



Consensus Core Set: Pediatrics

The Core Quality Measures Collaborative (CQMC) core measure sets (core sets) are intended for use in value-based payment (VBP) programs and may also be used to drive improvement in high-priority areas. The core sets can be used in their entirety to holistically assess quality or can serve as a starting point when selecting measures to meet specific goals. The CQMC core sets are developed and maintained using a multistakeholder, consensus-based process and established [measure selection principles](#). Measure specifications and details are linked in the *CBE Number* column, and additional considerations for use are included in the *Notes* section of the table below.

Pediatric Measures

The CQMC core set measures focus on ambulatory care measures at the clinician-reporting level. The Pediatrics core set includes three measures that have been tested for reliability and validity at the clinician (individual or group/practice) reporting level. The remaining core set measures address important topics related to pediatric care, but they have not been tested at the clinician level of analysis. When using measures specified outside of the clinician level of analysis, core set users should ensure adequate measure denominator size based on their patient population.

Measure Topic	CBE Number	Measure Title	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
Asthma	1800	Asthma Medication Ratio	National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)	Health Plan	Telehealth eligible
	3599	Pediatric Asthma Emergency Department Use	Albert Einstein College of Medicine	Health Plan	Measure intended to serve as a population-based approach to inform quality improvement. Use with a sufficient denominator.
Behavioral Health	0418 / 0418e	Preventative Care and Screening: Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow-Up Plan	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)	Clinician	No longer CBE-endorsed. Developer plans to maintain measure independently. eCQM available* Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2023

Measure Topic	CBE Number	Measure Title	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
Behavioral Health	3489	Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Mental Illness (Ages 6-17)	NCQA	Health Plan	Performance may be initially low due to data availability challenges
	0108	Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication (ADD)	NCQA	Health Plan	Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2023 eCQM available*
Overuse	2811e	Acute Otitis Media – Appropriate First-Line Antibiotics	The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Pediatric Quality Measures Program Center of Excellence	Clinician, Facility	eCQM
	0002	Appropriate Testing for Children With Pharyngitis (CWP)	NCQA	Health Plan, Integrated Delivery System	No longer CBE-endorsed eCQM available* Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2023
	0069	Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)	NCQA	Health Plan	eCQM available* Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2023
Patient Experience	0005	CAHPS Clinician & Group Surveys (CG-CAHPS) – Child†	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)	Clinician	AHRQ guidance on denominator volume
Prevention and Wellness	0038	Childhood Immunization Status (CIS)	NCQA	Health Plan, Integrated Delivery System	eCQM available* Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2023
	1407	Immunizations for Adolescents (IMA)	NCQA	Health Plan	-
	1448	Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life	Oregon Health & Science University	Population: Regional and State	No longer CBE-endorsed
	0033/eCQM	Chlamydia Screening for Women	NCQA	Health Plan	eCQM available* Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2023

Measure Topic	CBE Number	Measure Title	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
Prevention and Wellness	0024	Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children/Adolescents (WCC)	NCQA	Health Plan, Integrated Delivery System	eCQM available* Telehealth eligible
	N/A	Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits (WCV)	NCQA	Health Plan	Telehealth eligible
Sickle Cell Anemia	3595	Hydroxyurea Use Among Children With Sickle Cell Anemia	University of Michigan	Health Plan	Use with a sufficient denominator.
	2797	Transcranial Doppler Ultrasonography Screening Among Children With Sickle Cell Anemia	University of Michigan	Health Plan	Use with a sufficient denominator.

*Separate benchmarks should be used based on the reporting method.

† This measure is a cross-cutting measure that may be highly relevant across multiple core sets.

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Gap Areas for Future Consideration or Measure Development

- Behavioral health measures for pediatric populations, including general suicide risk assessment, anxiety, and referrals/follow-up
- Social determinants of health, access to care, and other equity considerations (e.g., measure stratification to identify disparities)
- Substance use measures, especially screening measures. Reconsider #2803 *Tobacco Use and Help With Quitting Among Adolescents* after it is updated to include vaping and e-cigarette use.
- Patient-reported outcomes: clinical outcomes, patient and family engagement, additional methods of assessing experience (e.g., net promoter scores)
- Contraceptive care
- Obesity-related metrics, including body mass index, plan of care, and improvements in weight • Care coordination
- Age-specific measures (e.g., adapting adult-focused survey instruments to suit adolescents)
- Measures that include virtual or telehealth visits as part of their specifications when appropriate (e.g., virtual visits for adolescent well-care)
- Revisit *Depression Remission or Response for Adolescents and Adults* when benchmarking data are available
- Revisit #2721e *Screening for Reduced Visual Acuity and Referral in Children* if endorsed
- Revisit #1360 *Audiological Evaluation No Later Than Three Months of Age* in a future maintenance cycle
- Revisit #0004 *Initiation and Engagement of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence Treatment* once updated

Core Set Updates for 2022

Updated notes related to telehealth eligibility for all measures

Measures #0418/#0418e, #0108, #0002, #0069, #0038, and #0033 remain telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2023; the notes on these measures have been updated to reflect this continued eligibility.

Added measure #3599 Pediatric Asthma Emergency Department Use

This outcome measure provides information on pediatric patients with high emergency department utilization, which can be used to inform quality improvement efforts.

Added measures #3489 Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Mental Illness (Ages 6-17) and #0108 Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication (ADD)

Behavioral health measures are a high-priority gap area for the Pediatrics core set. The Workgroup affirmed these two measures address important topics with opportunities to improve outcomes for the pediatric population.

Replaced #1516 Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life With Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits (WCV)

The measure developer combined #1516 with another measure, *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*, to create the new *Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits* measure. WCV will apply to an expanded age range (3–21 years) and will be submitted for endorsement and implemented in the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS).

Added measures #3595 Hydroxyurea Use Among Children With Sickle Cell Anemia and #2797 Transcranial Doppler Ultrasonography Screening Among Children With Sickle Cell Anemia

These measures address care processes for sickle cell anemia, for which low quality of care disproportionately affects children who are racial and ethnic minorities in the U.S. The Workgroup emphasized the importance of these measures for health equity and encouraged the use of these measures among providers or practices with sufficient volume.