



Pediatric Quality Measures Program (PQMP)

Led by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality ([AHRQ](#)) in conjunction with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the [Pediatric Quality Measures Program](#) (PQMP) was established as a part of the 2009 Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) legislation. The two broad goals of the PQMP are to establish a publically available portfolio of evidence-based pediatric quality measures for use by Medicaid/Children’s Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) and other programs, and to provide opportunities to improve and strengthen the [Medicaid/CHIP Child Core Set](#) over time. In 2011, as part of Phase 1, [seven Centers of Excellence \(COEs\)](#) were awarded grants to identify, develop, strengthen, and/or test new and emerging measures of healthcare quality for the PQMP. In 2016, Phase 2 was launched and the Program awarded funding to [six new grantees](#) focusing on the dissemination and implementation of a subset of the PQMP measures in the following diverse focus areas: asthma treatment, sickle cell disease treatment, overuse of imaging for headaches, mental health care in hospital settings, transitions of care, pediatric psychosis, use of antipsychotic medications, depression care, hospital readmissions, pediatric inpatient experience, and oral health. To date, more than 100 measures have been developed. The [Child Core Set](#) is evaluated and updated every year, at which point PQMP measures, as well as other measures, are considered for inclusion.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

AHRQ is an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The mission of AHRQ is to produce evidence to make healthcare safer and higher quality, more accessible, equitable and affordable, and to work with HHS and others to make sure that evidence is understood and used. The Pediatric Quality Measures Program (PQMP) is led by AHRQ in conjunction with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid.

Pediatric Quality Measures Program (PQMP)	
Developer(s)	COEs/grantees awarded funding for measure development and dissemination/implementation
Funder(s)	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Purpose(s)	To develop publicly available evidence-based, new and innovative pediatric health care quality measures across diverse topics; improve and strengthen the Child Core Set of quality measures; and over the long term, contribute to improvements in the quality of care and elimination of child health care disparities.
Target Populations	Pregnant women, new mothers, infants, children, adolescents, and those with special health care needs in the US.
Data Sources	Most of these measures require data to be assembled from existing administrative ‘claims’ data and/or electronic health records. Instructions for assembling data for each measure can be found in the detailed PDFs currently available for many of the PQMP measures.
Technical Measure Descriptions	Technical specifications can be found in the detailed PDFs associated with each PQMP measure. (Currently not available for all measures.)
Number of Measures	Over 100 measures and algorithms have been developed.
Topics of Measurement	PQMP Phase 1 measure development domains include the following: Perinatal Care; Child Clinical Preventive Services; Management of Acute Conditions; Management of Chronic Conditions; Patient-Reported Outcomes (Health Outcomes and Patient Experiences of Care); Duration of Enrollment and Coverage; Availability of Services; Medication Reconciliation PQMP Phase 2 focus areas noted above.
Reporting Requirements	PQMP measures have been included in the Child Core Set and used in additional public and private settings to improve quality of care for children. Beginning in 2024, state reporting on the Child Core Set, which includes PQMP measures, will be required as part of the report to the Secretary of Health and Human Services.
Recommended or Required Stratification	Stratified data may be available depending on the source.
Link to Additional Info	Pediatric Quality Measures Program CHIP/Medicaid Children’s Health Care Quality Measures

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