



CENTER FOR MEDICARE

DATE: August 2, 2019

TO: All Medicare Advantage Plans, Section 1876 Cost Plans, and Medicare-Medicaid Plans

FROM: Amy Larrick Chavez-Valdez
Director, Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group

SUBJECT: 2019 Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS) HPMS Update

On behalf of the Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS) Team, I am pleased to announce the availability of the following reports and data for participating Medicare managed care plans:

- 2016-2018 Cohort 19 Medicare HOS Performance Measurement Report
- 2016-2018 Cohort 19 Medicare HOS Star Ratings Validation
- 2016-2018 Cohort 19 Medicare HOS Aggregate Score Analysis

Medicare HOS Version 3.0

The *2016-2018 Cohort 19 Performance Measurement Report*, Star Ratings Validation, and Aggregate Score Analysis include results from the Medicare HOS version 3.0, implemented by CMS in the spring of 2015. The HOS 3.0 evaluates physical and mental health status using the Veterans RAND 12-Item Health Survey. Modifications to version 3.0 of the survey included: changes to questions about leakage of urine, osteoporosis testing in older women, sleep duration and quality, and primary language spoken at home. Use of this instrument reduces beneficiary burden while maintaining comparability of HOS results over time.

2016-2018 Medicare HOS Cohort 19 Performance Measurement Report

The *2016-2018 Cohort 19 Performance Measurement Report* presents results for Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs) based on data from the Medicare HOS *2016 Cohort 19 Baseline* and *2018 Cohort 19 Follow Up* surveys. The HOS performance measurement results describe change in health status over time for beneficiaries in your MAO.

The report provides performance measurement results for the eighteenth time since the HOS was introduced as a HEDIS measure in 1998. The HOS measures an MAO's ability to maintain or improve the physical and mental health of its Medicare beneficiaries over time. The report includes information on the HOS measures used in the Medicare Star Ratings, as well as additional resources to assist MAOs in their quality improvement efforts.

Each MAO report zip file includes a summary data file with contract-level responses to each HOS question, as well as demographic data related to the report. HOS summary measures from each report that are used in the Medicare Part C Star Ratings are also included in this file.

2016-2018 Medicare HOS Cohort 19 Star Ratings Validation

The 2016-2018 HOS Star Ratings Validation presents high level performance measurement information for MAOs based on data from the Medicare HOS *2016 Cohort 19 Baseline* and *2018 Cohort 19 Follow Up* surveys. The HOS summary measures describe change in physical and mental health status over time at the contract, state, and region levels. The results compare actual to expected changes in physical and mental health over two years (i.e., better than, the same as, or worse than expected), as well as actual changes in physical and mental health.

2020 Star Ratings Measures

Explicitly shown are the results for the two HOS and three HEDIS/HOS measures used in the 2020 Star Ratings, as well as one Display Only measure. The two HOS measures are based on data from *2016-2018 Cohort 19 Performance Measurement Results* (2016 Baseline and 2018 Follow-up data collections), while the HEDIS/HOS and the Display Only measures are based on data from the *2018 Cohort 19 Follow Up* and *2018 Cohort 21 Baseline* data collections.

<i>Measure</i>	<i>Type</i>
Improving or Maintaining Mental Health	HOS
Improving or Maintaining Physical Health	HOS
Monitoring Physical Activity	HEDIS/HOS
Reducing the Risk of Falling	HEDIS/HOS
Improving Bladder Control	HEDIS/HOS
Osteoporosis Testing	Display Only

2016-2018 Medicare HOS Cohort 19 Aggregate Score Analysis

The 2016-2018 HOS Aggregate Score Analysis reports average *Cohort 19 Baseline* and *Follow up* scores at the contract, state, region, and national levels for the core physical and mental health outcome measures included in the HOS and other indices of functional health status, including:

- Average Physical and Mental Component Summary Scores
- Percentage (%) reporting Health Same or Better Compared to 1 Year Ago
- Percentage (%) reporting Problems with 2 or More Activities of Daily Living
- Percentage (%) reporting 2 or More Chronic Diseases
- Percentage (%) reporting Depressive Symptoms

Use of HOS Data

Readers may visit the HOS website at www.hosonline.org for webinars and additional resources to help MAOs use their HOS results to target quality improvement activities. Baseline and two-year performance measurement results are intended to provide information that each MAO can use to design an improved health care delivery system to better meet the needs of the beneficiaries in its service area. Aggregate and state level information is provided to each MAO for their own internal review.

Distribution of Reports

Distribution occurs electronically to MAOs through the Health Plan Management System (HPMS). To access your organization's reports, from the top navigation bar select "Quality and Performance," then "HOS," then "Performance Measurement Reports." Performance Measurement reports for *Cohorts 16-19*, Baseline reports for *Cohorts 18-21*, and HOS-M reports for years 2015-2018 are available in HPMS. Please note that if your MAO did not participate in the *2016-2018 Cohort 19 Performance Measurement*, there are no MAO specific reports for your organization.

For a general overview of the Medicare Health Outcomes Survey program, visit the CMS HOS website at www.cms.gov/hos. You may submit technical inquiries to HOS@hcqis.org, or contact Health Services Advisory Group through the HOS Information and Technical Support telephone line at (888) 880-0077. HOS program and policy questions may be addressed to hos@cms.hhs.gov.