of the measurement year, not flagged with a diagnosis of diabetes, and with BP of <150/90mm Hg. 	A sample of patients from the eligible population with a diagnosis of hypertension any time during the patients' history on or before the midpoint of the measurement year confirmed by chart review.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
High-blood pressure medication generic prescriptions*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of prescriptions for at least a 30-day supply of Angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor or Angiotensin II receptor blockers (ARBs) that were filled with a generic drug anytime during the 1-year measurement period.	Prescribing event is defined by: A prescription for at least a 30-day supply of ACE inhibitors or ARBs, both brand-name and generic, during the 12 month measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / Alliance Generics Task Force

Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of males age 21 to 75 and females age 40 to 75 by the end of the measurement year with atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD), who received a moderate to high intensity statin during the measurement year.	Eligible adults are described as: Males age 21 to 75 and females age 40 to 75 by the end of the measurement year with ASCVD, identified by: inpatient stay with a myocardial infarction (MI) or coronary artery bypass grafting outcome (CABG), or visits in any setting with a percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or other revascularization procedure.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Timely care of stroke*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	Acute ischemic stroke patients for whom IV thrombolytic therapy was initiated, in hospital, within 3 hours of onset of stroke symptoms.	Acute ischemic stroke patients age 18 or older whose time of arrival is within 2 hours of onset of stroke symptoms.	Jul. 2017-Jun. 2022	Hospital Compare The Joint Commission

Cost measures:

Medicaid per enrollee spending*	N/A	<p>The total amount of all state and federal Medicaid expenditures during the measurement year (based on date of payment).</p> <p>Medicaid expenditures as defined by HCA includes: medical, long-term support services, and substance use disorder expenditures.</p> <p>Substance use disorder Medicaid costs are estimated via a ratio of Medicaid SUD to Total SUD costs as provided by the program.</p>	<p>The total number of state and federal Medicaid member months for Washington State, including those receiving full benefits, during the measurement year.</p> <p>Medicaid population as defined by HCA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Disabled adults and children = MN Blind/Disabled + HWD/Medicaid Buy-In + CN BCCT + CN Blind/Disabled(excludes presumptive SSI); · Non-disabled children = CN Children + SCHIP + CN Family Medical < 19; · Non-ABD 'Classic' Adults = CN family Medical >= 19 + CN Pregnant Women; · ACA Expansion Adults = DL-U + DL- 	Jan. 2016-Dec. 2023	Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) / HCA
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			ADATSA + Presumptive SSI; · Aged = CN Aged + MN Aged.		
Public employee and dependents per enrollee spending*	N/A	The total amount of health care-related expenditures for all Public Employee Benefits Board (PEBB) enrollees & dependents during the measurement year (based on date). PEBB health care related expenditures as defined by HCA: · health care costs include medical, dental and pharmacy costs · HCA 418 fund administrative costs (staffing costs etc.) excluded · third party administrative cost for UMP and UDP included (benefits costs)	The total number of PEBB member months during the measurement year. PEBB population as defined by HCA: · State and Higher Education Employees and Dependents · Self-Pay (COBRA, Leave Without Pay), Political Subdivision Groups · For K-12 members, only those who are part of PEBB · Non-Medicare Group Only Non-Medicare Early Retirees included	Jan. 2016-Dec. 2023	HCA / HCA
State-purchased health care spending*	N/A	Numerator = [(annual total Medicaid spending + annual total PEBB spending) / (average monthly Medicaid eligible in the year + average monthly PEBB enrollees in the year)].	· Denominator = State's annual GDP/State population.	Jan. 2016-Dec. 2023	HCA / HCA
Diabetes measures:					
Poor control of blood sugar (HbA1c) for people with diabetes*	Rate compared to NCQA benchmarks - lower rate is better	The number of patients age 18 to 75 with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had an HbA1c test with a result >9.0% or does not have a test result during the measurement year.	Patients with diabetes are defined as: Patients age 18 to 75 as of the last day of the measurement year: a. who were dispensed insulin or a hypoglycemic/anti-hyperglycemic on an ambulatory basis during the measurement year or year prior; or, b. who had 2 face-to-face encounters with different dates of service in an outpatient, observation, emergency department (ED) or non-acute inpatient	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023

			setting with a diagnosis of diabetes on different dates during the measurement year or year prior; or, c. with 1 face-to-face encounter in an acute inpatient setting with a diagnosis of diabetes during the measurement year or year prior.		
Blood sugar (HbA1c) testing for people with diabetes*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of patients age 18 to 75 diagnosed with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) whose blood sugar was tested using an HbA1c test by a doctor or other health care provider at least once in the 1-year measurement period.	<p>Patients with diabetes are defined as: Patients age 18 to 75 as of the last day of the measurement year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. who were dispensed insulin or a hypoglycemic/anti-hyperglycemic on an ambulatory basis during the measurement year or year prior; or, b. who had 2 face-to-face encounters with different dates of service in an outpatient, observation, emergency department (ED) or non-acute inpatient setting with a diagnosis of diabetes on different dates during the measurement year or year prior; or, c. with 1 face-to-face encounter in an acute inpatient setting with a diagnosis of diabetes during the measurement year or year prior. <p>The number of patients 18–85 years of age as of December 31 of the measurement year. Report on three</p>	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Blood pressure control for people with diabetes*	Rate compared to NCQA benchmarks - higher rate is better	The percentage of patients 18-75 years of age with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) whose most recent blood pressure level taken during the measurement year is <140/90 mm Hg.		Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Eye exam for people with diabetes*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of patients age 18 to 75 diagnosed with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who had an eye exam at least once in a 2-year period or, if there is evidence of eye disease, during the measurement period. Specifically, the eye exam is a retinal or dilated eye exam by an eye care professional (optometrist or ophthalmologist).		Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023

Kidney health evaluation for patients with diabetes*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of patients age 18 to 85 diagnosed with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) who received both an eGFR and a uACR during the measurement year on the same or different dates of service.	age bands and a total rate: 18–64, 65–74, 75–85, Total.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
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Infections measures:

Catheter-associated urinary tract infection (inside intensive care unit) *	Rate per 1,000 catheter days compared to state - lower rate is better	The number of bladder infections per 1,000 urinary catheter days during the measurement year.	The total number of catheter days at the given location during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec.2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Catheter-associated urinary tract infection (outside intensive care unit) *	Rate per 1,000 catheter days compared to state - lower rate is better	The number of bladder infections per 1,000 urinary catheter days during the measurement year.	The total number of catheter days at a given location outside an intensive care unit (ICU), including adult and pediatric, long-term acute care, bone marrow transplant, acute dialysis, hematology/oncology, solid organ transplant locations as well as other inpatient locations (excluding Level I and Level II nurseries), during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec.2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Central line bloodstream infection (inside intensive care unit)	Rate per 1,000 central line days - lower rate is better	The number of patients in critical care locations, per 1000 central line days, diagnosed with a central line-associated bloodstream infection during the measurement year.	The total number of central line days at the given location during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec.2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Central line bloodstream infection (outside intensive care unit)	Rate per 1,000 central line days - lower rate is better	The number of patients outside critical care locations, per 1000 central line days, diagnosed with a central line-associated bloodstream infection during the measurement year.	The total number of central line days at the given location during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec.2023	Hospital Compare / CMS

Clostridium difficile (C. Diff) infections	Rate per 10,000 inpatient days - lower rate is better	The number of C. diff cases per patient stay in a hospital during the measurement year.	Total number of inpatient days at a given location during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec.2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Managing medication measures:					
ADHD medication generic prescriptions*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of prescriptions for at least a 30-day supply of ADHD drugs that were filled with a generic drug anytime during the 1-year measurement period.	Prescribing event is defined by: A prescription for at least a 30-day supply of ADHD drugs, both brand-name and generic, during the 12-month measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / Alliance Generics Task Force
Antidepressant medication generic prescriptions*	A higher rate is better	The number of prescriptions for at least a 30-day supply of antidepressants that were filled with a generic drug anytime during the 1-year measurement period.	Prescribing event is defined by: A prescription for at least a 30-day supply of antidepressants, both brand-name and generic, during the 12-month measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / Alliance Generics Task Force
Cholesterol-lowering medication generic prescriptions*	A higher rate is better	The number of all prescriptions for at least a 30-day supply of statins that were filled with a generic drug anytime during the measurement year.	Prescribing event is defined by: A prescription for at least a 30-day supply of statins, both brand-name and generic, during the 12-month measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / Alliance Generics Task Force
Staying on antidepressant medication (12 weeks) *	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of patients age 18 and older newly diagnosed with depression, who were prescribed (as determined by prescription fills) an antidepressant medication, and remained on an antidepressant for at least 12 weeks (i.e., effective acute treatment phase).	Patients with depression are defined as: Patients age 18 and older as of the last day of the fourth month of the measurement year diagnosed with a new episode of major depression during the measurement year and prescribed antidepressant medication.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Staying on antidepressant medication (6 months) *	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of patients age 18 and older newly diagnosed with depression, who were prescribed (as determined by prescription fills) an antidepressant	Patients with depression are defined as: Patients age 18 and older as of the last day of the fourth month of the measurement year diagnosed with a	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS® 2023

		medication, and continued taking an antidepressant for at least 6 months (i.e., effective continuation phase).	new episode of major depression during the measurement year and prescribed antidepressant medication.		NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Stomach acid medication generic prescriptions*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of prescriptions for antacids to reduce chronic stomach or gastric acid (proton pump inhibitors or PPIs) that were filled with a generic PPI anytime during the 1-year measurement period.	Prescribing event is defined by: A prescription for at least a 30-day supply of PPIs, both brand-name and generic, during the 12-month measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / Alliance Generics Task Force
Taking cholesterol-lowering medications as directed*	A higher rate is better	This measure focuses on patient adherence to prescribed cholesterol medications by considering the number of days the patient had access to at least one drug in the statin medication class based on the prescription fill date and the days of supply. The proportion of days covered (PDC) rate must be at least 80 percent to meet the numerator.	Adults with coronary artery disease are defined as: Adults age 18 or older with at least two filled prescriptions for statin medications during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA)
Taking diabetes medications as directed*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	This measure focuses on patient adherence to prescribed diabetes medications by considering the number of days the patient had access to at least one drug in the diabetes medications class based on the prescription fill date and the days of supply. The proportion of days covered (PDC) rate must be at least 80 percent to meet the numerator.	Eligible adults are described as: Adults age 18 or older with at least two filled prescriptions for diabetes medications during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA)

<p>Taking hypertension medications as directed*</p>	<p>Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better</p>	<p>This measure focuses on patient adherence to prescribed hypertension (high blood pressure) medications by considering the number of days the patient had access to at least one drug in the RAS Antagonist medications class based on the prescription fill date and the days of supply.</p> <p>The PDC rate must be at least 80 percent to meet the numerator.</p>	<p>Eligible adults are described as: Adults age 18 or older with at least two filled prescriptions for hypertension medications during the measurement year.</p>	<p>Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023</p>	<p>Washington Health Alliance database / Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA)</p>
<p>Use of opioids at high dosage*</p>	<p>Comparison of rate to statewide rate - lower rate is better</p>	<p>The percentage of patients 18 years of age and older who received prescription opioids that were at a high dose for 15 or more days during the measurement year (average morphine milligram equivalent dose [MME] \geq 90).</p>	<p>Eligible are described as members 18 years and older.</p>	<p>Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023</p>	<p>Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS® 2023</p> <p>NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023</p>

Patient experience in a hospital:

<p>Patient's rating of overall experience at the hospital</p>	<p>Rate compared to state - higher rate is better</p>	<p>For a given location during the measurement year, the number of patients who gave their hospital a rating of 9 or 10 on a scale from 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest).</p>	<p>The total number of answers collected for this question on the HCAHPS survey.</p>	<p>Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023</p>	<p>Hospital Compare / CMS</p>
<p>Hospital room cleanliness</p>	<p>Rate compared to state - higher rate is better</p>	<p>For a given location during the measurement year, the number of patients who reported that their room and bathroom were “always” clean.</p>	<p>The total number of answers collected for this question on the HCAHPS survey.</p>	<p>Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023</p>	<p>Hospital Compare / CMS</p>
<p>Provided clear information at the time of discharge from the hospital*</p>	<p>Rate compared to state - higher rate is better</p>	<p>For a given location during the measurement year, the number of patients who reported that “yes” they</p>	<p>The total number of answers collected for this question on the HCAHPS survey.</p>	<p>Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023</p>	<p>Hospital Compare / CMS</p>

		were given information about what to do during their recovery at home and who “strongly agree” that they understood their care when they left the hospital.			
Pain control at the hospital	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	For a given location during the measurement year, the number of patients who reported that their pain was “always” well controlled.	The total number of answers collected for this question on the HCAHPS survey.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Quiet at night in the hospital	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	For a given location during the measurement year, the number of patients who reported that the area around their room was “always” quiet at night.	The total number of answers collected for this question on the HCAHPS survey.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Timely assistance from hospital staff	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	For a given location during the measurement year, the number of patients who reported that they always” received help as soon as they wanted.	The total number of answers collected for this question on the HCAHPS survey.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Communication with doctors in hospitals	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	For a given location during the measurement year, the number of patients who reported that their doctors "always" communicated well.	The total number of answers collected for this question on the HCAHPS survey.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Communication with nurses in hospitals	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	For a given location during the measurement year, the number of patients who reported that their nurses "always" communicated well.	The total number of answers collected for this question on the HCAHPS survey.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Medicines explained at the hospital*	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	For a given location during the measurement year, the number of patients who reported that staff	The total number of answers collected for this question on the HCAHPS survey.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Hospital Compare / CMS

		“always” explained about medicine before giving it to them.			
Patient safety measures:					
Falls with injury at the hospital*	Rate per 1,000 patient days, compared to state - lower rates are better	The number of falls with injury per patient day, for a given location (for adult acute care only), during the measurement year.	The total number of patient days for a given location (for adult acute care only), during the measurement year.	Jan. 2022-Dec.2022	WSHA – DOH / DOH - American Nurses Association
Pediatric measures:					
Child and adolescent well-care visits	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The percentage of members 3-11, 12-17, and 3-21 years of age who had at least one comprehensive well-care visit with a primary care or an OB/GYN practitioner during the measurement year.	Members age 3–21 years as of December 31 of the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2022 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication (30 days) *	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	Children age 6 to 12 by the index date with an ambulatory prescription for ADHD medication and one follow-up prescribing practitioner visit during the 30 day initiation phase.	Children age 6 to 12 by the index date who were dispensed an ADHD medication during the measurement period.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication (9 months) *	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	Children age 6 to 12 by the index date with an ambulatory prescription for ADHD medication, who remained on the medication for at least 210 days and had two or more additional follow-up visits within 270 days of the initiation phase.	Children age 6 to 12 by the index date who were dispensed an ADHD medication during the measurement period.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023

Hearing test for infants (ages 0-3 months) *	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of infants born in measurement years 2018- 2022 who did not pass their final hearing screen and whose age is less than 91 days at the time they received diagnostic confirmation as deaf/hard of hearing or as not having a hearing loss.	Total number of infants born in measurement years 2018- 2022 who did not pass their final hearing screen.	Jan. 2018-Dec. 2022	DOH / CDC
Tooth decay prevention for children*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	Total number members age 0 to 6 who received a fluoride varnish (FV) application during a routine health visit with any non-dental health care provider who has received the appropriate training to apply FV. Measured and reported for Medicaid insured.	Total number of members age 0 to 6 with an EPSDT screen during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023– Dec.2023	HCA / HCA
Well-child visits (0-15 months)	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The percentage of children who turned 15 months of age during the measurement period and had 6 or more well-child visits.	Eligible children are defined as: The number of children who turned 15 months old during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Well-child visits (15-30 months)	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The percentage of children who turned 30 months of age during the measurement period and had 2 or more well-child visits.	Eligible children are defined as: The number of children who turned 30 months old during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Potentially avoidable care measures:					
Avoiding antibiotics for adults with acute bronchitis*	Comparison of (inverted) rate to statewide (inverted) rate - higher rate is better	The number of adults age 18 to 64 diagnosed with acute bronchitis who were not dispensed an antibiotic prescription for three days after diagnosis.	Eligible adults are described as: Adults age 18, as of the start of the year prior, to age 64 by the last day of the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023

Avoiding X-ray, MRI and CT scan for low back pain*	Comparison of (inverted) rate to statewide (inverted) rate - higher rate is better	The number of patients age 18 to 75 with a primary diagnosis of low back pain who did not have an X-ray or other imaging study (MRI, CT scan) in the 28 days after they first visited a health care provider due to low back pain.	Eligible adults are described as: Adults age 18 as of the start of the measurement year to age 75 by the last day of the measurement year who have a diagnosis of low back pain.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Brain scan results in 45 minutes	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	Percentage of patients 18 years of age and older who arrived at an ED within two hours of the onset of symptoms of a stroke and had a CT or MRI scan interpreted within 45 minutes of arrival. ED can include Hospital Inpatient, Hospital/Acute Care facility, Emergency Department and Services.	Eligible adults are described as: Adults age 18 as of the start of the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Emergency room visits*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - lower rate is better	Risk-adjusted ratio of observed to expected emergency room visits during the measurement year.	All continuously enrolled adults, age 18 or older, as of the end of the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Heart failure 30-day readmission (Medicare)	Scores are determined by ranking results based on observed versus expected rate	For patients age 18 and older, the number of inpatient stays with a principal diagnosis of heart failure during the measurement year that were followed by a readmission for any cause for heart within 30 days. Risk adjustment is applied to all cases to derive a risk-adjusted readmission rate.	Eligible adults are described as adults age 18 and older discharged from the hospital with a principal diagnosis of heart failure. Current CMS results publicly report results for Medicare FFS age 65 and older.	Jul. 2020-Jun. 2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Hospital readmissions within 30 days*	Scores are determined by ranking results based on observed versus expected rate, accounting for sample size - lower	For patients age 18 and older, the number of acute inpatient stays during the measurement year that were followed by an unplanned acute readmission for any diagnosis within 30	Eligible adults are described as: Adults age 18 to 64 as of the index discharge date.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality

	observed to expected ratio is better	days and the predicted probability of an acute readmission.			Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Hospital readmissions within 30 days (Medicare insured)	Percentage. Lower rate is better.	For patients age 18 and older, the number of inpatient stays during the measurement year that were followed by a readmission for any reason (with the exception of a certain planned readmissions) within 30 days. Risk adjustment is applied to all cases to derive a risk-adjusted readmission rate.	Eligible adults are described as adults age 18 and older discharged from the hospital. Current CMS results publicly report results for Medicare FFS age 65 and older. From CMS: The target population for this measure is patients age 18 and older discharged from the hospital with a complete claims history for the 12 months prior to admission. The measure is currently publicly reported by CMS for those age 65 and older who are Medicare FFS beneficiaries admitted to non-federal hospitals.	Jan. 2023-Dec.2023	Hospital Compare / CMS
Potentially avoidable ER visits*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - lower rate is better	The number of potentially avoidable emergency room (ER) visits in the measurement year.	All ER visits for members 1 or more years old during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / Washington Health Alliance
Pregnancy measures:					
Cesarean deliveries*	Rate compared to state - lower rate is better	The number of nulliparous women with a term, singleton baby in a vertex position delivered by cesarean delivery at a given location, during the measurement year, i.e., the number of cesarean deliveries among women giving birth for the first time with a single	The total number of deliveries among women giving birth for the first time to a single fetus that is at 37 or more weeks of gestation, at a given location, during the measurement year.	Jan. 2022-Dec.2022	WSHA / JCAHO

		fetus that is at 37 or more weeks of gestation and head down.			
Preventive care measures:					
Adult tobacco use*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - lower rate is better	The number of adults age 18 and older who answer “every day” or “some days” in response to the question, “Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days or not at all?” on the Washington State BRFSS.	The total number of answers collected for the question, “Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days or not at all?” on the BRFSS.	Jan. 2018-Dec. 2022	DOH / BRFSS
Adult Immunization Status	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The percentage of members 19 years of age and older who are up-to-date on recommended routine vaccines for influenza, tetanus and diphtheria or tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis, zoster and pneumococcal.	Eligible adults are described as: Adults age 19 and older by the end of the measurement year.	Jan. 2022-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Breast cancer screening*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of women age 50 to 74 who had at least one mammogram screening for breast cancer on or between the first day of the year 2 years prior and the last day of the measurement year.	Eligible women are described as: Women age 50 to 74 by the end of the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Cervical cancer screening*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of women age 21 to 64 who had a Pap test in the past 3 years (begins at age 24 to allow 3 year look back), or women 30 to 64 who had a Pap test and HPV test every 5 years.	Eligible women are described as: Women age 21 to 64 by the end of the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023

Chlamydia screening*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of women age 16 to 24 who were identified as sexually active and who had at least one test for chlamydia during the measurement year.	Eligible women are described as: Women age 16 to 24 by the end of the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Colon cancer screening*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of adults age 46 to 75 who had appropriate screening for colorectal cancer with any of the following tests: Annual fecal occult blood test; flexible sigmoidoscopy every 5 years; or colonoscopy every 10 years.	Eligible adults are described as: Adults age 46 to 75 by the end of the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Counseling children and adolescents for nutrition*	Rate compared to NCQA benchmarks - higher rate is better	The number of members age 3 to 17 with counselling for nutrition during the measurement year.	The number of members age 3 to 17 during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Counseling children and adolescents for exercise*	Rate compared to NCQA benchmarks - higher rate is better	The number of members age 3 to 17 with counselling for physical activity during the measurement year.	The number of members age 3 to 17 during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Weight assessment for children and adolescents*	Rate compared to NCQA benchmarks - higher rate is better	Members age 3 to 17 with a body mass index (BMI) percentile collected during the measurement year.	The number of members age 3 to 17 during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Respiratory measures:					
Appropriate testing for pharyngitis*	Comparison of rate to statewide rate - higher rate is better	The number of patients age 3 and above who were diagnosed with pharyngitis, dispensed an antibiotic, and received a group A streptococcus (strep) test for the episode.	Eligible population is described as: members age 3 years and older who have a diagnosis of pharyngitis.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality

					Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Appropriate treatment for upper respiratory infection	Comparison of (inverted) rate to statewide (inverted) rate - higher rate is better	The number of members age 3 months and older who went to the doctor for a common cold who were not prescribed an antibiotic for 3 days after the diagnosis.	Eligible population is described as: members 3 months of age, at the start of the measurement year, and older with a diagnosis of URI.	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2023	Washington Health Alliance database / NCQA HEDIS MY® 2023 NCQA Quality Compass® / NCQA HEDIS® MY 2023
Surgery measures:					
Hip replacement infection	Rate per 100 procedures – lower rate is better	The number of surgical site infections as a result of hip replacement during the measurement year.	The total number of hip replacement procedures among patients age 18 and older performed at a given location during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec.2023	WSHA – NHSN / NHSN
Knee replacement infection	Rate per 100 procedures – lower rate is better	The number of surgical site infections as a result of knee replacement surgery (arthroplasty) during the measurement year.	The total number of knee replacement procedures performed at a given location during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec.2023	WSHA – NHSN / NHSN
Surgical site infections - abdominal hysterectomy	Rate per 100 inpatient days – lower rate is better	The number of surgical site infections as a result of abdominal hysterectomies during the measurement year.	The total number of abdominal hysterectomy procedures among patients age 18 and older performed at a given location during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec.2023	Hospital Compare – NHSN / NHSN
Surgical site infections - colon surgery	Rate per 100 procedures – lower rate is better	The number of surgical site infections as a result of colon surgeries during the measurement year.	The total number of colon surgery procedures among patients age 18 and older performed at a given location during the measurement year.	Jan. 2023-Dec.2023	Hospital Compare / NHSN

Vaccinations measures:					
Health care worker influenza vaccination	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	The number of health care workers who have had an influenza vaccination during the measurement year.	The total number of health care workers at a given location during the measurement year.	Oct. 2023-Mar. 2024	Hospital Compare / CMS / WSHA
Influenza Vaccination - Adults	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	The number of Washington residents age 18 and older who received an influenza immunization during the past influenza season.	The number of Washington residents age 18 and older by December 31 of the measurement year.	Jan. 2018-Dec. 2022	DOH - WA IIS / AMA-PCPI
Influenza Vaccination – Children and Adolescents*	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	The number of Washington residents age 6 months – 17 years who received an influenza immunization during the past influenza season.	The number of Washington residents age 6 months – 17 years by December 31 of the measurement year.	Jan. 2018-Dec. 2023	DOH - WA IIS / AMA-PCPI
HPV vaccination for adolescent boys*	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	Adolescent boys 13 years of age as of December 31 of the measurement year who had 3 doses of the HPV vaccine that was reported to the Washington Immunization Information System (WA IIS).	Boys age 13 by December 31 of the measurement year.	Jan. 2022-Dec. 2022	DOH - WA IIS / NCQA HEDIS®
HPV vaccination for adolescent girls*	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	Adolescent girls 13 years of age as of December 31 of the measurement year who had 3 doses of the HPV vaccine that was reported to the Washington Immunization Information System (WA IIS).	Girls age 13 by December 31 of the measurement year.	Jan. 2022-Dec. 2022	DOH - WA IIS / NCQA HEDIS®
Pneumonia vaccination (ages 65+)	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	The number of Washington residents age 65 and older during the measurement period who reported “yes” to the question, “A pneumonia shot or pneumococcal vaccine is usually given only once or twice in a	The total number of responses collected from Washington residents age 65 and older during the measurement year for the question, “A pneumonia shot or pneumococcal vaccine is usually given only once or	Jan. 2018-Dec. 2022	DOH / BRFSS

		person's lifetime and is different from the flu shot. Have you ever had a pneumonia shot?" on the Washington State BRFSS.	twice in a person's lifetime and is different from the flu shot. Have you ever had a pneumonia shot?" on the Washington State BRFSS.		
Vaccinations for children by age 2*	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	The number of children who by 2 years of age had received all recommended vaccines, recorded in the Washington Immunization Information System (WA IIS): 4 diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis (DTap); 3 polio (IPV); 1 measles, mumps and rubella (MMR); 3 haemophilus influenza type B (HIB); 3 hepatitis B (HepB); 1 chicken pox (VZV); pneumococcal conjugate (PVC); 1 hepatitis A (HepA); 2 or 3 rotavirus (RV) and 2 influenza (flu) vaccines.	Children age 2 on December 31 of the measurement year.	Jan. 2022-Dec. 2022	DOH - WA IIS / NCQA HEDIS® (modified)
Vaccinations for adolescents by age 13*	Rate compared to state - higher rate is better	Adolescents who had one dose of meningococcal vaccine, one Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccine or one tetanus, diphtheria toxoids vaccine and three doses of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine by their 13th birthday and recorded in Washington Immunization Information System (WA IIS).	Members age 13 by December 31 of the measurement year.	Jan. 2022-Dec. 2022	DOH - WA IIS / NCQA HEDIS® (modified)

Washington Health Alliance Community Checkup Attribution Methodology

To report performance results at the medical group or clinic level, the Alliance assigns or attributes the care of a patient to a clinician. The clinician is mapped to a clinic (using the Alliance's Provider Roster¹) and clinics are mapped to medical groups as appropriate. If every patient saw only one doctor every year, attribution would be straightforward. However, many patients have several visits to different clinicians over the course of a year. Therefore, the Alliance has developed three methods of attribution to ensure consistent assignment of patients to clinicians across services of interest. During the development process, the Alliance worked extensively with key stakeholders over many months to agree upon methodology and then subsequently with clinics to test several different attribution methods. The final methods selected were (1) the Primary Care Provider (PCP) Attribution, (2) the PCP and Specialist Team Attribution (Team), and (3) the Prescribing Provider Attribution (RxP). Each of these methods is described in the following section. The attribution method used by measure of interest is delineated in Appendix A.

Primary Care Provider (PCP) Attribution:

PCP Attribution is applied to prevention-related measures based on the concept that the PCP is the clinician who is primarily responsible for a patient's preventive care management. The PCP Attribution method assigns each patient to the **single** primary care provider who provided the most Evaluation and Management visits over the most recent 24-month period covered in the report. To receive clinician attribution, patients must have a minimum of one service during the 24-month period.

The following is the ranking hierarchy to be used in selecting the single attributed primary care provider for each patient:

1. Most number of E&M visits
2. Highest sum of RVUs (the "relative value units" associated with the services based on the E&M visits in #1 above; the RVU assigns a weight for the intensity of the service)
3. Most recent service date

The following types of provider specialties are generally considered Primary Care Specialties: Adult Medicine, Family Medicine, General Practice, General Internal Medicine, Homeopathy, Naturopathy, Nurse Practitioner, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Osteopathy, Pediatrics, Physician Assistant, Preventive Medicine, Women's Health.

PCP and Specialist Team Attribution:

The "Team" method is applied to measures related to specific health conditions, based on the belief that patients benefit most when their entire medical team works together to ensure that they receive appropriate care.

This method assigns each patient to every primary care provider and/or relevant specialist with *any* Evaluation and Management visits over the most recent 24 months covered in the report. To receive clinician attribution, patients must have a minimum of one service during the 24-month period.

In addition to the primary care specialties listed above, the following non-primary care specialties may also be included depending upon the measure of interest: Allergy & Immunology, Cardiology and Cardiovascular Disease, Chiropractor, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Orthopaedics, Neurology, Physiatry, Psychiatry, Pulmonology, Rheumatology.

¹ The Washington Health Alliance developed and maintains a Provider Roster that is used to map individual clinicians to clinic locations. This roster is an important resource that allows the Alliance to report performance measure results by Medical Group and Clinic location. Medical groups across Washington have the opportunity to maintain their clinic and provider rosters via the Alliance's Secure Provider Portal to help assure performance results are accurately applied to their organizations.

Prescribing Provider (RxP) Attribution:

Measure Results Prepared by the Washington Health Alliance	Clinic Results Included in Public Report	Attribution Method	Source of Measure
Adults access to preventive/ambulatory health services	No*	NONE	NCQA HEDIS
Appropriate testing for pharyngitis	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Appropriate treatment for upper respiratory infection	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Asthma medication ratio	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Avoiding antibiotics for adults with acute bronchitis	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Avoiding X-ray, MRI and CT scan for low-back pain	Yes	TEAM	NCQA HEDIS
Blood sugar (HbA1c) testing for people with diabetes	Yes	TEAM	NCQA HEDIS
Breast cancer screening	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Cervical cancer screening	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Children and adolescents' access to primary care practitioners	No*	NONE	NCQA HEDIS
Child and adolescent well-care visits	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Chlamydia screening	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Colon cancer screening	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Eye exam for people with diabetes	Yes	TEAM	NCQA HEDIS
Follow-up care for children prescribed ADHD medication	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Hospital readmissions within 30 days	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Hospitalization for COPD or asthma	No	PCP	AHRQ
Kidney health evaluation for patients with diabetes	Yes	TEAM	NCQA HEDIS
Medications: generic prescribing (5 measures)	Yes	RX	Alliance
Potentially avoidable ER visits	Yes	PCP	Alliance
Prenatal and Postpartum care	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS
Spirometry testing to assess and diagnose COPD	No*	TEAM	NCQA HEDIS
Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease	Yes	TEAM	NCQA HEDIS
Staying on antidepressant medication	Yes	TEAM	NCQA HEDIS
Taking cholesterol-lowering medications as directed	Yes	PCP	PQA
Taking diabetes medications as directed	Yes	PCP	PQA
Taking hypertension medications as directed	Yes	PCP	PQA
Well-child visit	Yes	PCP	NCQA HEDIS

NOTES:

The Prescribing Provider attribution method is used for the generic drug measures. This method assigns filled prescriptions to prescribing providers based on provider identification information on pharmacy claims.

*Results available by state, county, and Accountable Community of Health. Results attributed based on residence of individual.

There are a number of measures in the Community Checkup where results come from a source other than the Alliance, so attribution is not applicable. These measures are not included in this list.