



**Commonwealth Pennsylvania  
Department of Human Services  
Office of Medical Assistance Programs**

**2015 External Quality Review Report  
AmeriHealth Northeast**

Final Report  
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## Introduction

### Purpose and Background

The final rule of the Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997 requires that State agencies contract with an External Quality Review Organization (EQRO) to conduct an annual external quality review (EQR) of the services provided by contracted Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs). This EQR must include an analysis and evaluation of aggregated information on quality, timeliness and access to the health care services that a MCO furnishes to Medicaid Managed Care recipients.

The EQR-related activities that must be included in detailed technical reports are as follows:

- review to determine MCO compliance with structure and operations standards established by the State (42 CFR §438.358),
- validation of performance improvement projects, and
- validation of MCO performance measures.

HealthChoices Physical Health (PH) is the mandatory managed care program that provides Medical Assistance recipients with physical health services in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (PA). The PA Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP) contracted with IPRO as its EQRO to conduct the 2015 EQRs for the HealthChoices PH MCOs and to prepare the technical reports. This technical report includes six core sections:

- I. Structure and Operations Standards
- II. Performance Improvement Projects
- III. Performance Measures and Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) Survey
- IV. 2014 Opportunities for Improvement – MCO Response
- V. 2015 Strengths and Opportunities for Improvement
- VI. Summary of Activities

For the PH Medicaid MCOs, the information for the compliance with Structure and Operations Standards section of the report is derived from the Commonwealth's monitoring of the MCOs against the Systematic Monitoring, Access and Retrieval Technology (SMART) standards, from the HealthChoices Agreement, and from National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA™) accreditation results for each MCO.

Information for Section II of this report is derived from activities conducted with and on behalf of DHS to research, select, and define Performance Improvement Projects (PIPs) for a new validation cycle. Information for Section III of this report is derived from IPRO's validation of each PH MCO's performance measure submissions. Performance measure validation as conducted by IPRO includes both Pennsylvania specific performance measures as well as Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS<sup>®1</sup>) measures for each Medicaid PH MCO. Within Section III, CAHPS Survey results follow the performance measures.

Section IV, 2014 Opportunities for Improvement – MCO Response, includes the MCO's responses to the 2014 EQR Technical Report's opportunities for improvement and presents the degree to which the MCO addressed each opportunity for improvement.

Section V has a summary of the MCO's strengths and opportunities for improvement for this review period as determined by IPRO and a "report card" of the MCO's performance as related to selected HEDIS measures. Section VI provides a summary of EQR activities for the PH MCO for this review period.

This is the first DHS EQR technical report for AmeriHealth Northeast (AHNE). AHNE was one of two new PH MCOs to begin managed care operations on March 1, 2013 as part of the PA HealthChoices program expansion. The 2014 review period covered in the 2015 EQR represents the first full year of operation for AHNE in HealthChoices.

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<sup>1</sup> HEDIS<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance.

## I: Structure and Operations Standards

This section of the EQR report presents a review by IPRO of AHNE’s compliance with structure and operations standards. The review is based on information derived from reviews of the MCO that were conducted within the past three years.

### Methodology and Format

The documents used by IPRO for the current review include the HealthChoices Agreement, the SMART database completed by PA DHS staff as of December 31, 2014, and the most recent NCQA Accreditation Survey for AHNE effective December 2014.

The SMART items provided much of the information necessary for this review. The SMART items are a comprehensive set of monitoring items that PA DHS staff reviews on an ongoing basis for each Medicaid MCO. The SMART items and their associated review findings for each year are maintained in a database. Beginning with RY 2013, the SMART database has been maintained internally by DHS. Upon discussion with the DHS regarding the data elements from each version of the database, IPRO merged the RY 2014 and 2013 findings for use in the current review. It is important to note that AHNE only had SMART items reviewed for RY 2014 and RY 2013. IPRO reviewed the elements in the SMART item list and created a crosswalk to pertinent BBA regulations. A total of 126 items were identified that were relevant to evaluation of MCO compliance with the BBA regulations. These items vary in review periodicity as determined by DHS.

The crosswalk linked SMART Items to specific provisions of the regulations, where possible. Some items were relevant to more than one provision. It should be noted that one or more provisions apply to each of the categories in **Table 1.1**. Table 1.1 provides a count of items linked to each category.

**Table 1.1: SMART Items Count Per Regulation**

BBA Regulation	SMART Items
<b>Subpart C: Enrollee Rights and Protections</b>	
Enrollee Rights	7
Provider-Enrollee Communication	1
Marketing Activities	2
Liability for Payment	1
Cost Sharing	0
Emergency and Post-Stabilization Services – Definition	4
Emergency Services: Coverage and Payment	1
Solvency Standards	2
<b>Subpart D: Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement</b>	
Availability of Services	14
Coordination and Continuity of Care	13
Coverage and Authorization of Services	9
Provider Selection	4
Provider Discrimination Prohibited	1
Confidentiality	1
Enrollment and Disenrollment	2
Grievance Systems	1
Subcontractual Relationships and Delegations	3
Practice Guidelines	2
Health Information Systems	18
<b>Subpart F: Federal and State Grievance Systems Standards</b>	
General Requirements	8
<b>Subpart F: Federal and State Grievance Systems Standards</b>	
Notice of Action	3

BBA Regulation	SMART Items
Handling of Grievances and Appeals	9
Resolution and Notification	7
Expedited Resolution	4
Information to Providers and Subcontractors	1
Recordkeeping and Recording	6
Continuation of Benefits Pending Appeal and State Fair Hearings	2
Effectuation of Reversed Resolutions	0

Two categories, Cost Sharing and Effectuation of Reversed Resolutions, were not directly addressed by any of the SMART Items reviewed by DHS. Cost Sharing is addressed in the HealthChoices Agreements. Effectuation of Reversed Resolutions is evaluated as part of the most recent NCQA Accreditation review under Utilization Management (UM) Standard 8: Policies for Appeals and UM 9: Appropriate Handling of Appeals.

### Determination of Compliance

To evaluate MCO compliance on individual provisions, IPRO grouped the monitoring standards by provision and evaluated the MCO’s compliance status with regard to the SMART Items. For example, all provisions relating to enrollee rights are summarized under Enrollee Rights 438.100. Each item was assigned a value of Compliant or non-Compliant in the Item Log submitted by DHS. If an item was not evaluated for a particular MCO, it was assigned a value of Not Determined. Compliance with the BBA requirements was then determined based on the aggregate results of the SMART Items linked to each provision within a requirement or category. If all items were Compliant, the MCO was evaluated as Compliant. If some were Compliant and some were non-Compliant, the MCO was evaluated as partially-Compliant. If all items were non-Compliant, the MCO was evaluated as non-Compliant. If no items were evaluated for a given category and no other source of information was available to determine compliance, a value of Not Determined was assigned for that category.

### Format

The format for this section of the report was developed to be consistent with the subparts prescribed by BBA regulations. This document groups the regulatory requirements under subject headings that are consistent with the three subparts set out in the BBA regulations and described in the *MCO Monitoring Protocol*. Under each subpart heading fall the individual regulatory categories appropriate to those headings. IPRO’s findings are presented in a manner consistent with the three subparts in the BBA regulations explained in the Protocol, i.e., Enrollee Rights and Protections; Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement (including access, structure and operation, and measurement and improvement standards); and Federal and State Grievance System Standards.

In addition to this analysis of DHS’s MCO compliance monitoring, IPRO reviewed and evaluated the most recent NCQA accreditation report for each MCO.

This format reflects the goal of the review, which is to gather sufficient foundation for IPRO’s required assessment of the MCO’s compliance with BBA regulations as an element of the analysis of the MCO’s strengths and weaknesses.

### Findings

Of the 126 SMART Items, 86 items were evaluated and 40 were not evaluated for the MCO in Review Year (RY) 2014 or RY 2013. For categories where items were not evaluated, under review, or received an approval waiver for RY 2014, results from reviews conducted within the prior review year (RY 2013) were evaluated to determine compliance, if available.

#### Subpart C: Enrollee Rights and Protections

The general purpose of the regulations included in this category is to ensure that each MCO has written policies regarding rights and complies with applicable Federal and State laws that pertain to enrollee rights, and that the CMO ensures that its staff and affiliated providers take into account those rights when furnishing services to enrollees. [42 C.F.R. §438.100 (a), (b)]

Table 1.2: AHNE Compliance with Enrollee Rights and Protections Regulations

ENROLLEE RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS REGULATIONS		
Subpart C: Categories	Compliance	Comments
Enrollee Rights	Compliant	7 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 7 items and was compliant on 7 items based on RY 2014.
Provider-Enrollee Communication	Compliant	1 item was crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Marketing Activities	Compliant	2 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 2 items and was compliant on 2 items based on RY 2014.
Liability for Payment	Compliant	1 item was crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Cost Sharing	Compliant	Per HealthChoices Agreement
Emergency Services: Coverage and Payment	Compliant	1 item was crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Emergency and Post Stabilization Services	Compliant	4 items were crosswalked into the category. The MCO was evaluated against 4 items and was compliant on 4 items based on RY 2014.
Solvency Standards	Compliant	2 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 2 items and was compliant on 2 items based on RY 2014.

AHNE was evaluated against 18 of the 18 SMART Items crosswalked to Enrollee Rights and Protections Regulations and was compliant on all 18 items. AHNE was found to be compliant on all eight categories of Enrollee Rights and Protections Regulations. AHNE was found to be compliant on the Cost Sharing provision, based on the HealthChoices agreement.

**Subpart D: Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Regulations**

The general purpose of the regulations included under this heading is to ensure that all services available under the Commonwealth’s Medicaid managed care program are available and accessible to AHNE enrollees. [42 C.F.R. §438.206 (a)]

The SMART database includes an assessment of the MCO’s compliance with regulations found in Subpart D. **Table 1.3** presents the findings by categories consistent with the regulations.

Table 1.3: AHNE Compliance with Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Regulations

QUALITY ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT REGULATIONS		
Subpart D: Categories	Compliance	Comments
<b>Access Standards</b>		
Availability of Services	Compliant	14 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 12 items and was compliant on 12 items based on RY 2014.
Coordination and Continuity of Care	Compliant	13 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 12 items and was compliant on 12 items based on RY 2014.
Coverage and Authorization of Services	Compliant	9 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 8 items and was compliant on 8 items based on RY 2014
<b>Structure and Operation Standards</b>		
Provider Selection	Compliant	4 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Provider Discrimination Prohibited	Compliant	1 item was crosswalked to this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Confidentiality	Compliant	1 item was crosswalked to this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Enrollment and Disenrollment	Compliant	2 items were crosswalked to this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Grievance Systems	Compliant	1 item was crosswalked to this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Subcontractual Relationships and Delegations	Compliant	3 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 3 items and was compliant on 3 items based on RY 2014.
<b>Measurement and Improvement Standards</b>		
Practice Guidelines	Compliant	2 items were crosswalked to this category. The MCO was evaluated against 2 items and was compliant on 2 items based on RY 2014.
Health Information Systems	Partially Compliant	18 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 14 items and was compliant on 13 items and non-compliant on 1 item based on RY 2014.

AHNE was evaluated against 56 of 68 SMART Items that were crosswalked to Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Regulations and was compliant on 55 items and non-compliant on 1 item. ANHE was found to be compliant in 10 categories and partially compliant in 1 category for Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Regulations.

## Health Information Systems

AHNE was partially compliant with Health Information Systems due to non-compliance with SMART standard SY 12.15.

### Subpart F: ABH Compliance with Federal and State Grievance System Standards

The general purpose of the regulations included under this heading is to ensure that enrollees have the ability to pursue grievances.

The Commonwealth's audit document information includes an assessment of the MCO's compliance with regulations found in Subpart F. **Table 1.4** presents the findings by categories consistent with the regulations.

Table 1.4: AHNE Compliance with Federal and State Grievance System Standards

FEDERAL AND STATE GRIEVANCE SYSTEM STANDARDS		
Subpart F: Categories	Compliance	Comments
General Requirements	Compliant	8 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Notice of Action	Compliant	3 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 2 items and was compliant on 2 items based on RY 2014.
Handling of Grievances & Appeals	Compliant	9 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 2 items and was compliant on 2 items based on RY 2014.
Resolution and Notification	Compliant	7 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 2 items and was compliant on 2 items based on RY 2014.
Expedited Resolution	Compliant	4 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 2 items and was compliant on 2 items based on RY 2014.
Information to Providers and Subcontractors	Compliant	1 item was crosswalked to this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Recordkeeping and Recording	Compliant	6 items were crosswalked into this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Continuation of Benefits Pending Appeal and State Fair Hearings	Compliant	2 items were crosswalked to this category. The MCO was evaluated against 1 item and was compliant on this item based on RY 2014.
Effectuation of Reversed Resolutions	Compliant	Per NCQA Accreditation, 2014

AHNE was evaluated against 12 of the 40 SMART Items crosswalked to Federal and State Grievance System Standards and was compliant on all 12 items. AHNE was found compliant in all nine categories of Federal and State Grievance System Standards.

### Accreditation Status

AHNE had not undergone an NCQA Accreditation Survey as of December 2015.

## II: Performance Improvement Projects

In accordance with current BBA regulations, IPRO worked with DHS to research and define Performance Improvement Projects (PIPs) to be validated for each Medicaid PH MCO. For the purposes of the EQR, PH MCOs were required to participate in studies selected by OMAP for 2015 activities. Under the applicable HealthChoices Agreement with the DHS in effect during this review period, Medicaid PH MCOs are required to conduct focused studies each year. For all PH MCOs, two new PIPs were initiated as part of this requirement. For all PIPs, PH MCOs are required to implement improvement actions and to conduct follow-up in order to demonstrate initial and sustained improvement or the need for further action.

As part of the new EQR PIP cycle that was initiated for all PH MCOs in 2015, PH MCOs are required to implement two internal PIPs in priority topic areas chosen by DHS. For this PIP cycle, two topics were selected: “Improving Access to Pediatric Preventive Dental Care” and “Reducing Potentially Preventable Hospital Admissions and Readmissions and Emergency Department Visits”.

**“Improving Access to Pediatric Preventive Dental Care”** was selected because on a number of dental measures, the aggregate HealthChoices rates have consistently fallen short of established benchmarks, or have not improved across years. For one measure, the HEDIS Annual Dental Visit (ADV) measure, from HEDIS 2006 through HEDIS 2013, the Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) average was below the 50th percentile for three years. Further, CMS reporting of FFY 2011-2013 data from the CMS-416 indicates that while PA met its two-year goal for progress on preventive dental services, the percentage of PA children age 1-20 who received any preventive dental service for FFY 2013 (40.0%), was below the National rate of 46.0%. The Aim Statement for the topic is “Increase access to and utilization of routine dental care for pediatric Pennsylvania HealthChoices members.” Four common objectives for all PH MCOs were selected:

1. Increase dental evaluations for children between the ages of 6 months and 5 years.
2. Increase preventive dental visits for all pediatric HealthChoices members.
3. Increase appropriate topical application of fluoride varnish by non-oral health professionals.
4. Increase the appropriate application of dental sealants for children ages 6-9 (CMS Core Measure) and 12-14 years.

For this PIP, OMAP is requiring all PH MCOs to submit the following core measures on an annual basis:

- Adapted from CMS form 416, the percentage of children ages 0-1 who received, in the last year:
  - any dental service,
  - a preventive dental service,
  - a dental diagnostic service,
  - any oral health service,
  - any dental or oral health service
- Total Eligibles Receiving Oral Health Services provided by a Non-Dentist Provider
- Total Eligibles Receiving Preventive Dental Services
- The percentages of children, stratified by age (<1, 1-2, 3-5, 6-9, 10-14, 15-18, and 19-20 years) who received at least one topical application of fluoride.

Additionally, MCOs are encouraged to consider other performance measures such as:

- Percentage of children with ECC who are disease free at one year.
- Percentage of children with dental caries (ages 1-8 years of age).
- Percentage of oral health patients that are caries free.
- Percentage of all dental patients for whom the Phase I treatment plan is completed within a 12 month period.

**“Reducing Potentially Preventable Hospital Admissions and Readmissions and Emergency Department Visits”** was selected as the result of a number of observations. General findings and recommendations from the PA Rethinking Care Program (RCP) – Serious Mental Illness (SMI) Innovation Project (RCP-SMI) and Joint PH/BH Readmission projects, as well as overall Statewide readmission rates and results from several applicable Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) and PA Performance Measures across multiple years, have highlighted this topic as an area of concern to be addressed for improvement. The Aim Statement for the topic is “To reduce potentially avoidable ED visits

and hospitalizations, including admissions that are avoidable initial admissions and readmissions that are potentially preventable.” Five common objectives for all PH MCOs were selected:

1. Identify key drivers of avoidable hospitalizations, as specific to the MCO’s population (e.g., by specific diagnoses, procedures, comorbid conditions, and demographics that characterize high risk subpopulations for the MCO).
2. Decrease avoidable initial admissions (e.g., admissions related to chronic or worsening conditions, or identified health disparities).
3. Decrease potentially preventable readmissions (e.g., readmissions related to diagnosis, procedure, transition of care, or case management)
4. Decrease avoidable ED visits (e.g., resulting from poor ambulatory management of chronic conditions including BH/SA conditions or use of the ED for non-urgent care).
5. Demonstrate improvement for a number of indicators related to avoidable hospitalizations and preventable readmissions, specifically for Individuals with Serious Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI).

For this PIP, OMAP is requiring all PH MCOs to submit the following core measures on an annual basis:

### **MCO-developed Performance Measures**

MCOS are required to develop their own indicators tailored to their specific PIP (i.e., customized to the key drivers of avoidable hospitalizations identified by each MCO for its specific population).

### **DHS-defined Performance Measures**

- Ambulatory Care (AMB): ED Utilization. The target goal is 72 per 1,000 member months.
- Inpatient Utilization—General Hospital/Acute Care (IPU): Total Discharges. The target goal is 8.2 per 1,000 member months.
- Plan All-Cause Readmissions (PCR): 30-day Inpatient Readmission. The target for the 30-day indicator is 8.5.
- Each of the five (5) BH-PH Integrated Care Plan Program measures:
  - Initiation and Engagement of Alcohol and Other Drug Dependence Treatment
  - Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals with Schizophrenia
  - Emergency Room Utilization for Individuals with Serious Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI)
  - Combined BH-PH Inpatient Admission Utilization for Individuals with Serious Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI)
  - Combined BH-PH Inpatient 30-Day Readmission Rate for Individuals with Serious Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI).

The PIPs will extend from January 2015 through December 2018; with research beginning in 2015, initial PIP proposals developed and submitted in first quarter 2016, and a final report due in June 2019. The non-intervention baseline period will be January 2015 to December 2015. Following the formal PIP proposal, PH MCOs will additionally be required to submit interim reports in July 2016, June 2017 and June 2018, as well as a final report in June 2019.

The 2015 EQR is the twelfth year to include validation of PIPs. For each PIP, all PH MCOs share the same baseline period and timeline defined for that PIP. To introduce each PIP cycle, DHS provided specific guidelines that addressed the PIP submission schedule, the measurement period, documentation requirements, topic selection, study indicators, study design, baseline measurement, interventions, re-measurement, and sustained improvement. Direction was given with regard to expectations for PIP relevance, quality, completeness, resubmissions and timeliness.

All PH MCOs are required to submit their projects using a standardized PIP template form, which is consistent with the CMS protocol for *Conducting Performance Improvement Projects*. These protocols follow a longitudinal format and capture information relating to:

- Activity Selection and Methodology
- Data/Results
- Analysis Cycle
- Interventions

## Validation Methodology

IPRO's protocol for evaluation of PIPs is consistent with the protocol issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) (*Validating Performance Improvement Projects, Final Protocol, Version 1.0, May 1, 2002*) and meets the requirements of the final rule on EQR of Medicaid MCOs issued on January 24, 2003. IPRO's review evaluates each project against ten review elements:

1. Project Topic And Topic Relevance
2. Study Question (Aim Statement)
3. Study Variables (Performance Indicators)
4. Identified Study Population
5. Sampling Methods
6. Data Collection Procedures
7. Improvement Strategies (Interventions)
8. Interpretation Of Study Results (Demonstrable Improvement)
9. Validity Of Reported Improvement
10. Sustainability Of Documented Improvement

The first nine elements relate to the baseline and demonstrable improvement phases of the project. The last element relates to sustaining improvement from the baseline measurement.

## Review Element Designation/Weighting

As 2015 is the baseline year, no scoring for the current PIPs can occur for this review year. This section describes the scoring elements and methodology that will occur during the intervention and sustainability periods.

For each review element, the assessment of compliance is determined through the weighted responses to each review item. Each element carries a separate weight. Scoring for each element is based on full, partial and non-compliance. Points are awarded for the two phases of the project noted above and combined to arrive at an overall score. The overall score is expressed in terms of levels of compliance.

Table 2.1 presents the terminologies used in the scoring process, their respective definitions, and their weight percentage.

Table 2.1: Element Designation

Element Designation		
Element Designation	Definition	Weight
Full	Met or exceeded the element requirements	100%
Partial	Met essential requirements but is deficient in some areas	50%
Non-compliant	Has not met the essential requirements of the element	0%

## Overall Project Performance Score

The total points earned for each review element are weighted to determine the MCO's overall performance score for a PIP. For the EQR PIPs, the review elements for demonstrable improvement have a total weight of 80%. The highest achievable score for all demonstrable improvement elements is 80 points (80% x 100 points for Full Compliance; **Table 2.2**).

PIPs also are reviewed for the achievement of sustained improvement. For the EQR PIPs, this has a weight of 20%, for a possible maximum total of 20 points (**Table 2.2**). The MCO must sustain improvement relative to baseline after achieving demonstrable improvement. The evaluation of the sustained improvement area has two review elements.

## Scoring Matrix

When the PIPs are reviewed, all projects are evaluated for the same elements. The scoring matrix is completed for those review elements where activities have during the review year. At the time of the review, a project can be

reviewed for only a subset of elements. It will then be evaluated for other elements at a later date, according to the PIP submission schedule. At the time each element is reviewed, a finding is given of “Met”, “Partially Met”, or “Not Met”. Elements receiving a “Met” will receive 100% of the points assigned to the element, “Partially Met” elements will receive 50% of the assigned points, and “Not Met” elements will receive 0%.

Table 2.2: Review Element Scoring Weights

Review Element	Standard	Scoring Weight
1	Project Topic and Topic Relevance	5%
2	Study Question (Aim Statement)	5%
3	Study Variables (Performance Indicators)	15%
4/5	Identified Study Population and Sampling Methods	10%
6	Data Collection Procedures	10%
7	Improvement Strategies (Interventions)	15%
8/9	Interpretation of Study Results (Demonstrable Improvement) and Validity of Reported Improvement	20%
Total Demonstrable Improvement Score		80%
10	Sustainability of Documented Improvement	20%
Total Sustained Improvement Score		20%
Overall Project Performance Score		100%

## Findings

As noted previously, no scoring for the current PIPs can occur for this review year. However, multiple levels of activity and collaboration occurred between DHS, the PH MCOs, and IPRO throughout, and prior to the review year.

Beginning in 2014, DHS advised of internal discussions regarding the next PIP cycle to begin in 2015, particularly regarding topics in line with its value-based program. At a 2014 MCO Quality Summit, DHS introduced its value-based program and two key performance goals: 1. Reduce Unnecessary Hospitalizations, and 2. Improve Use of Pediatric Preventive Dental Services. DHS asked IPRO to develop PIP topics related to these goals.

Following multiple discussions between DHS and IPRO, the two PIP topics were developed and further refined throughout 2015. Regarding the Dental topic, information related to the CMS Oral Health Initiative was incorporated into the PIP, including examination of data from the CMS preventive dental measure, and inclusion of the measure as a core performance measure for the PIP. Through quarterly calls with MCOs, DHS discussed and solicited information regarding initiatives that were being developed for improving access to and delivery of quality oral healthcare services. Following additional review of the research and the PIP topic, initiatives that appeared to have potential value were included in the PIP proposal as areas in which PH MCOs can seek to focus their efforts and develop specific interventions for their PIP. The PIP topic was introduced at a PH MCO Medical Directors’ meeting in Fall 2015.

Regarding the Readmission topic, initial discussions resulted in a proposal that focused primarily on the research indicating ambulatory care sensitive conditions which, if left unmanaged, could result in admissions and are related to readmissions, focusing on particular conditions. Throughout 2015, DHS continued to refine its focus for this topic. In Fall 2015, DHS introduced two new pay-for-performance programs for the MCOs: the PH MCO and BH MCO Integrated Care Plan (ICP) Program Pay for Performance Program to address the needs of individuals with SPMI, and the Community Based Care Management (CBCM) Program. As a result, DHS requested that the topic be enhanced to incorporate elements of the new programs, including initiatives outlined for both programs that were provided as examples of activities that may be applicable for use in the PIP. MCOs are to consider and collect measures related to these programs; however, they have been instructed that the focus of the PIP remains on each MCO’s entire population, and each MCO is required to analyze and identify indicators relevant to its specific population.

PH MCOs will be asked to participate in multi-plan PIP update calls through the duration of the PIP to report on their progress or barriers to progress. Frequent collaboration between DHS and PH MCOs is also expected to continue.

### III: Performance Measures and CAHPS Survey

#### Methodology

IPRO validated PA specific performance measures and HEDIS data for each of the Medicaid PH MCOs.

The MCOs were provided with final specifications for the PA Performance Measures in February and March 2015. Source code, raw data and rate sheets were submitted by the MCOs to IPRO for review in 2015. A staggered submission was implemented for the performance measures. IPRO conducted an initial validation of each measure, including source code review and provided each MCO with formal written feedback. The MCOs were then given the opportunity for resubmission, if necessary. Source code was reviewed by IPRO. Raw data were also reviewed for reasonability and IPRO ran code against these data to validate that the final reported rates were accurate. Additionally, beginning in 2015, MCOs were provided with comparisons to the previous year’s rates and were requested to provide explanations for highlighted differences. For measures reported as percentages, differences were highlighted for rates that were statistically significant and displayed at least a 3-percentage point difference in observed rates. For the adult admission measures, which are not reported as percentages, differences were highlighted based only on statistical significance, with no minimum threshold.

For three PA performance Birth-related measures: Cesarean Rate for Nulliparous Singleton Vertex (CRS), Live Births Weighing Less Than 2,500 Grams (PLB), and Elective Delivery, rates for each of the measures were produced utilizing MCO Birth files in addition to the 2014 Department of Health Birth File. IPRO requested, from each MCO, information on members with a live birth within the measurement year. Similar to the methodology used in 2014, IPRO then utilized the MCO file in addition to the most recent applicable PA Department of Health Birth File to identify the denominator, numerator and rate for the three measures.

HEDIS 2015 measures were validated through a standard HEDIS compliance audit of each PH MCO. This audit includes pre-onsite review of the HEDIS Roadmap, onsite interviews with staff and a review of systems, and post-onsite validation of the Interactive Data Submission System (IDSS). A Final Audit Report was submitted to NCQA for each MCO. Because the PA-specific performance measures rely on the same systems and staff, no separate onsite review was necessary for validation of the PA-specific measures. IPRO conducts a thorough review and validation of source code, data and submitted rates for the PA-specific measures.

Evaluation of MCO performance is based on both PA-specific performance measures and selected HEDIS measures for the EQR. The following is a list of the performance measures included in this year’s EQR report.

Table 3.1: Performance Measure Groupings

Source	Measures
<b>Access/Availability to Care</b>	
HEDIS	Children and Adolescents’ Access to PCPs (Age 12 - 24 months)
HEDIS	Children and Adolescents’ Access to PCPs (Age 25 months - 6 years)
HEDIS	Children and Adolescents’ Access to PCPs (Age 7-11 years)
HEDIS	Children and Adolescents’ Access to PCPs (Age 12-19 years)
HEDIS	Adults’ Access to Preventive/Ambulatory Health Services (Age 20-44 years)
HEDIS	Adults’ Access to Preventive/Ambulatory Health Services (Age 45-64 years)
HEDIS	Adults’ Access to Preventive/Ambulatory Health Services (Age 65+)
HEDIS	Adult Body Mass Index Assessment
<b>Well Care Visits and Immunizations</b>	
HEDIS	Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life (6+ Visits)
HEDIS	Well-Child Visits (Age 3 to 6 years)
HEDIS	Childhood Immunizations by Age 2 (Combination 2)
HEDIS	Childhood Immunizations by Age 2 (Combination 3)
HEDIS	Adolescent Well-Care Visits (Age 12 to 21 years)
HEDIS	Immunizations for Adolescents
HEDIS	WCC Body Mass Index: Percentile (Age 3-11 years)

Source	Measures
HEDIS	WCC Body Mass Index: Percentile (Age 12-17 years)
HEDIS	WCC Body Mass Index: Percentile (Total)
HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Nutrition (Age 3-11 years)
HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Nutrition (Age 12-17 years)
HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Nutrition (Total)
HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Physical Activity (Age 3-11 years)
HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Physical Activity (Age 12-17 years)
HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Physical Activity (Total)
<b>EPSDT: Screenings and Follow up</b>	
HEDIS	Lead Screening in Children (Age 2 years)
HEDIS	Follow-up Care for Children Prescribed Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Medication
PA EQR	Follow-up Care for Children Prescribed Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Medication (BH Enhanced)
PA EQR	EPSDT Screenings: Annual Vision Screen and Hearing Test (Age 4-20 years)
PA EQR	Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life
<b>Dental Care for Children and Adults</b>	
HEDIS	Annual Dental Visits (Age 2-21 years)
PA EQR	Total Eligibles Receiving Preventive Dental Services
PA EQR	Annual Dental Visits for Members with Developmental Disabilities (Age 2-21 years)
<b>Women s Health</b>	
HEDIS	Breast Cancer Screening (Age 52–74 years)
HEDIS	Cervical Cancer Screening (Age 21-64 years)
HEDIS	Chlamydia Screening in Women (Total Rate)
HEDIS	Chlamydia Screening in Women (Age 16-20 years)
HEDIS	Chlamydia Screening in Women (Age 21-24 years)
HEDIS	Human Papillomavirus Vaccine for Female Adolescents
HEDIS	Non-Recommended Cervical Cancer Screening in Adolescent Females
<b>Obstetric and Neonatal Care</b>	
HEDIS	Frequency of Ongoing Prenatal Care – Greater than or Equal to 61% of Expected Prenatal Care Visits Received
HEDIS	Frequency of Ongoing Prenatal Care – Greater than or Equal to 81% of Expected Prenatal Care Visits Received
HEDIS	Prenatal and Postpartum Care - Timeliness of Prenatal Care
HEDIS	Prenatal and Postpartum Care - Postpartum Care
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Smoking
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Smoking during one of the first two visits (CHIPRA indicator)
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Environmental Tobacco Smoke Exposure (ETS)
PA EQR	Prenatal Counseling for Smoking
PA EQR	Prenatal Counseling for Environmental Tobacco Smoke Exposure (ETS)
PA EQR	Prenatal Smoking Cessation
PA EQR	Perinatal Depression Screening: Prenatal Screening for Depression
PA EQR	Perinatal Depression Screening: Prenatal Screening for Depression during one of the first two visits (CHIPRA indicator)
PA EQR	Perinatal Depression Screening: Prenatal Screening Positive for Depression
PA EQR	Perinatal Depression Screening: Prenatal Counseling for Depression
PA EQR	Perinatal Depression Screening: Postpartum Screening for Depression
PA EQR	Perinatal Depression Screening: Postpartum Screening Positive for Depression
PA EQR	Perinatal Depression Screening: Postpartum Counseling for Depression
PA EQR	Maternity Risk Factor Assessment: Prenatal Screening for Alcohol use
PA EQR	Maternity Risk Factor Assessment: Prenatal Screening for Illicit drug use
PA EQR	Maternity Risk Factor Assessment: Prenatal Screening for Prescribed or over-the-counter drug use
PA EQR	Maternity Risk Factor Assessment: Prenatal Screening for Intimate partner violence
PA EQR	Behavioral Health Risk Assessment
PA EQR	Cesarean Rate for Nulliparous Singleton Vertex
PA EQR	Percent of Live Births Weighing Less than 2,500 Grams
PA EQR	Elective Delivery
<b>Respiratory Conditions</b>	

Source	Measures
HEDIS	Appropriate Testing for Children with Pharyngitis
HEDIS	Appropriate Treatment for Children with Upper Respiratory Infection
HEDIS	Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis
HEDIS	Use of Spirometry Testing in the Assessment and Diagnosis of COPD
HEDIS	Pharmacotherapy Management of COPD Exacerbation (Systemic Corticosteroid and Bronchodilator)
HEDIS	Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma (Age 5-11 years)
HEDIS	Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma (Age 12-18 years)
HEDIS	Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma (Age 19-50 years)
HEDIS	Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma (Age 51-64 years)
HEDIS	Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma (Total Rate)
HEDIS	Medication Management for People with Asthma: 75% Compliance
PA EQR	Annual Percentage of Asthma Patients (Age 2-20 years old) with One or more Asthma Related ER Visits
PA EQR	Asthma in Younger Adults Admission Rate (Age 18-39 years)
PA EQR	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) or Asthma in Older Adults Admission Rate (40+ years)
<b>Comprehensive Diabetes Care</b>	
HEDIS	Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Testing
HEDIS	HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%)
HEDIS	HbA1c Control (<8.0%)
HEDIS	HbA1c Good Control (<7.0%)
HEDIS	Retinal Eye Exam
HEDIS	Medical Attention for Nephropathy
HEDIS	Blood Pressure Controlled <140/90 mm Hg
PA EQR	Diabetes Short-Term Complications Admission Rate (Age 18-64 years, Age 65+ years, and Total Rate)
<b>Cardiovascular Care</b>	
HEDIS	Persistence of Beta Blocker Treatment After Heart Attack
HEDIS	Controlling High Blood Pressure
PA EQR	Heart Failure Admission Rate (Age 18-64 years, Age 65+ years, and Total Rate)
<b>Utilization</b>	
PA EQR	Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions
HEDIS	Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals with Schizophrenia
PA EQR	Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals with Schizophrenia (BH Enhanced)

## PA-Specific Performance Measure Selection and Descriptions

Several PA-specific performance measures were calculated by each MCO and validated by IPRO. In accordance with DHS direction, IPRO created the indicator specifications to resemble HEDIS specifications. Measures previously developed and added as mandated by CMS for children in accordance with the Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) and for adults in accordance with the Affordable Care Act (ACA) were continued as applicable to revised CMS specifications. Additionally, new measures were developed and added in 2015 as mandated in accordance with the ACA. For each indicator, the criteria that were specified to identify the eligible population were product line, age, enrollment, anchor date, and event/diagnosis. To identify the administrative numerator positives, date of service and diagnosis/procedure code criteria were outlined, as well as other specifications, as needed. Indicator rates were calculated through one of two methods: (1) administrative, which uses only the MCO’s data systems to identify numerator positives and (2) hybrid, which uses a combination of administrative data and medical record review (MRR) to identify numerator “hits” for rate calculation.

### PA Specific Administrative Measures

#### 1) Annual Dental Visits For Enrollees with Developmental Disabilities

This performance measure assesses the percentage of enrollees with a developmental disability age two through 21 years of age, who were continuously enrolled during calendar year 2014 that had at least one dental visit during the measurement year. This indicator utilized the HEDIS 2015 measure Annual Dental Visit (ADV) measure specifications.

## **2) Total Eligibles Receiving Preventive Dental Services – CHIPRA Core Set**

This performance measure assesses the total number of eligible and enrolled children age one to twenty years who received preventive dental services.

## **3) Annual Percentage of Asthma Patients (Age 2-20 years old) with One or more Asthma Related ER Visits – CHIPRA Core Set**

This performance measure assesses the percentage of children and adolescents, two years of ages through 20 years of age, with an asthma diagnosis who have  $\geq 1$  asthma related emergency department (ED) visit during 2014. This indicator utilizes the 2013 CHIPRA measure “Annual Percentage of Asthma Patients with One of More Asthma-Related Emergency Room Visits.”

## **4) Cesarean Rate for Nulliparous Singleton Vertex – CHIPRA Core Set**

This performance measure assesses Cesarean Rate for low-risk first birth women [aka NTSV CS rate: nulliparous, term, singleton, vertex].

## **5) Percent of Live Births Weighing Less than 2,500 Grams – CHIPRA Core Set**

This performance measure is event-driven and identifies all live births during the measurement year in order to assess the number of live births that weighed less than 2,500 grams as a percent of the number of live births.

## **6) Elective Delivery – Adult Core Set**

This performance measure assesses the percentage of enrolled women with elective vaginal deliveries or elective cesarean sections at  $\geq 37$  and  $< 39$  weeks of gestation completed.

## **7) Follow-up Care for Children Prescribed Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Medication – CHIPRA Core Set**

DHS enhanced this measure using Behavioral Health (BH) encounter data contained in IPRO’s encounter data warehouse. IPRO evaluated this measure using HEDIS 2015 Medicaid member level data submitted by the PH MCO.

This performance measure assesses the percentage of children newly prescribed attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) medication that had at least three follow-up care visits within a 10-month period, one of which was within 30 days from the time the first ADHD medication was dispensed. Two rates are reported:

Initiation Phase: The percentage of children ages 6 to 12 as of the Index Prescription Start Date (IPSD) with an ambulatory prescription dispensed for ADHD medication that had one follow-up visit with a practitioner with prescribing authority during the 30-day Initiation Phase.

Continuation and Maintenance (C&M) Phase: The percentage of children 6 to 12 years old as of the IPSD with an ambulatory prescription dispensed for ADHD medication, who remained on the medication for at least 210 days and, in addition to the visit in the Initiation Phase, had at least two follow-up visits with a practitioner within 270 days (9 months) after the Initiation Phase ended.

## **8) EPSDT Annual Vision Screen and Hearing Test**

This performance measure assesses the percentage of enrollees four through 20 years of age with an annual vision screen and hearing test.

## **9) Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions**

This performance measure assesses the percentage of inpatient acute care discharges with subsequent readmission to inpatient acute care within 30 days of the initial inpatient acute discharge. This measure utilized the 2015 HEDIS Inpatient Utilization – General Hospital/Acute Care measure methodology to identify inpatient acute care discharges.

For the Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions measure, lower rates indicate better performance.

## **10) Asthma in Younger Adults Admission Rate – Adult Core Set**

This performance measure assesses the number of discharges for asthma in adults ages 18 to 39 years per 100,000 Medicaid member years.

## **11) Diabetes Short-Term Complications Admission Rate – Adult Core Set**

This performance measure assesses the number of discharges for diabetes short-term complications per 100,000 Medicaid member years. Two age groups will be reported: ages 18-64 years and age 65 years and older.

## **12) Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) or Asthma in Older Adults Admission Rate – Adult Core Set**

This performance measure assesses the number of discharges for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or asthma in adults aged 40 years and older per 100,000 Medicaid member years.

## **13) Heart Failure Admission Rate – Adult Core Set**

This performance measure assesses the number of discharges for Heart Failure in adults aged 18 and older per 100,000 Medicaid member years. Two age groups will be reported: ages 18-64 years and age 65 years and older.

## **14) Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals with Schizophrenia – Adult Core Set**

DHS enhanced this measure using Behavioral Health (BH) encounter data contained in IPRO's encounter data warehouse. IPRO evaluated this measure using HEDIS 2015 Medicaid member level data submitted by the PH MCO.

This performance measure assesses the percentage of members 19-64 years of age during the measurement year with schizophrenia who were dispensed and remained on an antipsychotic medication for at least 80% of their treatment period.

## **15) Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life (New for 2015) – CHIPRA Core Set**

This performance measure assesses the percentage of children screened for risk of developmental, behavioral, and social delays using a standardized screening tool in the 12 months preceding their first, second, or third birthday. Four rates, one for each group and a combined rate, are to be calculated and reported for each numerator.

## **PA Specific Hybrid Measures**

### **16) Prenatal Screening for Smoking and Treatment Discussion During a Prenatal Visit**

This performance measure assesses the percentage of pregnant enrollees who were:

1. Screened for smoking during the time frame of one of their first two prenatal visits or during the time frame of their first two visits following initiation of eligibility with the MCO.
2. Screened for smoking during the time frame of one of their first two prenatal visits (CHIPRA indicator).

3. Screened for environmental tobacco smoke exposure during the time from of one of their first two prenatal visits or during the time frame of their first two visits following initiation of eligibility with the MCO.
4. Screened for smoking in one of their first two prenatal visits who smoke (i.e., a smoker during the pregnancy), that were given counseling/advice or a referral during the time frame of any prenatal visit during pregnancy.
5. Screened for environmental tobacco smoke exposure in one of their first two prenatal visits and found to be exposed, that were given counseling/advice or a referral during the time frame of any prenatal visit during pregnancy.
6. Screened for smoking in one of their first two prenatal visits and found to be current smokers that stopped smoking during their pregnancy.

This performance measure uses components of the HEDIS 2015 Prenatal and Postpartum Care Measure.

### **17) Perinatal Depression Screening**

This performance measure assesses the percentage of enrollees who were:

1. Screened for depression during a prenatal care visit.
2. Screened for depression during a prenatal care visits using a validated depression screening tool.
3. Screened for depression during the time frame of the first two prenatal care visits (CHIPRA indicator).
4. Screened positive for depression during a prenatal care visit.
5. Screened positive for depression during a prenatal care visits and had evidence of further evaluation or treatment or referral for further treatment.
6. Screened for depression during a postpartum care visit.
7. Screened for depression during a postpartum care visit using a validated depression screening tool.
8. Screened positive for depression during a postpartum care visit.
9. Screened positive for depression during a postpartum care visit and had evidence of further evaluation or treatment or referral for further treatment.

This performance measure uses components of the HEDIS 2015 Prenatal and Postpartum Care Measure.

### **18) Maternity Risk Factor Assessment (New for 2015)**

This performance measure assesses, for each of the following risk categories, the percentage of pregnant enrollees who were:

1. Screened for alcohol use during the time frame of one of their first two prenatal visits (CHIPRA indicator).
2. Screened for illicit drug use during the time frame of one of their first two prenatal visits (CHIPRA indicator).
3. Screened for prescribed or over-the-counter drug use during the time frame of one of their first two prenatal visits (CHIPRA indicator).
4. Screened for intimate partner violence during the time frame of one of their first two prenatal visits (CHIPRA indicator).

This performance measure uses components of the HEDIS 2015 Prenatal and Postpartum Care Measure.

### **19) Behavioral Health Risk Assessment (New for 2015) – CHIPRA Core Set**

This performance measure is a combination of the screening assessments for all risk factors identified by each of the CHIPRA indicators in the Perinatal Depression Screening (PDS), Prenatal Screening for Smoking and Treatment Discussion During a Prenatal Visit (PSS), and Maternity Risk Factor Assessment (MRFA) measures.

This performance measure assesses the percentage of enrollees who were screened during the time frame of one of their first two prenatal visits for all of the following risk factors:

1. depression screening,
2. tobacco use screening,
3. alcohol use screening,

4. drug use screening (illicit and prescription, over the counter), and
5. intimate partner violence screening.

## **HEDIS Performance Measure Selection and Descriptions**

Each MCO underwent a full HEDIS compliance audit in 2015. As indicated previously, performance on selected HEDIS measures is included in this year's EQR report. Development of HEDIS measures and the clinical rationale for their inclusion in the HEDIS measurement set can be found in HEDIS 2015, Volume 2 Narrative. The measurement year for HEDIS 2015 measures is 2014, as well as prior years for selected measures. Each year, DHS updates its requirements for the MCOs to be consistent with NCQA's requirement for the reporting year. MCOs are required to report the complete set of Medicaid measures, excluding behavioral health and chemical dependency measures, as specified in the HEDIS Technical Specifications, Volume 2. In addition, DHS does not require the MCOs to produce the Chronic Conditions component of the CAHPS 5.0 – Child Survey.

### **Children and Adolescents' Access to Primary Care Practitioners**

This measure assessed the percentage of members 12 to 24 months and 25 months to six years of age who had a visit with a PCP who were continuously enrolled during the measurement year. For children ages seven to 11 years of age and adolescents 12 to 19 years of age, the measure assessed the percentage of children and adolescents who were continuously enrolled during the measurement year and the year prior to the measurement year who had a visit with a PCP during the measurement year or the year prior to the measurement year.

### **Adults' Access to Preventive/Ambulatory Health Services**

This measure assessed the percentage of enrollees aged 20 to 44 years of age, 45 to 64 years of age, and 65 years of age and older who had an ambulatory or preventive care visit during the measurement year.

### **Adult Body Mass Index (BMI) Assessment**

This measure assessed the percentage of enrollees 18-74 years of age who had an outpatient visit and who had their BMI documented during the measurement year or the year prior to the measurement year.

### **Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life**

This measure assessed the percentage of enrollees who turned 15 months old during the measurement year, who were continuously enrolled from 31 days of age through 15 months of age who received six or more well-child visits with a PCP during their first 15 months of life.

### **Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life**

This measure assessed the percentage of enrollees who were three, four, five, or six years of age during the measurement year, who were continuously enrolled during the measurement year and received one or more well-child visits with a PCP during the measurement year.

### **Adolescent Well-Care Visits**

This measure assessed the percentage of enrollees between 12 and 21 years of age, who were continuously enrolled during the measurement year and who received one or more well-care visits with a PCP or Obstetrician/Gynecologist (OG/GYN) during the measurement year.

### **Immunizations for Adolescents**

This measure assessed 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 13<sup>th</sup> birthday. The measure calculates a rate for each vaccine and one combination rate.

### **Human Papillomavirus Vaccine for Female Adolescents**

This measure assessed the percentage of female adolescents 13 years of age who had three doses of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine by their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### **Childhood Immunization Status**

This measure assessed the percentage of children who turned two years of age in the measurement year who were continuously enrolled for the 12 months preceding their second birthday and who received one or both of two immunization combinations on or before their second birthday. Separate rate were calculated for each Combination. Combination 2 and 3 consists of the following immunizations:

- (4) Diphtheria and Tetanus, and Pertussis Vaccine/Diphtheria and Tetanus (DTaP/DT)
- (3) Injectable Polio Vaccine (IPV)
- (1) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)
- (3) Haemophilus Influenza Type B (HiB)
- (3) Hepatitis B (HepB)
- (1) Chicken Pox (VZV)
- (4) Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine – Combination 3 only

### **Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children/Adolescents**

This measure assessed the percentage of children three to 17 years of age who had an outpatient visit with a PCP or OB/GYN and who had evidence of BMI percentile documentation, counseling for nutrition, and counseling for physical activity during the measurement year. Because BMI norms for youth vary with age and gender, this measure evaluates whether BMI percentile is assessed rather than an absolute BMI value.

### **Lead Screening in Children**

This measure assessed the percentage of children two years of age who had one or more capillary or venous lead blood tests for lead poisoning by their second birthday.

### **Annual Dental Visit**

This measure assessed the percentage of children and adolescents between the ages of two and 21 years of age who were continuously enrolled in the MCO for the measurement year who had a dental visit during the measurement year.

### **Breast Cancer Screening**

This measure assessed the percentage of women ages 52 to 74 years who were continuously enrolled in the measurement year and the year prior to the measurement year that had a mammogram in either of those years.

### **Cervical Cancer Screening**

This measure assessed the percentage of women 21-64 years of age who were screened for cervical cancer using either of the following criteria:

- Women age 21-64 who had cervical cytology performed every 3 years.
- Women age 30-64 who had cervical cytology/human papillomavirus (HPV) co-testing performed every 5 years.

## **Chlamydia Screening in Women**

This measure assessed the percentage of women 16 to 24 years of age, who were continuously enrolled in the measurement year, who had at least one test for Chlamydia during the measurement year. Two age stratifications (16-20 years and 21-24 years) and a total rate are reported.

## **Prenatal and Postpartum Care**

This measure assessed the percentage of women who delivered a live birth between November 6 of the year prior to the measurement year and November 5 of the measurement year, who were enrolled for at least 43 days prior to delivery and 56 days after delivery who received timely prenatal care and who had a postpartum visit between 21 and 56 days after their delivery. Timely prenatal care is defined as care initiated in the first trimester or within 42 days of enrollment in the MCO.

## **Frequency of Ongoing Prenatal Care**

This measure assessed the percentage of women who delivered a live birth between November 6 of the year prior to the measurement year and November 5 of the measurement year, who were enrolled for at least 43 days prior to delivery and 56 days after delivery who had  $\geq 61\%$  or  $\geq 81\%$  of the expected prenatal visits during their pregnancy. Expected visits are defined with reference to the month of pregnancy at the time of enrollment and the gestational age at time of delivery. This measure uses the same denominator and deliveries as the Prenatal and Postpartum Care measure.

## **Appropriate Testing for Children with Pharyngitis**

This measure assessed the percentage of children two to 18 years of age who were diagnosed with Pharyngitis, dispensed an antibiotic, and received a group A streptococcus (strep) test for the episode. A higher rate represents better performance (i.e., appropriate testing).

## **Appropriate Treatment for Children with Upper Respiratory Infection**

This measure assessed the percentage of children three months to 18 years of age who were given a diagnosis of upper respiratory infection (URI) and were not dispensed an antibiotic prescription. A higher rate indicates appropriate treatment of children with URI (i.e., the proportion for whom antibiotics were not prescribed).

## **Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis**

This measure assessed the percentage of adults 18 to 64 years of age with a diagnosis of acute bronchitis who were not dispensed an antibiotic prescription. A higher rate indicates appropriate treatment of adults with acute bronchitis (i.e., the proportion for whom antibiotics were not prescribed).

## **Use of Spirometry Testing in the Assessment and Diagnosis of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)**

This measure assessed the percentage of members 40 years of age and older with a new diagnosis or newly active COPD who received appropriate spirometry testing to confirm the diagnosis.

## **Pharmacotherapy Management of COPD Exacerbation**

This measure assessed the percentage of COPD exacerbations for members 40 years of age and older who had an acute inpatient discharge or ED encounter between January 1 through November 30 of the measurement year and who were dispensed appropriate medications. Two rates are reported: 1) Dispensed a systemic corticosteroid within 14 days of the event, and 2) dispensed a bronchodilator within 30 days of the event.

## **Follow-up Care for Children Prescribed Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Medication**

This measure assessed the percentage of children newly prescribed attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) medication that had at least three follow-up care visits within a 10-month period, one of which was within 30 days from the time the first ADHD medication was dispensed. Two rates are reported.

Initiation Phase: The percentage of children 6 to 12 years of age as of the Index Prescription Start Date (IPSD) with an ambulatory prescription dispensed for ADHD medication that had one follow-up visit with a practitioner with prescribing authority during the 30-day Initiation Phase.

Continuation and Maintenance (C&M) Phase: The percentage of children 6 to 12 years of age as of the IPSD with an ambulatory prescription dispensed for ADHD medication, that remained on the medication for at least 210 days and, in addition to the visit in the Initiation Phase, had at least two follow-up visits with a practitioner with prescribing authority within 270 days (9 months) after the Initiation Phase ended.

## **Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma**

This measure assessed the percentage of members age five to 64 years during the measurement year continuously enrolled in the measurement year and the year prior to the measurement year who were identified as having persistent asthma and who were appropriately prescribed medication during the measurement year.

## **Medication Management for People with Asthma**

This measure assessed the percentage of members age five to 64 years during the measurement year who were identified as having persistent asthma and were dispensed appropriate medications that they remained on during the treatment period. One rate is reported: the percentage of members who remained on an asthma controller medication for at least 75% of their treatment period.

## **Comprehensive Diabetes Care**

This measure assessed the percentage of members 18 to 75 years of age who were diagnosed prior to or during the measurement year with diabetes type 1 and type 2, who were continuously enrolled during the measurement year and who had each of the following:

- Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) tested
- HbA1c Poor Control (<9.0%)
- HbA1c Control (<8.0%)
- HbA1c Good Control (<7.0%)
- Retinal eye exam performed
- Medical attention for Nephropathy
- Blood pressure control (<140/90 mm Hg)

For the HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%) measure, lower rates indicate better performance.

## **Controlling High Blood Pressure**

This measure assessed the percentage of members 18-85 years of age who had a diagnosis of hypertension (HTN) and whose BP was adequately controlled during the measurement year based on the following criteria:

- Members 18-59 years of age whose BP was <140/90 mm Hg.
- Members 60-85 years of age with a diagnosis of diabetes whose BP was <140/90 mm Hg.
- Members 60-85 years of age without a diagnosis of diabetes whose BP was <150/90 mm Hg.

For this measure, a single rate, the sum of all three groups, is reported.

## **Persistence of Beta-Blocker Treatment After a Heart Attack**

This measure assessed the percentage of enrollees 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 acute myocardial infarction (AMI) and who received persistent beta-blocker treatment. MCOs report the percentage of enrollees who receive treatment with beta-blockers for six months (180 days) after discharge.

## **Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals with Schizophrenia**

This measure assessed the percentage of members 19-64 years of age during the measurement year with schizophrenia who were dispensed and remained on an antipsychotic medication for at least 80% of their treatment period.

## **Non-Recommended Cervical Cancer Screening in Adolescent Females (New for 2015)**

This measure assessed the percentage of adolescent females 16-20 years to age who were screened unnecessarily for cervical cancer. For this measure, a lower rate indicates better performance.

## **CAHPS® Survey**

The Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) program is overseen by the Agency of Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and includes many survey products designed to capture consumer and patient perspectives on health care quality. NCQA uses the adult and child versions of the CAHPS Health Plan Surveys for HEDIS.

## **Implementation of PA-Specific Performance Measures and HEDIS Audit**

The MCO successfully implemented all of the PA-specific measures for 2015 that were reported with MCO-submitted data. The MCO submitted all required source code and data for review. IPRO reviewed the source code and validated raw data submitted by the MCO. All rates submitted by the MCO were reportable. Rate calculations were collected via rate sheets and reviewed for all of the PA-specific measures. As previously indicated, for three PA Birth-related performance measures IPRO utilized the MCO Birth files in addition to the 2014 Department of Health Birth File to identify the denominator, numerator and rate for the Birth-related measures.

One measure required additional validation during the review year for AHNE. Upon review of rates for the Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions (RPR) measure, the 2015 and 2014 rates for an affiliated MCO, Keystone First (KF), had been identified as outliers, with a notable increase beginning in 2014 and continuing in 2015. Higher rates indicate poorer performance on this measure. DHS and IPRO reviewed the validation process; no apparent issues were observed. DHS requested that IPRO work with the MCO to identify issues and re-examine the data. As this measure uses components of the HEDIS Inpatient Utilization (IPU) measure, IPU is a useful comparative measure to evaluate internal consistency of reporting at the MCO, allowing for some differences in criteria. IPRO conducted comparative analyses of RPR and IPU for all MCOs, which confirmed some anomalies for KF. The MCO proposed reasons for the rate changes: 1) inclusion of fee-for-service claims from the state that should not have been considered inpatient stays, 2) issues with how the MCO's vendor created the denominator for the measure (re-admissions that should not be counted as admissions in the denominator and newborns counted as an admission when the mother was counted as an admission). As AHNE utilizes the same processes as KF, it was discovered that the issue regarding the creation of the denominator impacted AHNE as well for 2015, AHNE's first reporting year for the measure. The MCO applied a step-by-step approach to correct the issues, and IPRO validated the data at each step. The 2015 RPR data presented for AHNE are the data finalized at the end of the process. The validation process will be enhanced in 2016 to include comparative analyses of RPR and IPU for all MCOs.

IPRO validated the medical record abstraction of the three PA-specific hybrid measures consistent with the protocol used for a HEDIS audit. The validation process includes a MRR process evaluation and review of the MCO's MRR tools and instruction materials. This review ensures that the MCO's MRR process was executed as planned and the abstraction results are accurate. A random sample of 16 records from each selected indicator across the three measures

was evaluated. The indicators were selected for validation based on preliminary rates observed upon the MCO's completion of abstraction. The MCO passed MRR Validation for the Prenatal Screening for Smoking and Treatment Discussion during a Prenatal Visit, the Perinatal Depression Screening, and the Maternity Risk Factor Assessment measures.

The MCO successfully completed the HEDIS audit. The MCO received an Audit Designation of Report for all applicable measures. Given the effective date of 3/1/13 for AHNE, the MCO did not have sufficient HealthChoices data for HEDIS measures that require two full years of continuous enrollment (MY 2013 and MY 2014). AHNE reported as expected for measures where the continuous enrollment specification allowed for and included an applicable portion of MY 2013; AHNE reported rates for applicable measures in which they identified denominators greater than or equal to 30, and indicated 'NA' for measures in which their denominators were fewer than 30. AHNE did not report for measures where two full years of enrollment were required.

## Findings

MCO results are presented in Tables 3.2 through 3.11. For each measure, the denominator, numerator, and measurement year rates with 95% upper and lower confidence intervals (95% CI) are presented. Confidence intervals are ranges of values that can be used to illustrate the variability associated with a given calculation. For any rate, a 95% confidence interval indicates that there is a 95% probability that the calculated rate, if it were measured repeatedly, would fall within the range of values presented for that rate. All other things being equal, if any given rate were calculated 100 times, the calculated rate would fall within the confidence interval 95 times, or 95% of the time.

Rates for both the measurement year and the previous year are presented, as available [i.e., 2015 (MY 2014) and 2014 (MY 2013)]. In addition, statistical comparisons are made between the 2015 and 2014 rates. For these year-to-year comparisons, the significance of the difference between two independent proportions was determined by calculating the z-ratio. A z-ratio is a statistical measure that quantifies the difference between two percentages when they come from two separate populations. For comparison of 2015 rates to 2014 rates, statistically significant increases are indicated by "+", statistically significant decreases by "-", and no statistically significant change by "n.s.". Because 2015 is the first reporting year for AHNE and prior year rates are unavailable, "NA" (Not Applicable), is indicated for the year-to-year comparisons.

In addition to each individual MCO's rate, the MMC average for 2014 (MY 2013) is presented. The MMC average is a weighted average, which is an average that takes into account the proportional relevance of each MCO. Each table also presents the significance of difference between the plan's measurement year rate and the MMC average for the same year. For comparison of 2014 rates to MMC rates, the "+" symbol denotes that the plan rate exceeds the MMC rate; the "-" symbol denotes that the MMC rate exceeds the plan rate and "n.s." denotes no statistically significant difference between the two rates. Rates for the HEDIS measures were compared to corresponding Medicaid percentiles; comparison results are provided in the tables. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is the benchmark for the HEDIS measures.

Note that the large denominator sizes for many of the analyses led to increased statistical power, and thus contributed to detecting statistical differences that are not clinically meaningful. For example, even a 1-percentage point difference between two rates was statistically significant in many cases, although not meaningful. Hence, results corresponding to each table highlight only differences that are both statistically significant, and display at least a 3-percentage point difference in observed rates. It should also be mentioned that when the denominator sizes are small, even relatively large differences in rates may not yield statistical significance due to reduced power; if statistical significance is not achieved, results will not be highlighted in the report. Differences are also not discussed if the denominator was less than 30 for a particular rate, in which case, "NA" (Not Applicable) appears in the corresponding cells. However, "NA" (Not Available) also appears in the cells under the HEDIS 2015 percentile column for PA-specific measures that do not have HEDIS percentiles to compare.

The tables below show rates up to one decimal place. Calculations to determine differences between rates are based upon unrounded rates. Due to rounding, differences in rates that are reported in the narrative may differ slightly from the difference between the rates as presented in the table.

## Access to/Availability of Care

There were no strengths or opportunities for improvement identified for AHNE's 2015 (MY 2014) Access/Availability of Care performance measures.

Table 3.2: Access to Care

Indicator Source	Indicator	2015 (MY 2014)					2015 (MY 2014) Rate Comparison				
		Denom	Num	Rate	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit	2014 (MY2013) Rate	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	MMC	2015 Rate Compared to MMC	HEDIS 2015 Percentile
HEDIS	Children and Adolescents' Access to PCPs (Age 12 24 Months)	1,917	1,868	97.4%	96.7%	98.2%	NA	NA	97.0%	n.s.	≥ 75th and < 90th percentile
HEDIS	Children and Adolescents' Access to PCPs (Age 25 Months 6 Years)	7,376	6,659	90.3%	89.6%	91.0%	NA	NA	88.6%	+	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	Children and Adolescents' Access to PCPs (Age 7 11 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	91.9%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Children and Adolescents' Access to PCPs (Age 12 19 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	90.1%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Adults' Access to Preventive/ Ambulatory Health Services (Age 20 44 Years)	8,894	7,550	84.9%	84.1%	85.6%	NA	NA	83.2%	+	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	Adults' Access to Preventive/ Ambulatory Health Services (Age 45 64 Years)	4,604	4,185	90.9%	90.1%	91.7%	NA	NA	91.2%	n.s.	≥ 75th and < 90th percentile
HEDIS	Adults' Access to Preventive/ Ambulatory Health Services (Age 65+ Years)	140	123	87.9%	82.1%	93.6%	NA	NA	87.2%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	Adult BMI Assessment (Ages 18 74 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	83.0%	NA	NA

## Well-Care Visits and Immunizations

There were no strengths noted for the 2015 (MY 2014) Well-Care Visits and Immunizations performance measures.

The following opportunities for improvement were identified for the 2015 (MY 2014) Well-Care Visits and Immunizations performance measures.

- Four Well-Care Visit and Immunizations measures for AHNE's 2015 rates were statistically significantly below the MMC weighted averages.
  - Body Mass Index: Percentile (Age 3 - 11 years) – 12.0 percentage points
  - Body Mass Index: Percentile (Age 12-17 years) – 11.3 percentage points
  - Body Mass Index: Percentile (Total) – 11.7 percentage points
  - Immunization for Adolescents (Combo 1) – 6.3 percentage points

Table 3.3: Well-Care Visits and Immunizations

Indicator Source	Indicator	2015 (MY 2014)					2015 (MY 2014) Rate Comparison				
		Denom	Num	Rate	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit	2014 (MY2013) Rate	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	MMC	2015 Rate Compared to MMC	HEDIS 2015 Percentile
HEDIS	Well Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life (≥ 6 Visits)	432	266	61.6%	56.9%	66.3%	NA	NA	65.2%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	Well Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life (Age 3 to 6 Years)	366	283	77.3%	72.9%	81.7%	NA	NA	76.4%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	Childhood Immunization Status (Combination 2)	432	328	75.9%	71.8%	80.1%	NA	NA	75.8%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	Childhood Immunization Status (Combination 3)	432	303	70.1%	65.7%	74.6%	NA	NA	72.6%	n.s.	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile
HEDIS	Adolescent Well Care Visits (Age 12 to 21 Years)	432	255	59.0%	54.3%	63.8%	NA	NA	58.7%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	WCC Body Mass Index: Percentile (Age 3 11 Years)	285	161	56.5%	50.6%	62.4%	NA	NA	68.5%	-	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile
HEDIS	WCC Body Mass Index: Percentile (Age 12 17 Years)	147	85	57.8%	49.5%	66.1%	NA	NA	69.1%	-	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile
HEDIS	WCC Body Mass Index: Percentile (Total)	432	246	56.9%	52.2%	61.7%	NA	NA	68.7%	-	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile
HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Nutrition (Age 3 11 Years)	285	208	73.0%	67.7%	78.3%	NA	NA	70.2%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile

HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Nutrition (Age 12-17 Years)	147	101	68.7%	60.9%	76.5%	NA	NA	64.6%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Nutrition (Total)	432	309	71.5%	67.2%	75.9%	NA	NA	68.2%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Physical Activity (Age 3-11 Years)	285	190	66.7%	61.0%	72.3%	NA	NA	61.9%	n.s.	≥ 75th and < 90th percentile
HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Physical Activity (Age 12-17 Years)	147	97	66.0%	58.0%	74.0%	NA	NA	62.1%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	WCC Counseling for Physical Activity (Total)	432	287	66.4%	61.9%	71.0%	NA	NA	62.0%	n.s.	≥ 75th and < 90th percentile
HEDIS	Immunizations for Adolescents (Combination 1)	404	306	75.7%	71.4%	80.0%	NA	NA	82.0%	-	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile

## EPSDT: Screenings and Follow-up

The following strengths were identified for 2015 (MY 2014) for EPSDT: Screenings and Follow-up performance measures:

- AHNE's rates for the following three EPSDT Screenings and Follow-up measures were statistically significantly above the 2015 MMC weighted averages:
  - Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life: Total – 3.4 percentage points
  - Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life: 2 years – 3.6 percentage points
  - Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life: 3 years – 5.1 percentage points

There were no opportunities for improvement identified for EPSDT: Screenings and Follow-up performance measures for 2015 (MY 2014).

Table 3.4: EPSDT: Screenings and Follow-up

Indicator Source	Indicator	2015 (MY 2014)					2015 (MY 2014) Rate Comparison				
		Denom	Num	Rate	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit	2014 (MY2013) Rate	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	MMC	2015 Rate Compared to MMC	HEDIS 2015 Percentile
HEDIS	Lead Screening in Children	432	335	77.5%	73.5%	81.6%	NA	NA	77.2%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	Follow up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication Initiation Phase	187	50	26.7%	20.1%	33.3%	NA	NA	25.0%	n.s.	≥ 10th and < 25th percentile
HEDIS	Follow up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication Continuation Phase	58	13	22.4%	10.8%	34.0%	NA	NA	27.1%	n.s.	< 10th percentile
PA EQR	Follow up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication (BH Enhanced) Initiation Phase	187	55	29.4%	22.6%	36.2%	NA	NA	26.2%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Follow up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication (BH Enhanced) Continuation Phase	55	14	25.5%	13.0%	37.9%	NA	NA	32.3%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	EPSDT Hearing Test (Age 4-20 Years)	19,814	8,543	43.1%	42.4%	43.8%	NA	NA	40.4%	+	NA
PA EQR	EPSDT Vision Test (Age 4-20 Years)	19,814	8,471	42.8%	42.1%	43.4%	NA	NA	40.7%	+	NA
PA EQR	Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life Total <sup>1</sup>	3,932	1,981	50.4%	48.8%	52.0%	NA	NA	47.0%	+	NA
PA EQR	Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life 1 year <sup>1</sup>	1,494	674	45.1%	42.6%	47.7%	NA	NA	42.6%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life 2 years <sup>1</sup>	1,244	677	54.4%	51.6%	57.2%	NA	NA	50.9%	+	NA
PA EQR	Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life 3 years <sup>1</sup>	1,194	630	52.8%	49.9%	55.6%	NA	NA	47.7%	+	NA

<sup>1</sup> Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life was suspended for 2014 (MY 2013). For this measure, the MCO's 2015 (MY 2014) rates were compared against the MCO's 2013 (MY 2012) rates.

## Dental Care for Children and Adults

There were no strengths noted for AHNE's 2015 (MY 2014) Dental Care for Children and Adults performance measures.

Two opportunities for improvement were identified for the 2015 (MY 2014) Dental Care for Children and Adults performance measures.

- The following Dental Care for Children and Adults measures for AHNE’s 2015 rates were statistically significantly below the MMC weighted averages.
  - Annual Dental Visit (Age 2–21 years) – 7.2 percentage points
  - Total Eligibles Receiving Preventive Dental Services – 8.3 percentage points

Table 3.5: EPSDT: Dental Care for Children and Adults

Indicator Source	Indicator	2015 (MY 2014)					2015 (MY 2014) Rate Comparison				
		Denom	Num	Rate	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit	2014 (MY2013) Rate	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	MMC	2015 Rate Compared to MMC	HEDIS 2015 Percentile
HEDIS	Annual Dental Visit	24,798	12,659	51.0%	50.4%	51.7%	NA	NA	58.2%	-	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile
PA EQR	Total Eligibles Receiving Preventive Dental Treatment Services	38,332	14,741	38.5%	38.0%	38.9%	NA	NA	46.8%	-	NA
PA EQR	Annual Dental Visits for Members with Developmental Disabilities (Age 2-21 Years)	1,568	747	47.6%	45.1%	50.1%	NA	NA	50.6%	-	NA

## Women’s Health

There were no strengths noted for AHNE’s 2015 (MY 2014) Women’s Health performance measures.

The following opportunities for improvement were identified for the Women’s Health performance measures for 2015 (MY 2014):

- In 2015, AHNE’s rates were statistically significantly below the 2015 MMC weighted averages for the following three measures:
  - Chlamydia Screening in Women (Total) – 13.1 percentage points
  - Chlamydia Screening in Women (Age 16-20 years) – 14.1 percentage points
  - Chlamydia Screening in Women (Age 21-24 years) – 11.5 percentage points

Table 3.6: Women’s Health

Indicator Source	Indicator	2015 (MY 2014)					2015 (MY 2014) Rate Comparison				
		Denom	Num	Rate	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit	2014 (MY2013) Rate	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	MMC	2015 Rate Compared to MMC	HEDIS 2015 Percentile
HEDIS	Breast Cancer Screening (Age 52-74 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	63.3%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Cervical Cancer Screening	426	277	65.0%	60.4%	69.7%	NA	NA	66.1%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	Chlamydia Screening in Women (Total)	2,158	998	46.2%	44.1%	48.4%	NA	NA	59.3%	-	≥ 10th and < 25th percentile
HEDIS	Chlamydia Screening in Women (Age 16-20 Years)	1,325	559	42.2%	39.5%	44.9%	NA	NA	56.3%	-	≥ 10th and < 25th percentile
HEDIS	Chlamydia Screening in Women (Age 21-24 Years)	833	439	52.7%	49.3%	56.2%	NA	NA	64.2%	-	≥ 10th and < 25th percentile
HEDIS	Human Papillomavirus Vaccine for Female Adolescents	432	125	28.9%	24.5%	33.3%	NA	NA	27.9%	n.s.	≥ 75th and < 90th percentile
HEDIS	Non Recommended Cervical Cancer Screening in Adolescent Females	2,373	113	4.8%	3.9%	5.6%	NA	NA	2.6%	+	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile

## Obstetric and Neonatal Care

The following strengths were noted for the 2015 (MY 2014) Obstetric and Neonatal Care performance measures.

- In 2015, AHNE’s rates were statistically significantly higher than the respective 2015 MMC weighted averages for the following nine measures:
  - ≥ 81% of Expected Prenatal Care Visits Received – 7.1 percentage points
  - Prenatal Screening for Smoking – 4.1 percentage points
  - Prenatal Screening for Smoking during one of the first two visits (CHIPRA indicator) – 5.0 percentage points
  - Prenatal Screening for Depression – 5.0 percentage points
  - Prenatal Screening for Depression during one of the first two visits (CHIPRA indicator) – 8.2 percentage points

- Prenatal Screening for Alcohol use – 4.5 percentage points
- Prenatal Screening for Illicit drug use – 6.3 percentage points
- Prenatal Screening for Prescribed or over-the-counter drug use – 7.3 percentage points
- Prenatal Screening for Behavioral Health Risk Assessment – 5.4 percentage points

There were no opportunities for improvement identified for AHNE’s 2015 (MY 2014) Obstetric and Neonatal Care performance measures.

Table 3.7: Obstetric and Neonatal Care

Indicator Source	Indicator	2015 (MY 2014)					2015 (MY 2014) Rate Comparison				
		Denom	Num	Rate	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit	2014 (MY2013) Rate	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	MMC	2015 Rate Compared to MMC	HEDIS 2015 Percentile
HEDIS	≥61% of Expected Prenatal Care Visits Received	431	355	82.4%	78.7%	86.1%	NA	NA	79.6%	n.s.	NA
HEDIS	≥81% of Expected Prenatal Care Visits Received	431	308	71.5%	67.1%	75.8%	NA	NA	64.4%	+	≥ 75th and < 90th percentile
HEDIS	Prenatal and Postpartum Care Timeliness of Prenatal Care	431	361	83.8%	80.2%	87.4%	NA	NA	83.8%	n.s.	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile
HEDIS	Prenatal and Postpartum Care Postpartum Care	431	280	65.0%	60.3%	69.6%	NA	NA	62.2%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Smoking	393	350	89.1%	85.8%	92.3%	NA	NA	84.9%	+	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Smoking during one of the first two visits (CHIPRA indicator)	393	350	89.1%	85.8%	92.3%	NA	NA	84.1%	+	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Environmental Tobacco Smoke Exposure	393	146	37.2%	32.2%	42.1%	NA	NA	35.9%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Counseling for Smoking	171	134	78.4%	71.9%	84.8%	NA	NA	74.7%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Counseling for Environmental Tobacco Smoke Exposure	78	43	55.1%	43.4%	66.8%	NA	NA	51.3%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Smoking Cessation	171	12	7.0%	2.9%	11.1%	NA	NA	8.8%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Depression	393	292	74.3%	69.9%	78.7%	NA	NA	69.3%	+	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Depression during one of the first two visits (CHIPRA indicator)	393	283	72.0%	67.4%	76.6%	NA	NA	63.8%	+	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening Positive for Depression	292	43	14.7%	10.5%	19.0%	NA	NA	18.6%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Counseling for Depression	43	33	76.7%	63.0%	90.5%	NA	NA	72.1%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Postpartum Screening for Depression	266	192	72.2%	66.6%	77.8%	NA	NA	74.4%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Postpartum Screening Positive for Depression	192	26	13.5%	8.4%	18.6%	NA	NA	14.7%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Postpartum Counseling for Depression	26	25	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	85.8%	NA	NA
PA EQR	Cesarean Rate for Nulliparous Singleton Vertex	449	117	26.1%	21.9%	30.2%	NA	NA	23.0%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Percent of Live Births Weighing Less than 2,500 Grams (Positive)	1,966	194	9.9%	8.5%	11.2%	NA	NA	9.5%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Alcohol use	393	332	84.5%	80.8%	88.2%	NA	NA	80.0%	+	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Illicit drug use	393	339	86.3%	82.7%	89.8%	NA	NA	80.0%	+	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Prescribed or over the counter drug use	393	344	87.5%	84.1%	90.9%	NA	NA	80.2%	+	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Intimate partner violence	393	226	57.5%	52.5%	62.5%	NA	NA	54.6%	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Prenatal Screening for Behavioral Health Risk Assessment	393	185	47.1%	42.0%	52.1%	NA	NA	41.7%	+	NA
PA EQR	Elective Delivery <sup>1,2</sup>	480	71	14.8%	11.5%	18.1%	NA	NA	11.5%	+	NA

<sup>1</sup> For the Elective Delivery measure, lower rate indicates better performance.

<sup>2</sup> Rates for this measure were not presented in the 2014 EQR report, as it was the first year of implementation, and was calculated utilizing an alternative data source. Data for this measure are presented for informational purposes, and are not included in the identification of strengths/opportunities for 2015.

## Respiratory Conditions

The following strengths were noted for the 2015 (MY 2014) Respiratory Conditions performance measures:

- AHNE's 2015 rates were statistically significantly below (better than) the MMC weighted averages for the following five measures:
  - Annual Number of Asthma Patients (Age 2-20 years) with One or More Asthma Related ER Visit – 3.5 percentage points
  - Asthma in Younger Adults Admission Rate (Age 18-39 years) – 0.64 admissions per 100,000 member years
  - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease or Asthma in Older Adults Admission Rate (Age 40+ years) – 2.11 admissions per 100,000 member years

The following opportunities were noted for the 2015 (MY 2014) Respiratory Conditions performance measures:

- Appropriate Treatment for Children with Upper Respiratory Infection – 3.3 percentage points
- Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis – 9.4 percentage points

Table 3.8: Respiratory Conditions

Indicator Source	Indicator	2015 (MY 2014)					2015 (MY 2014) Rate Comparison				
		Denom	Num	Rate	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit	2014 (MY2013) Rate	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	MMC	2015 Rate Compared to MMC	HEDIS 2015 Percentile
HEDIS	Appropriate Testing for Children with Pharyngitis	1,371	904	65.9%	63.4%	68.5%	NA	NA	68.4%	n.s.	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile
HEDIS	Appropriate Treatment for Children with Upper Respiratory Infection <sup>1</sup>	2,900	428	85.2%	83.9%	86.5%	NA	NA	88.6%	-	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile
HEDIS	Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis <sup>2</sup>	420	344	18.1%	14.3%	21.9%	NA	NA	27.5%	-	< 10th percentile
HEDIS	Use of Spirometry Testing in the Assessment and Diagnosis of COPD	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	29.8%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Pharmacotherapy Management of COPD Exacerbation Systemic Corticosteroid	170	127	74.7%	67.9%	81.5%	NA	NA	76.3%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	Pharmacotherapy Management of COPD Exacerbation Bronchodilator	170	144	84.7%	79.0%	90.4%	NA	NA	87.6%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma (Age 5 11 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	91.7%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma (Age 12 18 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	87.6%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma (Age 19 50 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	77.8%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma (Age 51 64 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	75.6%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma (Age 5 64 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	85.3%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Medication Management for People with Asthma 75% Compliance (Age 5 11 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	34.0%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Medication Management for People with Asthma 75% Compliance (Age 12 18 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	33.7%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Medication Management for People with Asthma 75% Compliance (Age 19 50 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	43.8%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Medication Management for People with Asthma 75% Compliance (Age 51 64 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	58.8%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Medication Management for People with Asthma 75% Compliance (Age 5 64 Years)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	38.6%	NA	NA

PA EQR	Annual Percentage of Asthma Patients (Age 2-20 Years) with One or More Asthma Related ER Visit <sup>3</sup>	3,322	317	9.5%	8.5%	10.6%	NA	NA	13.1%	-	NA
PA EQR	Asthma in Younger Adults Admission Rate (Age 18-39 years)	186,623	13	0.58	0.26	0.90	NA	NA	1.22	-	NA
PA EQR	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) or Asthma in Older Adults Admission Rate (40+ years) <sup>4</sup>	102,970	91	7.36	5.85	8.88	NA	NA	9.47	-	NA

<sup>1</sup> Per NCQA, a higher rate indicates appropriate treatment of children with URI (i.e., the proportion for whom antibiotics were not prescribed).

<sup>2</sup> Per NCQA, a higher rate indicates appropriate treatment of adults with acute bronchitis (i.e., the proportion for whom antibiotics were not prescribed).

<sup>3</sup> For Emergency Department Encounter Rate for Asthma, lower rates indicate better performance.

<sup>4</sup> For the Adult Admission Rate measures, lower rates indicate better performance.

## Comprehensive Diabetes Care

One strength was noted for Comprehensive Diabetes Care performance measures for 2015 (MY 2014).

- AHNE's 2015 rate for the Blood Pressure Controlled <140/90 mm Hg measure was statistically significantly above the 2015 MMC weighted average by 8.6 percentage points.

Two opportunities for improvement were identified for Comprehensive Diabetes Care performance measures for 2015 (MY 2014).

- AHNE's 2015 rates were statistically significantly below the MMC weighted averages for the following two measures:
  - Retinal Eye Exam – 10.0 percentage points
  - Medical Attention for Nephropathy – 6.1 percentage points

Table 3.9: Comprehensive Diabetes Care

Indicator Source	Indicator	2015 (MY 2014)					2015 (MY 2014) Rate Comparison				
		Denom	Num	Rate	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit	2014 (MY2013) Rate	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	MMC	2015 Rate Compared to MMC	HEDIS 2015 Percentile
HEDIS	Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Testing	576	489	84.9%	81.9%	87.9%	NA	NA	85.5%	n.s.	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile
HEDIS	HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%) <sup>1</sup>	576	232	40.3%	36.2%	44.4%	NA	NA	38.1%	n.s.	≥ 50th and < 75th percentile
HEDIS	HbA1c Control (<8.0%)	576	274	47.6%	43.4%	51.7%	NA	NA	51.2%	n.s.	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile
HEDIS	HbA1c Good Control (<7.0%)	432	150	34.7%	30.1%	39.3%	NA	NA	36.9%	n.s.	≥ 25th and < 50th percentile
HEDIS	Retinal Eye Exam	576	266	46.2%	42.0%	50.3%	NA	NA	56.2%	-	≥ 10th and < 25th percentile
HEDIS	Medical Attention for Nephropathy	576	442	76.7%	73.2%	80.3%	NA	NA	82.9%	-	≥ 10th and < 25th percentile
HEDIS	Blood Pressure Controlled <140/90 mm Hg	576	424	73.6%	69.9%	77.3%	NA	NA	65.0%	+	≥ 75th and < 90th percentile
PA EQR	Diabetes Short Term Complications Admission Rate <sup>2</sup> (Age 18-64 Years) per 100,000 member years	286,766	56	1.63	1.20	2.05	NA	NA	1.96	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Diabetes Short Term Complications Admission Rate <sup>2</sup> (Age 65+ Years) per 100,000 member years	2,827	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	NA	NA	0.40	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Diabetes Short Term Complications Admission Rate <sup>2</sup> (Total Age 18+ Years) per 100,000 member years	289,593	56	1.61	1.19	2.03	NA	NA	1.94	n.s.	NA

<sup>1</sup> For HbA1c Poor Control, lower rates indicate better performance.

<sup>2</sup> For the Adult Admission Rate measures, lower rates indicate better performance.

## Cardiovascular Care

Three strengths were noted for Cardiovascular Care performance measures for 2015 (MY 2014).

- AHNE's 2015 rate for the Controlling High Blood Pressure (Total Rate) measure was statistically significantly above the 2015 MMC weighted average by 9.4 percentage points.
- AHNE's 2015 rates were statistically significantly below (better than) the MMC weighted averages for the following two measures:

- Heart Failure Admission Rate (Age 18-64 years) – 0.70 admissions per 100,000 member years
- Heart Failure Admission Rate (Total Age 18+ years) – 0.68 admissions per 100,000 member years

There were no opportunities for improvement identified for AHNE’s 2015 (MY 2014) Cardiovascular Care performance measures.

**Table 3.10: Cardiovascular Care**

Indicator Source	Indicator	2015 (MY 2014)					2015 (MY 2014) Rate Comparison				
		Denom	Num	Rate	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit	2014 (MY2013) Rate	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	MMC	2015 Rate Compared to MMC	HEDIS 2015 Percentile
HEDIS	Persistence of Beta Blocker Treatment After Heart Attack	27	24	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	89.5%	NA	NA
HEDIS	Controlling High Blood Pressure (Total Rate)	452	321	71.0%	66.7%	75.3%	NA	NA	61.6%	+	≥ 90th percentile
PA EQR	Heart Failure Admission Rate <sup>1</sup> (Age 18-64 Years) per 100,000 member years	286,766	36	1.05	0.70	1.39	NA	NA	1.74	-	NA
PA EQR	Heart Failure Admission Rate <sup>1</sup> (Age 65+ Years) per 100,000 member years	2,827	2	5.90	0.00	14.07	NA	NA	4.61	n.s.	NA
PA EQR	Heart Failure Admission Rate <sup>1</sup> (Total Age 18+ Years) per 100,000 member years	289,593	38	1.09	0.75	1.44	NA	NA	1.78	-	NA

<sup>1</sup> For the Adult Admission Rate measures, lower rates indicate better performance

## Utilization

There were no strengths or opportunities for improvement noted for AHNE’s 2015 (MY 2014) Utilization performance measures.

**Table 3.11: Utilization**

Indicator Source	Indicator	2015 (MY 2014)					2015 (MY 2014) Rate Comparison				
		Denom	Num	Rate	Lower 95% Confidence Limit	Upper 95% Confidence Limit	2014 (MY2013) Rate	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	MMC	2015 Rate Compared to MMC	HEDIS 2015 Percentile
PA EQR	Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions <sup>1</sup>	4,788	446	9.3%	8.5%	10.1%	NA	NA	11.6%	-	NA
HEDIS	Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals with Schizophrenia	114	90	78.9%	71.0%	86.9%	NA	NA	71.4%	n.s.	≥ 90th percentile
PA EQR	Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals with Schizophrenia (BH Enhanced)	114	90	78.9%	71.0%	86.9%	NA	NA	71.7%	n.s.	NA

<sup>1</sup> For the Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions measure, lower rates indicate better performance.

# Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) Survey

## Satisfaction with the Experience of Care

The following tables provide the survey results of four composite questions by two specific categories for AHNE for the MCO's first reporting year. Prior year results are unavailable, and indicated by "N/A". The composite questions will target the MCOs performance strengths as well as opportunities for improvement.

Due to differences in the CAHPS submissions from year to year, direct comparisons of results are not always available. Questions that are not included in the most recent survey version are not presented in the tables.

### 2015 Adult CAHPS 5.0H Survey Results

Table 4.1: CAHPS 2015 Adult Survey Results

Survey Section/Measure	2015 (MY 2014)	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	2014 (MY 2013)	2014 Rate Compared to 2013	2013 (MY 2012)	2015 MMC Weighted Average
<b>Your Health Plan</b>						
Satisfaction with Adult's Health Plan (Rating of 8 to 10)	75.16%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	77.96%
Getting Needed Information (Usually or Always)	83.75%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	83.20%
<b>Your Healthcare in the Last Six Months</b>						
Satisfaction with Health Care (Rating of 8-10)	74.61%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	73.31%
Appointment for Routine Care When Needed (Usually or Always)	82.53%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	81.58%

▲ ▼ = Performance compared to prior years' rate  
Shaded boxes reflect rates above the 2015 MMC Weighted Average.

### 2015 Child CAHPS 5.0H Survey Results

Table 4.2: CAHPS 2015 Child Survey Results

CAHPS Items	2015 (MY 2014)	2015 Rate Compared to 2014	2014 (MY 2013)	2014 Rate Compared to 2013	2013 (MY 2012)	2015 MMC Weighted Average
<b>Your Child's Health Plan</b>						
Satisfaction with Child's Health Plan (Rating of 8 to 10)	85.59%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	84.38%
Getting Needed Information (Usually or Always)	79.22%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	82.42%
<b>Your Healthcare in the Last Six Months</b>						
Satisfaction with Health Care (Rating of 8-10)	87.76%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	86.13%
Appointment for Routine Care When Needed (Usually or Always)	93.71%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	89.66%

▲ ▼ = Performance compared to prior years' rate  
Shaded boxes reflect rates above the 2015 MMC Weighted Average.

## IV: 2014 Opportunities for Improvement MCO Response

### Current and Proposed Interventions

The general purpose of this section is to assess the degree to which each PH MCO has addressed the opportunities for improvement made by IPRO in the 2014 EQR Technical Reports, which were distributed in April 2015. The 2015 EQR is the seventh to include descriptions of current and proposed interventions from each PH MCO that address the 2014 recommendations.

DHS requested the MCOs to submit descriptions of current and proposed interventions using the Opportunities for Improvement form developed by IPRO to ensure that responses are reported consistently across the MCOs. These activities follow a longitudinal format, and are designed to capture information relating to:

- Follow-up actions that the MCO has taken through September 30, 2015 to address each recommendation;
- Future actions that are planned to address each recommendation;
- When and how future actions will be accomplished;
- The expected outcome or goals of the actions that were taken or will be taken; and
- The MCO's process(es) for monitoring the action to determine the effectiveness of the actions taken.

### Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan

The 2015 EQR is the sixth year MCOs were required to prepare a Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan for measures on the HEDIS 2014 P4P Measure Matrix receiving either "D" or "F" ratings. Each P4P measure in categories "D" and "F" required that the MCO submit:

- A goal statement;
- Root cause analysis and analysis findings;
- Action plan to address findings;
- Implementation dates; and
- A monitoring plan to assure action is effective and to address what will be measured and how often that measurement will occur.

This section is Not Applicable for AHNE for the 2015 EQR. As noted previously, this is the first DHS EQR technical report for AHNE, and the 2014 review period covered in the 2015 EQR represents the first full year of operation for AHNE in HealthChoices. As such, there were no Opportunities for Improvement or Root Cause Analyses identified in 2014 for AHNE.

## V: 2015 Strengths and Opportunities for Improvement

The review of MCO's 2015 performance against structure and operations standards, performance improvement projects and performance measures identified strengths and opportunities for improvement in the quality outcomes, timeliness of, and access to services for Medicaid members served by this MCO.

### Strengths

- AHNE was found to be fully compliant on Subparts C and F of the structure and operations standards.
- The MCO's performance was statistically significantly above/better than the MMC weighted average in 2015 (MY 2014) on the following measures:
  - Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life – (2 years), (3 years), and Total)
  - ≥ 81% of Expected Prenatal Care Visits Received
  - Prenatal Screening for Smoking
  - Prenatal Screening for Smoking during one of the first two visits (CHIPRA indicator)
  - Prenatal Screening for Depression
  - Prenatal Screening for Depression during one of the first two visits (CHIPRA indicator)
  - Prenatal Screening for Alcohol use
  - Prenatal Screening for Illicit drug use
  - Prenatal Screening for Prescribed or over-the-counter drug use
  - Prenatal Screening for Behavioral Health Risk Assessment
  - Annual Number of Asthma Patients (Age 2-20 years) with One or More Asthma Related ER Visit
  - Asthma in Younger Adults Admission Rate (Age 18-39 years)
  - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease or Asthma in Older Adults Admission Rate (Age 40+ years)
  - Blood Pressure Controlled <140/90 mm Hg
  - Controlling High Blood Pressure (Total Rate)
  - Heart Failure Admission Rate (Age 18-64 years) and (Total Age 18+ years)
- The following strengths were noted in 2015 for Adult and Child CAHPS survey items:
  - Of the four Adult CAHPS composite survey items reviewed, AHNE had three items that were higher than the 2015 MMC weighted averages.
  - For AHNE's Child CAHPS, three of the four composite survey items evaluated in 2015 (MY 2014) were above the 2015 MMC weighted averages.

### Opportunities for Improvement

- AHNE was found partially compliant with evaluated structure and operations standards on Subpart D.
- The MCO's performance was statistically significantly below/worse than the MMC rate in 2015 (MY 2014) on the following measures:
  - Body Mass Index: Percentile (Age 3 - 11 years) and (Age 12-17 years)
  - Body Mass Index: Percentile (Total)
  - Immunization for Adolescents (Combo 1)
  - Annual Dental Visit (Age 2–21 years)
  - Total Eligibles Receiving Preventive Dental Services
  - Chlamydia Screening in Women — All Ages (Age 16-20 years, Age 21-24 years, and Total)
  - Appropriate Treatment for Children with Upper Respiratory Infection
  - Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis
  - Retinal Eye Exam
  - Medical Attention for Nephropathy

- The following opportunities were noted in 2015 (MY 2014) for Adult and Child CAHPS survey items:
  - For AHNE Adult CAHPS survey, one survey item showed a lower rate than the 2015 MMC weighted average
  - For AHNE Child CAHPS survey, one survey item showed a lower rate than the 2015 MMC weighted average

Additional targeted opportunities for improvement are found in the MCO-specific HEDIS 2015 P4P Measure Matrix that follows.

## P4P Measure Matrix Report Card

2015

The Pay-for-Performance (P4P) Matrix Report Card provides a comparative look at 7 of the 8 Healthcare Effectiveness Data Information Set (HEDIS®) measures included in the Quality Performance Measures component of the “HealthChoices MCO Pay for Performance Program.”

HEDIS 2015 is the first reporting year for AHNE and prior year rates are unavailable. Therefore, this report card only compares the MCO’s HEDIS 2015 P4P measure rates to the HEDIS 2015 Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) weighted average.

When comparing a MCO’s rate to the MMC weighted average for each respective measure, the MCO rate can be either above average, average or below average. Whether or not a MCO performed above or below average is determined by whether or not that MCO’s 95% confidence interval for the rate included the MMC weighted average for the specific indicator. When noted, the MCO comparative differences represent statistically significant differences from the MMC weighted average.

The report card is color-coded to indicate when a MCO’s performance rates for these P4P measures are notable or whether there is opportunity for improvement:

 The light green box indicates that performance is notable. The MCO’s HEDIS 2015 rate is statistically significantly above or better than the 2015 MMC weighted average.

 The light yellow boxes indicate that the MCO’s HEDIS 2015 rate is not different than the 2015 MMC weighted average. *No action is required although the MCO should identify continued opportunities for improvement.*

 The pink boxes indicate that the MCO’s HEDIS 2015 rate is statistically significantly below the 2015 MMC weighted average. **A root cause analysis and plan of action is required.**

Emergency Department utilization comparisons are presented in a separate table. Statistical comparisons are not made for the Emergency Department Utilization measure. Arithmetic comparisons as noted for this measure represent arithmetic differences only.



## AHNE Key Points

### ■ Performance is notable. No action required although MCOs may have internal goals to improve

Measures statistically significantly above/better than the HEDIS 2015 MMC weighted average are:

- Controlling High Blood Pressure
- Frequency of Ongoing Prenatal Care:  $\geq 81\%$  of Expected Prenatal Care Visits Received
- Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions<sup>2</sup>

AHNE's Emergency Department Utilization<sup>3</sup> was below (better than) the HEDIS 2015 MMC average.

### ■ No action required although MCOs should identify continued opportunities for improvement

Measures that were not statistically significantly different than the HEDIS 2015 MMC weighted average are:

- Adolescent Well-Care Visits
- Comprehensive Diabetes Care: HbA1c Poor Control<sup>4</sup>
- Prenatal and Postpartum Care: Timeliness of Prenatal Care

### ■ Root cause analysis and plan of action required

Measures that were statistically significantly below/worse than the HEDIS 2015 MMC weighted average are:

- Annual Dental Visits

<sup>2</sup> Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions was a first year PA specific performance measure in 2012 (MY 2011). Lower rates are preferable, indicating better performance. This measure was added as a P4P measure in 2013 (MY 2012).

<sup>3</sup> A lower rate, indicating better performance, is preferable for Emergency Department Utilization.

<sup>4</sup> Comprehensive Diabetes Care – HbA1c Poor Control is an inverted measure. Lower rates are preferable, indicating better performance.

Figure 1 - P4P Measure Matrix – AHNE

Medicaid Managed Care Weighted Average Statistical Significance Comparison		
Below Average	Average	Above Average
Annual Dental Visits	Adolescent Well-Care Visits Comprehensive Diabetes Care: HbA1c Poor Control <sup>5</sup> Prenatal and Postpartum Care: Timeliness of Prenatal Care	Controlling High Blood Pressure Frequency of Ongoing Prenatal Care: ≥81% of Expected Prenatal Care Visits Received Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions <sup>6</sup>

Figure 2 - Emergency Department Utilization Comparison

Medicaid Managed Care Average Comparison		
Below/Poorer than Average	Average	Above/Better than Average
		Emergency Department Utilization <sup>7</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Comprehensive Diabetes Care – HbA1c Poor Control is an inverted measure. Lower rates are preferable, indicating better performance.

<sup>6</sup> Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions was a first year PA specific performance measure in 2012 (MY 2011). Lower rates are preferable, indicating better performance. This measure was added as a P4P measure in 2013 (MY 2012).

<sup>7</sup> A lower rate, indicating better performance, is preferable for Emergency Department Utilization

P4P performance measure rates for 2015 are displayed in Figure 3.

Figure 3 - P4P Measure Rates – AHNE

Quality Performance Measure	HEDIS 2015 Rate	HEDIS 2015 MMC WA
Adolescent Well Care Visits (Age 12-21 Years)	59.0%	58.7%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care - HbA1c Poor Control <sup>8</sup>	40.3%	38.1%
Controlling High Blood Pressure	71.0%	61.6%
Frequency of Ongoing Prenatal Care: ≥ 81% of Expected Prenatal Care Visits Received	71.5%	64.4%
Prenatal and Postpartum Care - Timeliness of Prenatal Care	83.8%	83.8%
Annual Dental Visits	51.0%	58.2%
Quality Performance Measure	HEDIS 2015 Rate	HEDIS 2015 MMC AVG
Emergency Department Utilization (Visits/1,000 MM) <sup>9</sup>	73.3	74.0
Quality Performance Measure	PA 2015 Rate	PA 2015 MMC WA
Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions <sup>10</sup>	9.3%	11.6%

<sup>8</sup> Comprehensive Diabetes Care - HbA1c Poor Control is an inverted measure. Lower rates are preferable, indicating better performance.

<sup>9</sup> A lower rate, indicating better performance, is preferable for Emergency Department Utilization.

<sup>10</sup> Reducing Potentially Preventable Readmissions was a first year PA specific performance measure in 2012 (MY 2011). Lower rates are preferable, indicating better performance. This measure was added as a P4P measure in 2013 (MY 2012).

## **VI: Summary of Activities**

### **Structure and Operations Standards**

- AHNE was found to be fully compliant on Subparts C and F and partially compliant on Subpart D. Compliance review findings for AHNE from RY 2014 were used to make the determinations.

### **Performance Improvement Projects**

- As previously noted, activities were conducted with and on behalf of DHS to research, select, and define Performance Improvement Projects (PIPs) for a new validation cycle. AHNE received information related to these activities from DHS in 2015.

### **Performance Measures**

- AHNE reported all HEDIS, PA-Specific and CAHPS Survey performance measures in 2015 for which the MCO had a sufficient denominator.

### **2014 Opportunities for Improvement MCO Response**

- This section is Not Applicable for AHNE for the 2015 EQR.

### **2015 Strengths and Opportunities for Improvement**

- Both strengths and opportunities for improvement have been noted for AHNE in 2015. A response will be required by the MCO for the noted opportunities for improvement in 2016.