

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

DATE: August 13, 2015

TO: Medicare-Medicaid Plans

FROM: Sharon Donovan
Director, Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office Program Alignment Group
Amy K. Larrick
Acting Director, Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group

SUBJECT: Update to Contract Year 2015 Medicare-Medicaid Plan Reporting Requirements

The purpose of this memorandum is to release the final updated specifications for Core Measure 2.3 - Members with an annual assessment, and to announce the suspension of Core Measure 6.1 - Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow-up Plan. Please read this memorandum carefully and contact the Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office at mmcocapsreporting@cms.hhs.gov if you have any questions.

Core Measure 2.3

In May 2015, CMS temporarily suspended data collection for Core Measure 2.3, which evaluates MMP completions of annual health risk reassessments. On July 1, 2015, CMS released a memorandum requesting public comment on the new specifications drafted for this measure. Based on the feedback received, CMS has now finalized the specifications. MMPs should use the attached final updated specifications for reporting this measure for Calendar Year 2015 as applicable. Please note that the due date for Calendar Year 2015 reporting is February 29, 2016 for MMPs whose demonstration effective enrollment date began in Calendar Year 2013 or 2014.

Core Measure 6.1

CMS has decided to temporarily suspend the collection of Core Measure 6.1, which evaluates the percentage of members screened for clinical depression using a standardized tool and documentation of a follow-up plan as appropriate. The current specifications require this measure to be reported based on administrative data only using specific codes to identify

numerator compliant cases. Upon review of Calendar Year 2014 data reported for this measure, it is clear that these codes are not commonly used by providers, and consequently, MMPs may be systematically underreporting the numerator.

As a result, we are temporarily suspending the reporting of this measure starting with Calendar Year 2015. We will continue to assess options to promote accurate reporting on this important measure, including the potential for medical record review. However, when this measure is reinstated, we currently expect to continue the requirement to report using administrative data only. Therefore, we strongly encourage MMPs in the interim to educate their providers on the importance of conducting clinical depression screenings and documenting their completion through the consistent use of proper coding.