

# Safety Net Medical Home Initiative Threshold Reference Table

## Background and Description

The Threshold Reference Table is a coaching resource developed by Qualis Health, the MacColl Center for Health Care Innovation at the Group Health Research Institute, and practice coaches for the Safety Net Medical Home Initiative (SNMHI). The table provides examples of a variety of performance thresholds for select clinical quality measures that can be used to demonstrate progress in a PCMH transformation project. The term “threshold” (rather than “benchmark”) is used in this document as some of the performance levels identified here are national averages, not best practices.

This report is a compilation of various data sources:

- [2015 NCQA Accreditation Benchmarks and Thresholds](#) This document reports national benchmarks and national and regional thresholds for HEDIS® measures and HEDIS/CAHPS® 5.0H survey results and will be used to score health plans for accreditation year 2015.
- HEDIS measure data in the [2011 NCQA “Continuous Improvement and the Expansion of Quality Measurement”](#) report.
- [Healthy People 2020 goals](#)
- [2013 National Healthcare Quality Report](#) from AHRQ which contains a few similar measures and the average performance of the top10% of organizations across the nation.
- Oregon Regional Coordinating Center Targets established based on literature review, HEDIS 90<sup>th</sup> percentile thresholds and in conjunction with CHCs. This work was completed in 2009.
- [The National Quality Measures Clearinghouse](#) is a public resource for evidence-based quality measures and measure sets sponsored by AHRQ.
- [The National Committee for Quality Assurance \(NCQA\) Heart/Stroke Recognition Program \(HSRP\)](#) launched in 2003, designed to recognize clinicians who use evidence-based measures and provide excellent care to persons with cardiovascular disease (CVD) or who have had a stroke.

## Suggested Citation

Safety Net Medical Home Initiative. Crocetti S. The Safety Net Medical Home Initiative Threshold Reference Table. 2nd ed . Seattle, WA: Qualis Health and the MacColl Center for Health Care Innovation at the Group Health Research Institute; April 2015.

## Adapted from

Safety Net Medical Home Initiative. Daniel D. The Safety Net Medical Home Initiative Threshold Reference Table. 1st ed . Seattle, WA: Qualis Health and the MacColl Center for Health Care Innovation at the Group Health Research Institute; November 2012.

Measure	HEDIS Measure Definition	2015 National Threshold (90 <sup>th</sup> /75 <sup>th</sup> ) Commercial	2015 National Threshold (90 <sup>th</sup> /75 <sup>th</sup> ) Medicare	2015 National Threshold (90 <sup>th</sup> /75 <sup>th</sup> ) Medicaid	2013 AHRQ NHQR	Healthy People 2020 Goals
Controlling High Blood Pressure	The percentage of adults 18–85 years of age who had a diagnosis of hypertension and whose blood pressure was adequately controlled (<140/90) during the measurement year.	(72/68)		(69/64)		61.2
Breast Cancer Screening	The percentage of women 40–69 years of age who had at least one mammogram to screen for breast cancer in the past two years.	(80/76)	(82/78)	(71/65)	88* (ages 50-74)	
Cervical Cancer Screening	The percentage of women 21–64 years of age who received one or more Pap test to screen for cervical cancer in the past three years.	(82/79)	NA	(76/71)		93
Colorectal Cancer Screening	The percentage of adults 50–75 years of age who had appropriate screening for colorectal cancer with any of the following tests: fecal occult blood test during the measurement year; flexible sigmoidoscopy during the measurement year or the four years prior to the measurement year; or colonoscopy during the measurement year or in any of the nine years prior to the measurement year.	(72/66)	(77/70)	NA	67.1	
HbA1c Management: Testing	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes who had HbA1c testing during the measurement year.	(94/91)	(96/94)	(91/87)		
HbA1c Management: Poor Control (>9.0%)	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes whose most recent HbA1c level during the measurement year is >9.0%.	(19/23)	(10/15)	(28/34)		16.1
HbA1c Control (<8.0%)	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes whose most recent HbA1c level during the measurement year is <8.0%.	(68/63)	(77//74)	(59/53)		
Diabetes: LDL Management - Control (<100 mg/dL)	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes whose most recent LDL-C level during the measurement year is <100 mg/dL.					58.3
Diabetes: Urine Protein Screening	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes who had a nephropathy screening test or evidence of nephropathy during the measurement period..	(90/86)	(95/93)	(87/83)		

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Diabetes: Blood Pressure Management	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes with most recent BP control <140/90 mm Hg.	(75/71)	(77/72)	(75/70)	60	57
Diabetes: Eye Exam	The percentage of adults 18–75 years of age with diabetes who had a dilated or retinal eye exam during the measurement year or a negative retinal eye exam during the prior year.	(74/66)	(82/75)	(70/64)		58.7
Flu Shots for Adults ages 18-64	Percent of patients 18–64 years of age who received an influenza vaccination.	(59/54)	NA			90
Flu Vaccine Adults Ages 65 and Over	Percent of patients 65 years of age and older who received an influenza vaccination.		(83/79)			90
Chlamydia Screening in Women	Percentage of women 16-25 years of age who were identified as sexually active, and who had at least one test for chlamydia during the measurement year.	(58/51)	NA	(69/64)		80
Timeliness of Prenatal Care	The percentage of deliveries that received a prenatal care visit in the first trimester or within 42 days of enrollment in the health plan.	(97/95)	NA	(93/90)		77.9
Post Partum Care	The percentage of deliveries that received a post-partum visit on or between 21 – 56 days after delivery.	(89/86)		(75/71)		
Pneumonia Vaccination Status Older Adults	The percentage of patients 65 years and older who have ever received a pneumococcal vaccination.		(82/78)		67	
Childhood Immunizations	The percentage of children 2 years of age who had four diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis (DTaP); three polio (IPV); one measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR); three haemophilus influenza type B (HiB); three hepatitis B (HepB); one chicken pox (VZV); four pneumococcal conjugate (PCV); one hepatitis A (HepA); two or three rotavirus (RV); and two influenza (flu) vaccines by their second birthday.	(89/85)	NA	(86/82)	84	80

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Immunizations for Adolescents	The percentage of adolescents 13 years of age who had one dose of meningococcal vaccine and one tetanus, diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine (Tdap) or one tetanus, diphtheria toxoids vaccine (Td) by their 13th birthday.	(84/74)	NA	(86/81)		
HPV Vaccine for Female Adolescents	The percentage of female adolescents 13 years of age who had three doses of the HPV vaccine by their 13th birthday.	(20/15)	NA	(29/24)		
Annual Dental Visit	The percentage of 2 – 21 year olds who had a dental visit in the past year.	NA	NA	(67/61)		
Treatment of Upper Respiratory Infections in Children	The percentage of children 3 months–18 years of age who were diagnosed with a URI and were not dispensed an antibiotic prescription.	(93/90)	NA	(95/92)		
Appropriate Testing for Children with Pharyngitis	The percentage of children 2-18 years of age who were diagnosed with pharyngitis, ordered an antibiotic and received a group A streptococcus (strep) test for the episode.	(91/88)	NA	(85/78)		
Avoidance of Antibiotics in Adults with Acute Bronchitis	The percentage of adults 18-64 years of age with a diagnosis of acute bronchitis who were not dispensed an antibiotic prescription.	(37/30)		(39/30)		
Pharmacotherapy Management of COPD Exacerbation: Bronchodilator	The percentage of COPD exacerbations for patients 40 years of age and older who had an acute inpatient discharge or ED visit on or between January 1 and November 30 of the measurement year and who were dispensed a bronchodilator within 30 days of the event.	(88/84)	(89/85)	(90/88)		
Pharmacotherapy Management of COPD Exacerbation: Systemic Corticosteroid	The percentage of COPD exacerbations for patients 40 years of age and older who had an acute inpatient discharge or ED visit on or between January 1 and November 30 of the measurement year and who were dispensed a systemic corticosteroid within 14 days of the event.	(83/78)	(79/76)	(78/75)		

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Use of Appropriate Medications in People with Asthma	The percentage of patients 5-64 years of age who were identified as having persistent asthma and were appropriately prescribed medication during the measurement period.	(94/93)		(91/87)		
Use of High Risk Medications in the Elderly: Rate 1	The percentage of patients 66 years of age and older who were ordered at least one high-risk medication.		(12/14)			
Use of High Risk Medications in the Elderly: Rate 2	The percentage of patients 66 years of age and older who were ordered at least two different high-risk medications.		(1/2)			
Follow-Up for Children Prescribed ADHD Medications: Initiation Phase	The percentage of children 6 – 12 years of age and newly dispensed a medication for ADHD who had one follow-up visit with a practitioner with prescribing authority during the 30-day initiation phase.	(50/44)	NA	(53/47)		
Follow-Up for Children Prescribed ADHD Medications: Continuation and Maintenance Phase	The percentage of children 6 – 12 years of age and newly dispensed a medication for ADHD who remained on ADHD medication for at least 210 days and who, in addition to the visit in the initiation phase, had at least two additional follow-up visits with a practitioner within 270 days after the initiation phase ended.	(58/51)	NA	(64/58)		
Spirometry Testing	This measure estimates the percentage of adults 40 years of age and older with a new diagnosis or newly active COPD who received spirometry testing to confirm the diagnosis.	(53/47)	(50/42)	(47/38)		
Antidepressant Medication Management: Effective Acute Phase Treatment	The percentage patients 18 years of age and older who were diagnosed with major depression and treated with antidepressant medication, and remained on antidepressant medication for at least 84 days (12 weeks).	(74/70)	(79/74)	(61/54)		
Antidepressant Medication Management: Effective Continuation Phase Treatment	The percentage patients 18 years of age and older who were diagnosed with major depression and treated with antidepressant medication, and remained on antidepressant medication for at least 180 days (6 months).	(61/54)	(67/60)	(45/38)		

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Initiation and Engagement of Alcohol and Other Drug Dependence Treatment: Engagement	The percentage of people who initiated treatment through an inpatient AOD admission, outpatient visit, intensive outpatient encounter or partial hospitalization within 14 days of the diagnosis.	(21/18)	(6/4)	(19/15)	15	
Follow-Up Hospitalization for Mental Illness: 7-Day Rate	The percentage of discharges for members 6 years of age and older who were hospitalized for treatment of selected mental illness diagnoses and who had an outpatient visit, an intensive outpatient encounter, or partial hospitalization with a mental health practitioner within 7 days of discharge.	(73/66)	(64/56)	(70/58)		
Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain	The percentage of patients 18-50 years of age with a primary diagnosis of low back pain who did not have an imaging study (plain x-ray, MRI, CT scan) within 28 days of the diagnosis.	(83/79)		(85/83)		
Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture	The percentage of women 65 years of age and older who suffered a fracture and who had either a bone mineral density (BMD) test or prescription for a drug to treat or prevent osteoporosis in the six months after date of the fracture.		(44/33)			
Persistence of Beta-Blocker Treatment After Heart Attack	The percentage of members 18 years of age and older during the measurement year who were hospitalized and discharged from July 1 of the year prior to the measurement year to June 30 of the measurement year with a diagnosis of AMI and who received persistent beta-blocker treatment for six months after discharge.	(91/88)	(96/94)	NA		
Advising Smokers and Tobacco Users to Quit	The percentage of patients 18 years of age and older who are current smokers or tobacco users and who received cessation counseling in the measurement year.	(86/81)	(92/89)	(81/80)		21.1
Adult BMI Assessment	The percentage of patients 18 to 74 years of age who had an outpatient visit and whose BMI was documented during the measurement year or the year prior to the measurement year.	(84/74)	(97/94)	(86/79)		53.6

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Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children/ Adolescents: BMI Percentile	The percentage of patients 3 – 17 years of age who had an outpatient visit with a PCP or OB/GYN and who had evidence of the following during the measurement period: height, weight, and BMI percentile documentation.	(79/61)	NA	(80/70)		54.7
Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children/ Adolescents: Counseling for Nutrition	The percentage of patients 3 – 17 years of age who had an outpatient visit with a PCP or OB/GYN and who had evidence of the following during the measurement period: counseling for nutrition.	(75/64)	NA	(78/68)		
Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children/ Adolescents: Counseling for Physical Activity	The percentage of patients 3 – 17 years of age who had an outpatient visit with a PCP or OB/GYN and who had evidence of the following during the measurement period: counseling for physical activity.	(70/59)	NA	(65/56)		