



Consensus Core Set: Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), Patient-Centered Medical Homes (PCMHs), and Primary Care

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 *CBE¹ Number* column, and additional considerations for use are included in the *Notes* section of the table below.

ACO/PCMH/Primary Care Measures

The CQMC core set measures focus on ambulatory care measures at the clinician reporting level. The ACO/PCMH/Primary Care core set includes eight 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 ACOs, PCMHs, and primary care, but they have not been tested at the clinician level of analysis. When using measures specified outside the clinician level of analysis, core set users should ensure adequate measure denominator size based on their patient population.

Measure Topic	CBE Number	Measure	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
Behavioral Health	0418/0418e	Preventive Care and Screening: Screening for Depression and Follow-Up Plan	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)	Clinician	No longer CBE endorsed. Developer plans to maintain measure independently. Electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM) available.* Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2026.
Cardiovascular Care	0018	Controlling High Blood Pressure	National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)	Health Plan, Clinician	eCQM. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2026.

¹ Consensus-based entity

Measure Topic	CBE Number	Measure	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
	N/A	Statin Therapy for Patients with Diabetes (SPD-E)	NCQA	Health Plan	-
	N/A	Statin Therapy for Patients With Cardiovascular Disease (SPC-E)	NCQA	Health Plan	Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2026.
Care Coordination/ Patient Safety	N/A	Transitions of Care (TRC)	NCQA	Health Plan	-
	3617	Measuring the Value-Functions of Primary Care: Provider Level Continuity of Care Measure	American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM)	Clinician	-
Diabetes	N/A	Diabetes: Glycemic Status Assessment Greater Than 9%	NCQA	Health Plan	eCQM. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2026.
	N/A	Diabetes: Eye Exam	NCQA	Clinician, Health Plan	eCQM. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2026.
	N/A	Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes	NCQA	Health Plan	eCQM. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2026.
Patient Experience	0005	CAHPS ² Clinician & Group Surveys (CG-CAHPS) Version 3.0 – Adult, Child	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)	Clinician	Ensure adequate denominator volume per AHRQ guidance .
	3568	Person-Centered Primary Care Measure PRO-PM ³	ABFM	Clinician	-
Prevention & Wellness	0032	Cervical Cancer Screening	NCQA	Health Plan	eCQM. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2026.

² Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems

³ Patient-Reported Performance Measure

Measure Topic	CBE Number	Measure	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
	N/A	Breast Cancer Screening	NCQA	Health Plan, Integrated Delivery System	eCQM. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2026.
	N/A	Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL)	NCQA	Health Plan, Integrated Delivery System	eCQM. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2026.
	0028	Preventive Care and Screening: Tobacco Use: Screening and Cessation Intervention [†]	NCQA	Clinician	eCQM. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs in 2026.
	0421/0421e	Preventive Care and Screening: Body Mass Index (BMI) Screening and Follow-Up Plan	CMS	Clinician	No longer CBE endorsed. Developer plans to maintain measure independently. May be inappropriate for elderly patients, which is reflected in the list of measure exclusions. eCQM available.*
	N/A/3059e	One-Time Screening for Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) for Patients at Risk	American Gastroenterological Association (AGA)	Clinician	eCQM available.*
Pulmonary	0058	Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis/Bronchiolitis (AAB)	NCQA	Health Plan	-
	1800	Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR)	NCQA	Health Plan	-
Readmissions	N/A	Plan All-Cause Readmissions (PCR)	NCQA	Health Plan, Integrated Delivery System	Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) specifications should be used. Recommended for use at ACO level. Ensure adequate denominator volume.
Utilization & Overuse	N/A	Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain (LBP)	NCQA	Health Plan, Integrated Delivery System	-

*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

Priority Gaps

- Patient-reported measures
- Stratification of existing measures to identify differences in outcomes
- Unnecessary services and waste/overuse
- Misdiagnosis/delayed diagnoses
- Integration across settings/specialties and populations

Additional Gap Areas

- Appropriate pain management
- Behavioral health and substance use
- Advanced illness, hospice care, and palliative care
- Health-related quality of life
- Composite measures
- Goals of care and patient education
- Contraceptive care measures tested at the clinician level
- Medication adherence
- Shared decision-making
- Supplementing core set with population-based outcome measures to address social needs that impact health and development of measures to address differences in outcomes

Measures to Consider in Future Core Set Versions

- [CBE #3455 Timely Follow-Up After Acute Exacerbations of Chronic Conditions](#)
- [CBE #1598 Total Resource Use Population-based PMPM Index](#)
- [Adult Major Depressive Disorder \(MDD\): Coordination of Care of Patients with Specific Comorbid Conditions](#) (or similar measure addressing this topic)
- [CBE #0004 Initiation and Engagement of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence Treatment](#)
- [MIPS ID 485 Psoriasis – Improvement in Patient-Reported Itch Severity](#)
- [MIPS ID 486 Dermatitis – Improvement in Patient-Reported Itch Severity](#)
- [CBE #3665: Ambulatory Palliative Care Patients' Experience of Feeling Heard and Understood](#)
- [CBE #3666: Ambulatory Palliative Care Patients' Experience of Receiving Desired Help for Pain](#)

Core Set Updates for 2024

- The following measures were removed from the core set:
 - CBE #3541 Annual Monitoring for Persons on Long-Term Opioid Therapy (AMO)
 - CBE #1885 Depression Response at Twelve Months-Progress Towards Remission
 - CBE #2152 Preventive Care and Screening: Unhealthy Alcohol Use: Screening & Brief Counseling
 - Non-Recommended Cervical Cancer Screening in Adolescent Females (NCS)
- The following measures were discussed for potential removal, but the workgroup voted to retain:
 - CBE #3568 Person-Centered Primary Care Measure PRO-PM
 - CBE #0034 Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL)
 - Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain