



Medi-Cal Managed Care Division

state of california



Medi-Cal Managed Care External Quality Review Organization

2007-2008 Annual Report of Performance for Health Plan of San Joaquin

Submitted by
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2007 - 2008 Annual Report: Health Plan of San Joaquin

Introduction

The Medi-Cal Managed Care Division (MMCD) of the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) contracts with managed care plans to provide care to 3.4 million Medi-Cal beneficiaries enrolled in managed care plans in 23 counties throughout California. Healthcare providers within each plan's contracted network provide comprehensive healthcare services—primary and preventive care, as well as the full range of specialty care mandated by federal and state law.

Federal law pertaining to Medicaid managed care programs (42 CFR § 438.240) requires the DHCS to contract with an External Quality Review Organization (EQRO) to independently evaluate the quality of care provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries enrolled in any of California's managed care plans. The DHCS retained the services of the Delmarva Foundation for Medical Care, Inc. (Delmarva) as its EQRO during the period covered by this report to provide this independent evaluation as to whether the care and service delivered meets the federal standards for quality, access, and timeliness. Among the services provided by the EQRO is an annual assessment of each contracted plan's "... quality outcomes and timeliness of, and access to, the items and services for which the organization is responsible under the contract..." as stated in Title 42 of the U.S. Codes.

This annual review is for the reporting years 2007 and 2008, covering performance results and quality improvement activities during 2006 and 2007.

Definitions

The terms quality, access, and timeliness provide the framework for this plan-specific review of Health Plan of San Joaquin ("HPSJ" or "the plan"). Consistency in meaning and use of these key terms are important for a thorough understanding of this report, so definitions are provided below:

- **Quality**, as it pertains to external quality review, is defined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service (CMS) as "the degree to which a Managed Care Organization (MCO) or Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) increases the likelihood of desired health outcomes of its enrollees through its structural and operational characteristics and through the provision of health services that are consistent with current professional knowledge." (CMS, 2008)

- **Access** (or accessibility) to health care, according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), means having "the timely use of personal health services to achieve the best health outcomes. Attaining good access to care requires three discrete steps: gaining entry into the health care system; getting access to sites of care where patients can receive needed services; and, finding providers who meet the needs of individual patients and with whom patients can develop a relationship based on mutual communication and trust." (AHRQ, 2007)
- **Timeliness**, according to AHRQ, is defined as "...the health care system's capacity to provide health care quickly after a need is recognized....Measures of timeliness include waiting time spent in doctors' offices and emergency departments (EDs) and the interval between identifying a need for specific tests and treatments and actually receiving those services." (AHRQ, 2007)

It is important to note that some interdependence exists among the categories (also referred to as "domains") of quality, access, and timeliness. A measure or attribute identified in one of the categories of quality, access, or timeliness may also be noted under one or both of the other two categories throughout this review.

Data Sources

Delmarva used five sets of standards or information sources for the evaluation of performance. Each of the sources listed were used to assess the contracted health plan's ability to provide its members with care that meets the requirements for quality, access, and timeliness:

- The Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®)¹ is a nationally recognized set of performance measures developed by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). These measures are used by health care purchasers to assess the quality, access, and timeliness of care and service provided to members of managed care plans.
- In June 2007, each DHCS health plan submitted its results to Delmarva for the 12 required HEDIS measures, which reflect 16 measurement indicators, since several measures have multiple indicators.² The 2007 HEDIS results reflect data collected for the period January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006.

¹ HEDIS is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA, 2008).

² In 2007 and 2008, the DHCS required plans to report on 12 HEDIS measures. Some of these measures have multiple indicators (such as the *Comprehensive Diabetes Care* measure), so results are presented for the total number of indicators – 16 in 2007 and 23 in 2008. This report refers to the total number of indicators reported as "measures" since a result is reported for each indicator.

- In June 2008, each DHCS health plan submitted its results for the 12 required HEDIS measures, which reflect a total of 23 indicators. The 2008 HEDIS results reflect data collected for the period January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007.³ For a more detailed explanation of HEDIS, see the “Quality Assessment” discussion later under “HEDIS Performance Measures” and Appendix A: HEDIS.
- AHRQ developed the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS®)⁴ surveys to support the assessment of consumers’ experiences with health care. This report utilizes results from the 2007 4.0H Adult Medicaid and the 3.0H Child Medicaid surveys. Delmarva conducted these surveys between February and May 2007. For a more detailed explanation of CAHPS, see Appendix B: CAHPS.
- Summaries of plan-conducted Quality Improvement Projects conducted during the period January 1, 2006, and December 31, 2007.
- The DHCS’s Audits and Investigations Division and the California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) conduct routine medical surveys (audits) to assess compliance with contract requirements and state regulations. Findings from any audits conducted during the period January 1, 2006, and December 31, 2007, will be discussed in this report.
- Grievance and appeal data from contracted plans submitted to the DHCS and reports prepared by Medi-Cal Managed Care Division’s Office of the Ombudsman during 2006 and 2007.

Report Organization

This report provides the plan’s background and discusses each data source within the framework of quality, access, and timeliness. Due to some variations between the measures reported in the 2007 and 2008 HEDIS reports, the results and analysis of this source are presented separately by year. Where appropriate, sustainability of the plan’s performance is discussed. The plan’s performance is compared to other plan models of similar type and other state and national benchmarks. The document concludes with the plan’s overall strengths and recommendations for improving the plan’s quality of care, access to care, and timeliness of care for its members.

³ The annual *Report of the Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans* is produced for the DHCS by the EQRO and includes the measurement results and comparisons of all contracted plans.

⁴ CAHPS is a registered trademark of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ, 2008).

Background

Medi-Cal beneficiaries receive their health care through three models of health care delivery: County Organized Health Systems (COHS), Two-Plan, and Geographic Managed Care (GMC). COHS plans are county-operated managed care organizations. The Two-Plan model consists of (1) Commercial Plans (CPs), which are commercially-operated managed care plans, and (2) Local Initiatives (LIs), which are community-developed managed care plans that operate as quasi-governmental agencies. In a Two-Plan model county, members choose between a CP and an LI. Enrollment is mandatory for specified beneficiaries. In the GMC model, enrollees choose from several commercially-operated plans within a certain geographic area.

Health Plan of San Joaquin (HPSJ) is a full-service health plan, contracted in San Joaquin County as an LI plan. The plan has been licensed in accordance with the provisions of the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act since January 30, 1996. As of December 2007, HPSJ's total Medi-Cal enrollment was 60,119 members.

Quality of Care Assessment

According to the CMS (2008), “[q]uality is how well the health plan keeps its members healthy or treats them when they are sick. Good quality health care means doing the right thing at the right time, in the right way, for the right person and getting the best possible results.” The section that follows describes the measures used to assess HPSJ's healthcare delivery with regard to quality.

HEDIS Performance Measures

Delmarva categorized the HEDIS performance measures used in this report into quality, access, and timeliness areas for assessment. For a more detailed explanation of HEDIS and the specific HEDIS measures used in this report, see Appendix A: HEDIS.

Changes in HEDIS Performance Measures from 2007 to 2008

Health plans reported on 12 measures for the HEDIS 2007 reporting year, which included multiple indicators for *Comprehensive Diabetes Care* and *Prenatal and Postpartum Care* measures. The 2007 reporting year represents the data collection period January through December 2006. The Medi-Cal Managed Care Division (MMCD) made some performance measure changes between 2007 and 2008 reporting years as explained below.

MMCD retired the *Chlamydia Screening in Women* performance measure from the required measurement set. The required HEDIS measures included several other measures focused on women's health screening (*Breast Cancer Screening* and *Cervical Cancer Screening*), and overall plan results for *Chlamydia Screening* had trended upward for a number of years. As a result, MMCD decided to eliminate the *Chlamydia Screening* measure and, instead,

require the *Ambulatory Care* measure in order to focus more on the entire Medi-Cal managed care population, including seniors and persons with disabilities.

The *Ambulatory Care* measure provides utilization information across the whole spectrum of the population – from birth to 85+ years of age. Plus, this measure provides insight regarding emergency room (ER) use, which is an area of particular interest to MMCD because many members use the ER for avoidable visits and, as a result, may not be getting appropriate preventive care and follow-up care for chronic conditions. The *Ambulatory Care* measure consists of four indicators:

- *Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits (Total Visits per 1,000 Member Months)*
- *Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits (Total Visits per 1,000 Member Months)*
- *Ambulatory Care—Ambulatory Surgery/Procedures (Total Procedures per 1,000 Member Months)*
- *Ambulatory Care—Observation Room Stays (Total Stays per 1,000 Member Months)*

Additionally, in order to increase the focus on chronic diseases, MMCD added three more *Comprehensive Diabetes Care* indicators:

- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Good Control (<7.0%)*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%)*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Control (<100mg/dL)*

Comparisons of HEDIS Performance Measures

This report contains several charts displaying HEDIS rates for HPSJ and state and national benchmarks used for assessing plan performance. The plan's multi-year performance is also evaluated.

In some years, MMCD makes changes to the required measures. Moreover, NCQA continually updates the technical specifications for HEDIS measures. Some of the specification changes or a combination of changes can cause a significant change in the results and make comparisons with previous years' rates inappropriate. MMCD does not hold the plan to the Minimum Performance Level (MPL) in the baseline year (the first year a score is reported) and does not compare results to previous years in years when a measure's specifications have changed substantively. For these reasons, rates for measures may be displayed in the charts, but not compared in the narratives.

2007 HEDIS Quality Performance Measures

Table 1 provides HPSJ's 2007 HEDIS results for those measures specifically related to clinical quality of care along with the state's 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted averages⁵ and the 2006 national Medicaid averages for these measures.

Table 1. 2007 HEDIS Quality Measure Results Comparing Health Plan of San Joaquin to State and National Programs.

2007 Quality Measure	2007 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate*	2007 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average*	2006 HEDIS National Medicaid Average*
Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection	78.4%	78.9%	82.5%
Chlamydia Screening in Women	39.2%	52.8%	50.6%
Inappropriate Antibiotic Treatment for Adults With Acute Bronchitis†‡	74.8%	71.0%	69.4%
Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma	84.6%	86.8%	85.7%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed	42.3%	54.1%	48.6%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing	75.4%	79.5%	76.2%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening‡	74.0%	75.9%	80.5%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy‡	72.3%	81.0%	48.8%
Cervical Cancer Screening‡	62.6%	67.9%	65.0%

* Rates obtained from the *Report of the 2007 Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans*.
† For this 2007 measure, a lower rate indicates better performance.
‡ Due to significant changes in technical specifications, MPLs and HPLs had not yet been established for 2007. The rate is displayed for informational purposes only and will not be compared to benchmarks.

HPSJ scored below the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and 2006 national Medicaid average in all five of the comparable HEDIS measures in the quality domain.

2008 HEDIS Quality Performance Measures

Table 2 provides HPSJ's 2008 HEDIS results for those measures specifically related to clinical quality of care along with the state's 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted averages and the 2007 national Medicaid averages for these measures.

⁵ For each measure, a Medi-Cal managed care weighted average has been calculated to provide a comparative statistic. A weighted average, unlike a simple average, accounts for variations in membership across plans.

Table 2. 2008 HEDIS Quality Measure Results Comparing Health Plan of San Joaquin to State and National Programs.

2008 Quality Measure	2008 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate*	2008 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average*	2007 HEDIS National Medicaid Average*
Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection	77.0%	83.1%	83.3%
Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis ^{†‡}	26.3%	28.4%	†
Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma	86.7%	88.8%	87.1%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed	47.4%	58.1%	51.4%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing	80.8%	82.1%	78.0%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Good Control (<7.0%) [‡]	28.5%	32.6%	¶
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%) ^{‡§}	47.2%	42.6%	48.7%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening	78.1%	77.8%	71.1%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Control (<100 mg/dL) [‡]	32.8%	34.2%	30.6%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy	72.3%	78.3%	74.6%
Cervical Cancer Screening	68.1%	68.7%	65.7%

* Rates obtained from the *Report of the 2008 Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans*.
† The 2007 measure was called *Inappropriate Antibiotic Treatment for Adults With Acute Bronchitis*, and a lower score was better. The 2008 measure is called *Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis*, and a higher score is better.
‡ 2008 is the first year MMCD required reporting of this measure. Because MPLs and HPLs had not yet been established, the rate is displayed for informational purposes only and will not be compared to benchmarks.
§ A lower rate for this measure is better as it represents better diabetes control.
¶ NCQA first-year measure in 2008; national benchmark not available in 2007.

In 2008, MMCD retired the *Chlamydia Screening in Women* performance measure from the required measurement set. HPSJ's rates compared to the rates of 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and 2007 national Medicaid average were as follows:

- HPSJ's rates were higher than both benchmark performance rates for *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening*.
- HPSJ scored above the 2007 national Medicaid average, but below the 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average on the following measures:
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
 - *Cervical Cancer Screening*

- HPSJ’s rates for four measures were below the state and national benchmarks:
 - *Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection*
 - *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy*

CAHPS Survey Results Pertaining to Quality

During this reporting period, Delmarva conducted 2007 CAHPS 4.0H Adult Medicaid and 3.0H Child Medicaid surveys among members of Medi-Cal managed care’s contracted health plans. The table reflects survey results for three populations: Adult, Child, and Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN). (See Appendix B: CAHPS for further detail.)

Delmarva chose two CAHPS composite areas to most appropriately represent the quality domain in this report: *Getting Needed Care* and *How Well Doctors Communicate*. Table 3 shows the plan’s CAHPS scores for these composite categories.⁶

Table 3. 2007 CAHPS Quality Survey Results Comparing Health Plan of San Joaquin to Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Averages.

2007 CAHPS Composite	Population	2007 Health Plan of San Joaquin Results	2007 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average*
Getting Needed Care	Adult	43%	40%
	Child	77%	80%
	CSHCN†	77%	‡
How Well Doctors Communicate	Adult	59%	59%
	Child	58%	52%
	CSHCN†	61%	‡
* Medi-Cal average was calculated from scores of all contracted health plans and weighted to be proportionate to plan enrollment. † CSHCN - Child with Special Health Care Needs. ‡ MCMC overall averages were not calculated for CSHCN members because they are subsets of the same sampling and data cannot be used due to possibility of double counting. Refer to Appendix B: CAHPS for further detail.			

For the 2007 CAHPS composite *Getting Needed Care*, 43 percent of the HPSJ’s adult members responded that they always got the care they needed, which is three percentage points higher than the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average. For the 2007 CAHPS composite *How Well Doctors Communicate*, 59 percent of HPSJ’s adult

⁶ See Appendix B: CAHPS for further detail about categories and DHCS’s *Results of the 2007 CAHPS for Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plans* for more detail about calculation methods.

members indicated their doctor always communicated well, ranking HPSJ equivalent to the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average.

For the 2007 CAPHS *Getting Needed Care* composite, 77 percent of HPSJ's parents/guardians of child members responded that their children always got the care they needed, which is three percentage points lower than the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average in this category. For the *How Well Doctors Communicate* composite, 58 percent of parents/guardians indicated their doctor or health care provider always communicated well, placing HPSJ six percentage points higher than the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average.

Quality Improvement Projects

Two of HPSJ's Quality Improvement Projects (QIPs) are categorized in the quality domain for assessment purposes: *Increase the Number of HbA1c Tests Received Annually by Each Identified Diabetic Member* and *Increase the Rate of Chlamydia Screening in Women*. The QIPs and their results are discussed below:

Increase the Number of HbA1c Tests Received Annually by Each Identified Diabetic Member

➤ **Relevance:**

Literature research and HPSJ's data revealed HbA1c testing is significantly underused in assessing glycemic control in diabetic patients. In 2002, 69 percent of the plan's diabetic population had one HbA1c test during the measurement year, and only 16.5 percent had two or more HbA1c tests preformed during the same timeframe.

➤ **Goals:**

Increase the number of diabetic patients receiving at least one yearly HbA1c measurement.

➤ **Best Interventions:**

- Developed an electronic diabetes tool for provider office staff to use when entering authorizations/referrals for approval.
- Sponsored a program, "Advancing Practice Excellence in Diabetes," to partner with providers and improve provider recruitment.
- Developed plan to obtain laboratory results through its diabetes disease management program.

➤ **Outcomes:**

- Percentage of Medi-Cal members 18 to 75 years with diabetes who were continuously enrolled during the measurement year and had two or more HbA1c tests (original study):
 - ◊ 2002 (Baseline): 16.5%
 - ◊ 2003 (Remeasurement 1): 16.8%
 - ◊ 2004 (Remeasurement 2): 20.2%

- Percentage of Medi-Cal members receiving one HbA1c test per NCQA HEDIS specifications (modified study):
 - ◊ 2005 (Remeasurement 3): 70.56%
 - ◊ 2006 (Remeasurement 4): 75.43%

➤ **Attributes/Barriers to Outcomes:**

- Barrier: A large amount of staff turnover occurred within HPSJ, especially at the beginning of the study.
- Barrier: Many providers did not use the web-based electronic medical record.
- Barrier: The plan received encounter data without lab results.
- Attribute: The plan modified the measurement criteria to *one* HbA1c measure per year after consultation with Delmarva and DHCS approval.

Increase the Rate of Chlamydia Screening in Women

➤ **Relevance:**

HPSJ's 2007 HEDIS rate for *Chlamydia Screening in Women* was below NCQA's 25th percentile for the national Medicaid results. The plan has 10,820 female members aged 16 to 25 years, representing 16 percent of the total plan population.

➤ **Goal:**

Achieve a rate of 49.25 percent for the *Chlamydia Screening in Women* HEDIS indicator by Remeasurement 2.

➤ **Best Interventions:**

- Initiated a provider financial incentive to complete Chlamydia screenings for women aged 16 to 25 years.
- Implemented a web-based provider tool that identifies women in need of preventive services, including Chlamydia screening.
- Initiated a work group to address barriers and evaluate interventions.

➤ **Outcomes:**

- HEDIS indicator *Chlamydia Screening in Women*:
 - ◊ 2006 (Baseline): 39.25%

➤ **Attributes/Barriers to Outcomes:**

- Barrier: Members lack of knowledge regarding preventive services.
- Barrier: Health plan not effectively communicating expectations to providers.
- Barrier: Providers are unable to identify member in need of screening.

The *Increase the Number of HbA1c Tests Received Annually by Each Identified Diabetic Member* QIP showed improvement particularly after the project's goal was modified in 2005. In this QIP, a five percentage point

increase was evident from 2005 to 2006. However, this QIP was closed out in the second quarter of 2007 and will not be continued.

The *Increase the Rate of Chlamydia Screening in Women* QIP was in the baseline measurement phase during the period covered by this report; therefore, no validated remeasurement information was available at the time this report was prepared.

Medi-Cal Audit Findings

Plans are required to submit to a routine medical performance audit of each licensed health care service plan at least once every three years to evaluate a plan's compliance with the requirements of the Knox-Keene Act. The medical performance audits are jointly conducted by the DHCS and the Department of Managed Health Care. HPSJ was not audited during this reporting period.

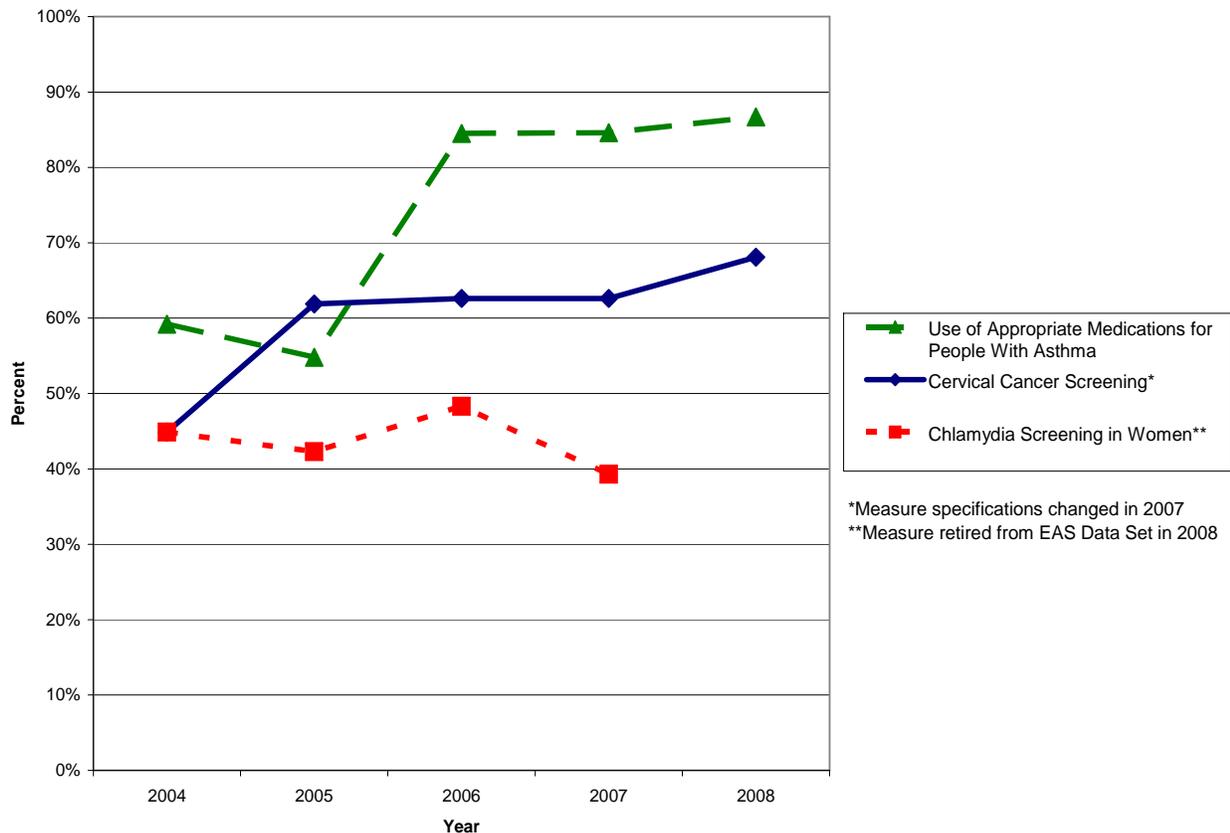
Sustainability of Quality Indicators

Sustainability of quality improvement correlates with a health plan's ability to bring about positive change in health care processes. When three or more years of data are available, performance measurement results are trended in a graph. For the purpose of this report, a plan's ability to achieve sustainability is generally categorized as follows:

- Sustained improvement – performance level improves at some point and then levels off or continues to improve.
- Maintaining performance level – rates over multiple years reflect no meaningful change (generally a flat line).
- Declining – performance goes down.

Delmarva chose three measures to represent the quality domain: *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma*, *Cervical Cancer Screening*, and *Chlamydia Screening in Women*. Figure 1 shows the plan's sustainability of performance for those measures in a trending graph.

Figure 1. Health Plan of San Joaquin's Sustainability of Quality of Care Indicators.



HEDIS technical specification changes in 2006 for the *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma* measure resulted in more accurate identification of true asthmatics in the denominator. Likewise, in 2007, the *Cervical Cancer Screening* measure had specification changes; however, both measures remained trendable over the four-year measurement period.

HPSJ sustained improvement for the *Cervical Cancer Screening* measure over the measurement period. While the plan was unable to demonstrate sustained improvement for the *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma* measure (due to rate decline in 2005), the plan achieved an overall rate increase (25 percentage points) for that measure over the course of the measurement period. For the *Chlamydia Screening in Women* measure, the rates fluctuated during the measurement period and ended with a 2007 rate below the 2004 rate. The plan was unable to demonstrate sustained improvement for the *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma* and *Chlamydia Screening in Women* measures. MMCD retired the *Chlamydia Screening in Women* measure in 2008.

Grievance and Ombudsman Reports

MMCD requires contracted health plans to maintain grievance systems in accordance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 28, Section 1300.68. All grievances received by a plan—in writing or verbally—must be tracked in a grievance log. Plans submit quarterly reports to MMCD, as well as to the Department of Managed Health Care, with detailed information about pending grievances and those that were not resolved within 30 days (MMCD All Plan Letter No. 03-008).

MMCD's Office of the Ombudsman also provides assistance to members who have questions or problems related to provider and plan services, as well as other areas, such as Medi-Cal eligibility. The Office of the Ombudsman functions, in part, to help solve problems from a neutral standpoint to ensure that members receive all medically necessary covered services for which plans are contractually responsible. Complaints or issues that are not resolved immediately by the Office of the Ombudsman are entered into the Ombudsman Case Management System (OCMS) for tracking and follow-up. The Office of the Ombudsman also assists members who wish to request a formal hearing with the State Fair Hearings Board.

It should be noted that the DHCS monitors plans' quarterly grievance reports and MMCD Office of the Ombudsman monthly statistics in order to understand what aspects of provider and plan performance generate many or few grievances, calls, or requests for State Fair Hearings over time. Unusual patterns in grievances, calls, or hearing requests are discussed with plans when appropriate. The DHCS does not generally perceive any particular number of grievances, calls, or hearing requests as indicators of poor plan performance. Rather, these statistics are an ongoing indication of the degree to which plan members are using the various avenues available to them to ask questions or raise concerns about healthcare quality and plan service.

HPSJ reported a total of 88 grievances in 2006 and 91 grievances in 2007. The grievance issues were related to billing, access to service, pharmacy, PCP changes, access, medical, quality of care, quality of service, provider complaint, dissatisfaction level of medical service, state fair hearing, and enrollment/disenrollment issues.

Office of the Ombudsman's Reports⁷

- 2006: 45 OCMS cases (1.5 percent of all cases; 0.813 cases per 1,000 members)
- 2006: 2 State Fair Hearings (0.2 percent of all cases; 0.036 cases per 1,000 members)
- 2007: 46 OCMS cases (1.0 percent of all cases; 0.779 cases per 1,000 members)
- 2007: 8 State Fair Hearings (1.6 percent of all cases; 0.135 cases per 1,000 members)

⁷ OCMS cases and State Fair Hearings are presented as a percentage of all managed care plan cases and rates per 1,000 members.

Summary of Quality

Delmarva assessed HPSJ's quality of care in five ways: HEDIS performance measure rates, CAHPS survey results, QIPs, grievance and Ombudsman reports, and sustainability of quality indicator results. No medical performance audit was conducted during this reporting period.

When comparing HPSJ's 2007 HEDIS performance rates to the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted and the 2006 national Medicaid average, the plan scored below both benchmarks for all five of the comparable measures.

For the 2008 reporting year, HPSJ's rates were higher than both benchmark performance rates for one comparable HEDIS measure, *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening*. HPSJ rates for four measures were below both state and national benchmarks on the measures: *Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection*; *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma*; *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*; and *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy*.

In the CAHPS survey, HPSJ's score for the *Getting Needed Care* composite was higher than the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average in the Adult category, but lower in the Child category. HPSJ's score for the *How Well Doctors Communicate* composite was equivalent to the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average in the Adult category and higher in the Child category.

HPSJ worked on two QIPs categorized in the quality area. The *Increase the Number of HbA1c Tests Received Annually by Each Identified Diabetic Member* QIP showed improvement particularly after the project's goal was modified in 2005. In this QIP, a five percentage point increase was evident from 2005 to 2006. However, this QIP was closed out in the second quarter of 2007 and was not continued. The *Increase the Rate of Chlamydia Screening in Women* QIP was in the baseline measurement phase during the reporting period, so no remeasurement results were available at the time this report was prepared.

Finally, in the sustainability area, HPSJ showed sustained improvement for the *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma* and *Cervical Cancer Screening* measures over the four-year measurement period. The plan was unable to demonstrate improvement in the *Chlamydia Screening in Women* measure over the three-year measurement period.

Access to Care Assessment

One of MMCD's goals is to protect enrollee access to care. Access is an essential component of a quality-driven system of care. The findings with regard to the access domain for HPSJ are presented in the following section.

2007 HEDIS Performance Measures Pertaining to Access

Delmarva used two HEDIS measures, *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* and *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*, as indicators for access to care in this report. Table 4 shows HPSJ’s 2007 results for these HEDIS measures.

Table 4. 2007 HEDIS Access Measure Results Comparing Health Plan of San Joaquin to State and National Programs.

2007 Access Measure	2007 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate*	2007 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average*	2006 HEDIS National Medicaid Average*
Adolescent Well-Care Visits	40.1%	36.9%	40.6%
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care	57.2%	58.7%	57.0%
* Rates obtained from the <i>Report of the 2007 Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans</i> .			

HPSJ reported a score higher than the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average for the *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* measure. The plan’s rate was almost equivalent to the 2006 national Medicaid average for the *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* measure (40.1% and 40.6%, respectively). For the *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* measure, HPSJ’s score was almost equivalent to the 2006 national Medicaid average (57.2% and 57.0%, respectively), but below the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average (58.7%)

2008 HEDIS Performance Measures Pertaining to Access

Table 5 shows HPSJ’s 2008 results for access-related HEDIS measures.

Table 5. 2008 HEDIS Access Measure Results Comparing Health Plan of San Joaquin to State and National Programs.

2008 Access Measure	2008 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate*	2008 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average*	2007 HEDIS National Medicaid Average*
Adolescent Well-Care Visits	44.8%	39.6%	43.7%
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care	63.7%	59.1%	59.1%
* Rates obtained from the <i>Report of the 2007 Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans</i> .			

HPSJ reported higher 2008 scores than both the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2007 national Medicaid average for the following HEDIS measures:

- *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*
- *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*

CAHPS Survey Results Pertaining to Access

Delmarva chose the CAHPS composite *Getting Care Quickly* to represent the access domain of this report. The results of this composite are presented in Table 6 and discussed below.

Table 6. 2007 CAHPS Access Survey Results Comparing Health Plan of San Joaquin to the Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average.

2007 CAHPS Composite	Population	2007 Health Plan of San Joaquin Result	2007 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average*
Getting Care Quickly	Adult	44%	45%
	Child	42%	37%
	CSHCN†	45%	‡
<p>* Medi-Cal average was calculated from scores of all contracted health plans and weighted to be proportionate to plan enrollment. † CSHCN - Child with Special Health Care Needs. ‡ MCMC overall averages were not calculated for CSHCN members because they are subsets of the same sampling and data cannot be used due to possibility of double counting. Refer to Appendix B: CAHPS for further detail.</p>			

HPSJ’s composite score for *Getting Care Quickly* showed 44 percent of adult members indicated they always received care quickly, one percentage point below the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average. In the Child category, 42 percent of responding parents/guardians of HPSJ’s child members indicated their child always received care quickly—five percentage points higher than the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average. HPSJ’s results in the Adult category was higher than the Child category in this composite by two percentage points.

Quality Improvement Projects

HPSJ engaged in three Quality Improvement Projects (QIPs) that were categorized in the access domain:

- *Increasing the Number of Postpartum Visits*
- *Adolescent Health Collaborative*
- *Avoidable Emergency Room Visits*

The *Adolescent Health Collaborative* and *Avoidable Emergency Room Visits* QIPs were statewide collaborative projects. *Increasing the Number of Postpartum Visits* was conducted as an internal QIP.

Increasing the Number of Postpartum Visits

➤ **Relevance:**

HPSJ chose to focus on the HEDIS *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* measure as an internal QIP because of the plan’s historically low rates of visits on or between 21 and 56 days after delivery. At the time the study was developed, the NCQA 25th percentile used for MMCD’s minimum performance

level (MPL) for postpartum visits was 45.2 percent, and the 90th percentile for high performance level (HPL) was 67.4 percent. HPSJ's rate prior to baseline measure was 38.3 percent.

➤ **Goal:**

To increase the number of postpartum visits by HPSJ members, with the goal of meeting or exceeding NCQA's 90th percentile benchmark.

➤ **Best Interventions:**

- HPSJ received more accurate demographic data via hospital admission sheets and now uses this demographic data for mailing member incentive letters.
- After identifying the need for provider education regarding timely postpartum visits, the plan made provider site visits at high-volume obstetrics practices. During these visits, plan staff reminded providers of appropriate time frames for postpartum visits and the availability of a member incentive program.
- The plan continued to mail educational materials and incentive letters monthly to all members with deliveries.

➤ **Outcomes:**

- HEDIS *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* measure:
 - ◊ 2003 (Baseline): 60.19%
 - ◊ 2004 (Remeasurement 1): 57.18%
 - ◊ 2005 (Remeasurement 2): 56.93%
 - ◊ 2006 (Remeasurement 3): 57.18%

➤ **Attributes/Barriers to Outcomes:**

- Barrier: Member demographic data was inaccurate.
- Barrier: Providers were unaware of appropriate time frames for postpartum visits, which resulted in visits occurring before 21 days or after 56 days of delivery.
- Barrier: Members had inadequate knowledge of newborn care and lacked support for new mothers.

Adolescent Health Collaborative

➤ **Relevance:**

Since 2002, HPSJ has experienced consistently low scores for the HEDIS *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* measure.

➤ **Goal:**

Achieve 50 percent on the HEDIS *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* measure by 2006.

➤ **Best Interventions:**

- Implemented a member incentive program, providing movie tickets to adolescents following a completed annual exam.
- Implemented a provider incentive program, paying providers \$50 annually per member for a completed annual exam.

➤ **Outcomes:**

- HEDIS *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* measure:
 - ◊ 2003 (Baseline): 37.96%
 - ◊ 2004 (Remeasurement 1): 38.44%
 - ◊ 2005 (Remeasurement 2): 34.94%
 - ◊ 2006 (Remeasurement 3): 40.15%

➤ **Attributes/Barriers to Outcomes:**

- Barrier: Reluctance of adolescents to seek medical attention when well.
- Barrier: Providers uncomfortable screening and counseling adolescents.

Avoidable Emergency Room Visits

➤ **Relevance:**

HPSJ reported a 2006 emergency room visit rate of 26.5 per 1,000 member months and an avoidable visit rate of 14.3 percent. The plan noted, “46 percent of all ER users believed that their problem could have been handled by a primary care physician, had one been available.”

➤ **Goals:**

- Achieve a five percent reduction in the rate of members seen in the ER by Remeasurement 2.
- Achieve a ten percent reduction in avoidable ER visits by Remeasurement 2.

➤ **Best Interventions:**

Collaborative interventions were being developed during the period covered by this report.

➤ **Outcomes:**

- HEDIS rate of members seen in the ER:
 - ◊ 2006 (Baseline): 26.5 visits per 1,000 member months
- Rate of members seen in the ER with designated avoidable visits:
 - ◊ 2006 (Baseline): 14.3%

➤ **Attributes/Barriers to Outcomes:**

Attributes and barriers to outcomes were not available to Delmarva for validation in time to be included in this report.

For the *Increasing the Number of Postpartum Visits* QIP, the project goal was unmet. The rate actually decreased since the baseline measurement. The QIP was closed out in the second quarter of 2007 and will not be continued.

The final results of the *Adolescent Health Collaborative* project reflected a five percent increase from 2005 to 2006 in *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*, although a slighter increase over the baseline. However, the project goal to increase the rate to 50 percent was unmet. The *Adolescent Well-Care* project was closed during 2007, and HPSJ began participating in a new statewide collaborative project, *Avoidable Emergency Room Visits*.

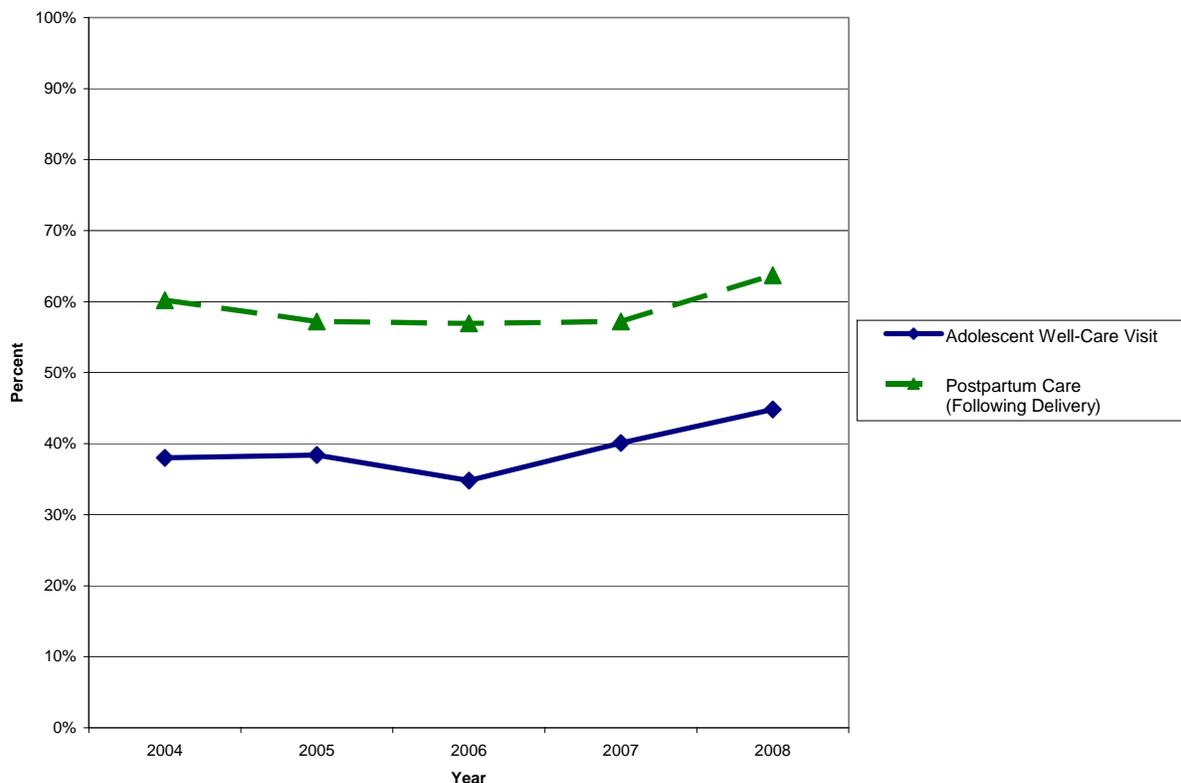
Medi-Cal Audit Findings

The plan was not audited during this reporting period.

Sustainability of Access Measures

Sustainability of access measures indicates a plan’s ability to improve and maintain improvement of enrollee access to health care services. Delmarva chose two measures to represent the access domain: *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* and *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*. Figure 2 charts the rates for those measures over a four-year period.

Figure 2. Health Plan of San Joaquin’s Sustainability of Access to Care Indicators.



HPSJ did not show sustained improvement for either the *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* or *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* measures. The plan did, however, demonstrate overall improvement during the course of the four-year measurement period for both measures, as the rates for both measures were higher in 2008 than in 2004.

Summary of Access

Delmarva assessed HPSJ's access to care in four ways: HEDIS performance measures rates, CAHPS survey rates, QIPs, and sustainability of access to care indicator results.

In 2007, HPSJ performed higher than the state benchmark for the *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* measure and almost equivalent to the national benchmark. For the *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* measure, HPSJ scored almost equivalent to the 2006 national Medicaid average, but below the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average.

In 2008, HPSJ reported scores higher than both the state and national benchmarks for the *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* and *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* measures.

CAHPS survey results showed that HPSJ enrollees rated the plan lower than the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average in the Adult category of the composite *Getting Care Quickly*. In the Child category of that composite, the score was higher than the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average.

In QIPs, HPSJ's results for the *Increasing the Number of Postpartum Visits* project were disappointing as the goal remained unmet. The plan saw a slight improvement since the baseline measurement in *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* for the *Adolescent Health* statewide collaborative QIP. HPSJ did not report remeasurement results for the *Avoidable Emergency Room Visits* statewide collaborative QIP because this project was still in the baseline phase when this report was prepared.

In the area of sustainability, HPSJ was unable to show sustained improvement for either of the access-designated measures, *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* and *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*. However, the plan was able to demonstrate overall improvement during the course of the four-year measurement period for both measures.

Timeliness of Care Assessment

Access to necessary health care and related services alone is insufficient to advance the health status of Medi-Cal managed care enrollees. Timely delivery of those services is equally important. The findings related to timeliness are described in the following section.

2007 HEDIS Performance Measures Pertaining to Timeliness of Care

Delmarva included the five measures shown in Table 7 in the timeliness domain because each measure is associated with the receipt of services within a certain timeframe.

Table 7. 2007 HEDIS Timeliness Measure Results Comparing Health Plan of San Joaquin to State and National Programs.

2007 Timeliness Measure	2007 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate*	2007 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average*	2006 HEDIS National Medicaid Average*
Breast Cancer Screening†	52.9%	48.6%	53.9%
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2	73.5%	77.9%	70.4%
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care	78.3%	79.4%	79.1%
Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life	55.5%	57.7%	48.6%
Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life	79.3%	74.3%	63.3%

* Rates obtained from the *Report of the 2007 Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans*.
† Due to significant changes in technical specifications, this measure is treated as a first-year measure in 2007. Because new MPLs and HPLs had not yet been established, the rate is displayed for informational purposes only and will not be compared to benchmarks.

- HPSJ scored better than the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2006 national Medicaid average in one of the four comparable HEDIS measures in the timeliness domain: *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*.
- HPSJ's rates were higher than the national benchmark for two HEDIS measures:
 - *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2*
 - *Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life*
- When compared to both benchmarks, HPSJ scored lower in the *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care* measure.

2008 HEDIS Performance Measures Pertaining to Timeliness of Care

For the 2008 reporting year, Delmarva used the same measures as for the 2007 reporting year to represent the timeliness domain and added a newly required measure, *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3*. Table 8 shows the results of the 2008 HEDIS timeliness measures.

Table 8. 2008 HEDIS Timeliness Measure Results Comparing Health Plan of San Joaquin to State and National Programs.

2008 Timeliness Measure	2008 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate*	2008 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average*	2007 HEDIS National Medicaid Average*
Breast Cancer Screening	55.8%	50.4%	49.1%
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2	78.1%	80.1%	73.3%
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3 [†]	72.0%	72.0%	60.6%
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care	83.5%	82.6%	81.2%
Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life	67.6%	60.2%	55.6%
Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life	82.0%	75.8%	66.8%

* Rates obtained from the *Report of the 2008 Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans*.
[†] 2008 is the first year MMCD required reporting of this measure. Because MPLs and HPLs had not yet been established, the rate is displayed for informational purposes only and will not be compared to benchmarks.

- HPSJ scored higher than both benchmarks for four HEDIS measures:
 - *Breast Cancer Screening*
 - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
 - *Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life*
 - *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*
- HPSJ reported higher scores in 2008 for all comparable HEDIS measures for the national benchmark in the timeliness domain.
- HPSJ scored lower than the state benchmark for the *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2* measure.

CAHPS Survey Results Pertaining to Timeliness

Delmarva chose two CAHPS composites, *Courteous and Helpful Office Staff* and *Health Plan's Customer Service*, to represent the timeliness of care domain. The results of the composite scores are presented in Table 9, followed by a discussion of the results.

Table 9. 2007 CAHPS Timeliness Survey Results Comparing Health Plan of San Joaquin to the Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Averages.

2007 CAHPS Composite	Population	2007 Health Plan of San Joaquin Result	2007 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average*
Courteous and Helpful Office Staff	Adult	†	†
	Child	59%	52%
	CSHCN‡	62%	§
Health Plan's Customer Service	Adult	49%¶	45%
	Child	82%¶	79%
	CSHCN‡	79%¶	§
<p>* Each Medi-Cal average is calculated from scores of all contracted health plans and weighted to be proportionate to plan enrollment. † The composite <i>Courteous and Helpful Office Staff</i> was eliminated from the 2007 CAHPS Adult survey. ‡ CSHCN - Child with Special Health Care Needs. § MCMC overall averages were not calculated for CSHCN members because they are subsets of the same sampling, and data cannot be used due to the possibility of double counting. Refer to Appendix B: CAHPS for further detail. ¶ The plan received <100 responses to some of the questions in this area, so this result is not statistically valid.</p>			

For the CAHPS composite *Courteous and Helpful Office Staff*, 59 percent of responding parents/guardians of HPSJ's child members indicated that the office staff was always courteous and helpful; whereas the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average for this composite was 52 percent.

Delmarva will not discuss the results in the composite area *Health Plan's Customer Service*, because the number of survey responses the plan received was too low to be statistically valid.

Quality Improvement Projects

HPSJ did not engage in any QIPs that were categorized in the timeliness domain during this reporting period.

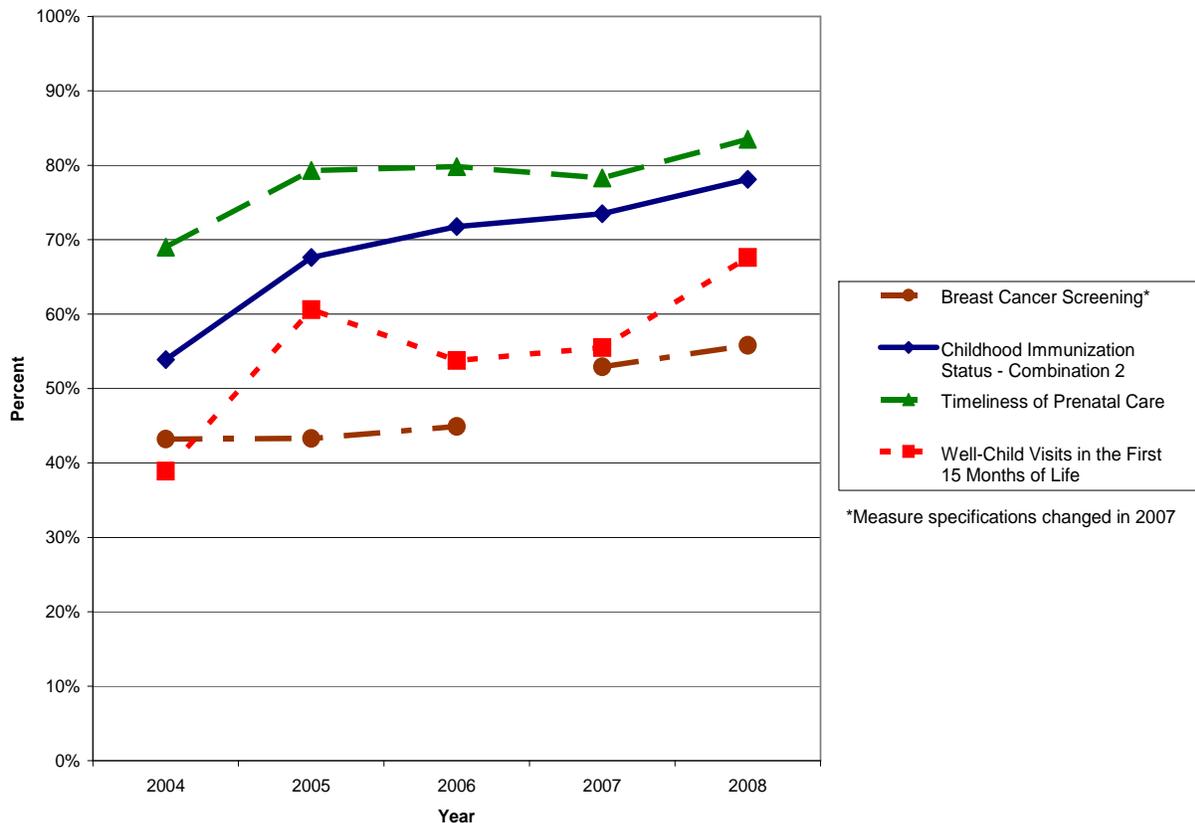
Medi-Cal Audit Findings

The plan was not audited during this reporting period.

Sustainability of Timeliness of Care Measures

Sustainability of timeliness relates to the plan’s delivery of screening tests, preventive health visits, and/or preventive health procedures early enough to prevent the consequences of delayed care. Delmarva chose four measures to represent timeliness for this assessment. Figure 3 charts those measures.

Figure 3. Health Plan of San Joaquin’s Sustainability of Timeliness of Care Indicators.



The trend line for the *Breast Cancer Screening* measure is broken between 2006 and 2007 to reflect the substantive changes in the measure’s 2007 technical specifications; therefore, Delmarva cannot determine sustainability of the *Breast Cancer Screening* rates over the measurement period.

HPSJ demonstrated sustained improvement for the *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2* measure. Over the four-year measurement period, the plan demonstrated overall improvement for the *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care* and *Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life* measures.

Summary of Timeliness of Care

Delmarva assessed HPSJ in three areas of the timeliness domain: HEDIS performance measure rates, CAHPS survey rates, and sustainability of improvement. HPSJ did not engage in any QIPs that were categorized in the timeliness domain.

For 2007, HPSJ scored better than the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2006 national Medicaid average in one of the four comparable HEDIS measures in the timeliness domain—*Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*. When compared to both benchmarks, HPSJ scored lower in the *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care* measure.

For 2008, HPSJ scored higher than the 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2007 national Medicaid average for four HEDIS measures: *Breast Cancer Screening; Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care; Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life*; and *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*. HPSJ scored lower than the 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average for the *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2* measure.

CAHPS survey results showed that the plan's responding parents of child members were more satisfied than the state benchmark (59% versus 52%, respectively) in the composite area *Courteous and Helpful Office Staff*.

HPSJ demonstrated sustained improvement for the *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2* measure and overall improvement for the *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care* and *Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life* measures.

Comparison of Health Plan of San Joaquin's 2007 and 2008 HEDIS Scores

Delmarva presents HPSJ's 2007 and 2008 HEDIS rates in Table 10 and provides a brief discussion of the rate comparisons.

Table 10. Comparison of Health Plan of San Joaquin's 2008 and 2007 HEDIS Performance Rates.

2008 Performance Measure	2007 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate*	2008 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate*
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2	73.5%	78.1%
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3 [†]	†	72.0%
Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life	55.5%	67.6%
Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life	79.3%	82.0%
Adolescent Well-Care Visits	40.1%	44.8%
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care	78.3%	83.5%
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care	57.2%	63.7%
Breast Cancer Screening	52.9%	55.8%
Cervical Cancer Screening	62.6%	68.1%
Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma	84.6%	86.7%
Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection	78.4%	77.0%
Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis ^{††}	†	26.3%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed	42.3%	47.4%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing	75.4%	80.8%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Good Control (<7.0%) [†]	†	28.5%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%) ^{†§}	†	47.2% [§]
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening	74.0%	78.1%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Control (<100mg/dL) [†]	†	32.8%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy	72.3%	72.3%

2008 Performance Measure	2007 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate*	2008 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate*
Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits (Total Visits per 1,000 Member Months) †	†	217.2
Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits (Total Visits per 1,000 Member Months) †	†	42.3
Ambulatory Care—Ambulatory Surgery/Procedures (Total Procedures per 1,000 Member Months) †	†	3.1
Ambulatory Care—Observation Room Stays (Total Stays per 1,000 Member Months) †	†	1.7
<p>* Rates obtained from the <i>Report of the 2008 Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans</i>. † Since 2008 is the first year MMCD required reporting of this measure, no rates were reported for 2007. Because MPLs and HPLs had not yet been established, the 2008 rate is displayed for informational purposes only and will not be compared to benchmarks. ‡ 2007 and 2008 rates cannot be compared. The 2007 measure was called <i>Inappropriate Antibiotic Treatment for Adults With Acute Bronchitis</i>, and a lower score was better. The 2008 measure is called <i>Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis</i>, and a higher score is better. § This measure represents poor diabetes control as measured by HbA1c levels. A lower number represents better diabetes control.</p>		

Due to 2007 specification changes, the plan’s rates of *Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis* cannot be compared between reporting years 2007 and 2008. MMCD eliminated the *Chlamydia Screening* measure and instead required the *Ambulatory Care* measure in order to focus more on the entire Medi-Cal managed care population, including seniors and persons with disabilities. The *Ambulatory Care* measure provides utilization information across the whole spectrum of the population—from birth to 85+ years of age. Plus, this measure provides insight regarding emergency room (ER) use, which is an area of particular interest to MMCD because many members use the ER for avoidable visits and, as a result, may not be getting appropriate preventive care and follow-up care for chronic conditions. Although rates for the four *Ambulatory Care* indicators are included, conclusions should not be drawn regarding plan performance for these indicators as noted in the Table 10 footnotes.

➤ HPSJ improved its scores on 12 of the 14 comparable HEDIS measures:

- *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination*
- *Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life*
- *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*
- *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*
- *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
- *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
- *Breast Cancer Screening*
- *Cervical Cancer Screening*
- *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening*

- HPSJ's score remained unchanged for one measure: *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy*.
- HPSJ's performance decreased for one measure: *Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection*.

Comparison of 2007 and 2008 HEDIS Measures by Model Type

Medi-Cal beneficiaries receive their health care through three models of health care delivery—County Organized Health Systems (COHS), Two-Plan, and Geographic Managed Care (GMC).

- COHS plans are county-operated managed care organizations. Enrollment is mandatory for almost all Medi-Cal beneficiaries within a county operating a COHS.
- The Two-Plan model consists of two plan types: Commercial Plans (CPs), which are commercially-operated managed care plans; and Local Initiatives (LIs), which are community-developed managed care plans operated as quasi-governmental agencies. In a Two-Plan model, members choose between an LI and a CP. Enrollment is mandatory for specified beneficiaries.
- In the GMC model, enrollees choose from several commercially operated plans within a certain geographic area. Enrollment is mandatory for specified Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

HPSJ is contracted in San Joaquin County as a Local Initiative. Tables 11 (2007) and 12 (2008) show the ranking (1 through 5) of the five different plan types when HEDIS results were compared. Note that averages are not ranked (1 through 5) on measures to which MPLs and HPLs were not applied.

Table 11. Comparison of 2007 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Averages by Plan Type.

2007 Performance Measure	Rate (ranking among plan types)				
	COHS Model & Plan Type*	Two-Plan Model		GMC Model	
		CPT†	LI†	GMC - N‡	GMC - S‡
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2	82.9% (1)	79.5% (3)	75.6% (4)	73.6% (5)	80.2% (2)
Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life	68.0% (1)	44.8% (5)	53.0% (3)	57.2% (2)	51.4% (4)
Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life	76.3% (1)	73.6% (3)	74.6% (2)	70.3% (5)	72.5% (4)
Adolescent Well-Care Visits	47.8% (1)	36.8% (3)	34.0% (5)	36.7% (4)	37.8% (2)
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care	82.0% (2)	81.4% (3)	77.5% (5)	77.9% (4)	82.6% (1)
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care	64.3% (1)	56.6% (4)	58.7% (2)	58.5% (3)	53.8% (5)
Chlamydia Screening in Women	54.4% (3)	52.8% (4)	50.5% (5)	58.1% (2)	59.8% (1)
Breast Cancer Screening ¶	55.6%	42.8%	48.4%	47.8%	50.6%
Cervical Cancer Screening ¶	70.1%	65.7%	69.3%	62.9%	66.5%
Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma	88.7% (1)	85.8% (4)	86.9% (2)	86.4% (3)	84.9% (5)
Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection	81.3% (3)	74.5% (5)	79.3% (4)	84.8% (2)	85.1% (1)
Inappropriate Antibiotic Treatment for Adults With Acute Bronchitis§¶	71.0%	73.7%	70.2%	71.8%	64.6%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed	68.7% (1)	54.6% (3)	45.5% (5)	54.2% (4)	56.9% (2)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing	85.4% (1)	79.5% (2)	76.7% (4)	76.1% (5)	78.0% (3)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening ¶	80.7%	74.5%	74.2%	71.4%	77.5%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy¶	81.2%	75.4%	83.8%	77.7%	78.3%

Plan Model Definitions:

* County Organized Health System (COHS) – County-operated and managed care organizations. Enrollment is mandatory for almost all Medi-Cal beneficiaries within a county operating a COHS.

† Two-Plan consists of two plan types:

Commercial Plans (CPs) are commercially-operated managed care plans.

Local Initiatives (LIs) are community-developed managed care plans operated as quasi-governmental agencies.

Members choose between an LI and a CP. Enrollment is mandatory for some beneficiaries.

‡ Geographic Managed Care (GMC) - Enrollees choose from several commercially-operated plans within a certain geographic area. Enrollment is mandatory for specified Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

§ For this measure, a lower score indicates better performance.

¶ Averages not ranked for measures where MPLs and HPLs are not applied in the reporting year.

For the 2007 reporting year, LI plans ranked as follows:

- LI plans did not rank first of the five plan types in any of the HEDIS measures.
- LI plans ranked second of the five plan types in the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*
 - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
 - *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma*
- LI plans ranked third of the five plan types in the HEDIS measure *Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life*.
- LI plans ranked fourth of the five plan types in the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2*
 - *Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
- LI plans ranked fifth of the five plan types in the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*
 - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
 - *Chlamydia Screening in Women*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*

Table 12. Comparison of 2008 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Averages by Plan Type.

2008 Performance Measure	Rate (ranking among plan types)				
	COHS Model & Plan Type*	Two-Plan Model		GMC Model	
		CP†	LI†	GMC - N‡	GMC - S‡
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2	83.3% (1)	77.4% (3)	82.3% (2)	70.8% (5)	71.4% (4)
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3¶	77.4%	68.8%	73.6%	65.8%	62.8%
Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life	72.3% (1)	46.6% (5)	56.7% (2)	55.9% (3)	49.5% (4)
Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life	78.9% (1)	75.1% (3)	76.1% (2)	69.1% (5)	73.1% (4)
Adolescent Well-Care Visits	48.4% (1)	38.8% (2)	38.4% (4)	38.7% (3)	37.1% (5)
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care	85.2% (1)	83.1% (2)	81.9% (3)	81.7% (4)	80.8% (5)
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care	66.9% (1)	57.4% (3)	59.1% (2)	54.8% (4)	52.0% (5)
Breast Cancer Screening	56.4% (1)	45.3% (5)	50.5% (3)	47.4% (4)	51.3% (2)
Cervical Cancer Screening	69.1% (2)	69.9% (1)	68.2% (3)	68.2% (3)	67.0% (4)
Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma	90.1% (1)	88.8% (3)	89.0% (2)	86.6% (4)	85.1% (5)
Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection	85.2% (3)	81.3% (5)	82.5% (4)	89.5% (1)	88.4% (2)
Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis¶	26.1%	30.3%	28.4%	28.7%	26.5%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed	69.6% (1)	58.2% (2)	52.0% (5)	56.2% (3)	52.4% (4)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing	85.3% (1)	81.0% (4)	81.4% (2)	78.1% (5)	81.1% (3)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Good Control (<7.0%)¶	39.7%	27.4%	31.0%	32.8%	32.1%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%)§¶	35.5%	49.4%	43.1%	42.9%	45.5%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening	81.3% (1)	76.4% (4)	77.4% (2)	72.0% (5)	77.0% (3)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Control(<100mg/dL) ¶	40.0%	28.9%	32.9%	32.3%	40.6%
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy	82.0% (1)	77.7% (3)	76.9% (4)	75.1% (5)	78.8% (2)

2008 Performance Measure	Rate (ranking among plan types)				
	COHS Model & Plan Type*	Two-Plan Model		GMC Model	
		CP†	LI†	GMC - N‡	GMC - S‡
Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits (Total Visits per 1,000 Member Months)¶	322.4	254.8	268.1	263.2	250.0
Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits (Total Visits per 1,000 Member Months)¶	43.5	33.4	38.2	34.0	33.8
Ambulatory Care—Ambulatory Surgery/ Procedures (Total Procedures per 1,000 Member Months)¶	5.0	2.0	2.1	2.5	2.9
Ambulatory Care—Observation Room Stays (Total Stays per 1,000 Member Months)¶	2.9	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4
<p>Plan Model Definitions: * County Organized Health System (COHS) – County-operated and managed care organizations. Enrollment is mandatory for almost all Medi-Cal beneficiaries within a county operating a COHS. † Two-Plan consists of two plan types: Commercial Plans (CPs) are commercially-operated managed care plans. Local Initiatives (LIs) are community-developed managed care plans operated as quasi-governmental agencies. Members choose between an LI and a CP. Enrollment is mandatory for some beneficiaries. ‡ Geographic Managed Care (GMC) - Enrollees choose from several commercially-operated plans within a certain geographic area. Enrollment is mandatory for specified Medi-Cal beneficiaries. § This measure represents poor diabetes control as measured by HbA1c levels. A lower number represents better diabetes control. ¶ Averages not ranked for measures where MPLs and HPLs are not applied in the reporting year.</p>					

For the 2008 reporting year, LI plans ranked as follows:

- LIs did not rank first of the five plan types in any of the HEDIS measures.
- LIs ranked second of the five plan types in the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2*
 - *Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life*
 - *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*
 - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
 - *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening*
- LIs ranked third of the five plan types in the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
 - *Breast Cancer Screening*
 - *Cervical Cancer Screening*

- LIs ranked fourth of the five plan types in the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*
 - *Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy*

- LIs ranked fifth of the five plan types in the HEDIS measure *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*.

Comparison to Other National and California State Programs

In each of the quality, access, and timeliness assessments provided earlier in this report, HPSJ's performance was compared with the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the national Medicaid average. This section provides two comparisons that have not been made elsewhere in this report—with national commercial averages and the California Healthy Families Program averages. The Healthy Families Program, administered by the California Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board, is a low-cost health, dental, and vision coverage plan for uninsured children (up to age 19) of working families. In addition to the new rate comparisons, the Medi-Cal managed care weighted averages and the national Medicaid averages are provided in Tables 13 and 14.

Table 13. 2007 Performance Measurement Rates Comparing Health Plan of San Joaquin to National and State Programs.

2007 Performance Measure	2007 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate*	2007 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average*	2006 HEDIS National Medicaid Average*	2006 HEDIS National Commercial Average*	2007 California Healthy Families Average†
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2	73.5%	77.9%	70.4%	77.8%	79.2%
Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life	55.5%	57.7%	48.6%	71.0%	56.6%
Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life	79.3%	74.3%	63.3%	64.4%	72.9%
Adolescent Well-Care Visits	40.1%	36.9%	40.6%	38.7%	43.5%
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care	78.3%	79.4%	79.1%	91.9%	‡
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care	57.2%	58.7%	57.0%	81.5%	‡
Chlamydia Screening in Women	39.2%	52.8%	50.6%	34.9%	41.1%
Breast Cancer Screening§	52.9%	48.6%	53.9%	72.0%	‡
Cervical Cancer Screening§	62.6%	67.9%	65.0%	81.8%	‡
Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma	84.6%	86.8%	85.7%	89.9%	94.0%
Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection	78.4%	78.9%	82.5%	82.9%	83.1%
Inappropriate Antibiotic Treatment for Adults With Acute Bronchitis¶	74.8%	71.0%	69.4%	66.1%	‡
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed	42.3%	54.1%	48.6%	54.8%	‡
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing	75.4%	79.5%	76.2%	87.6%	‡
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening§	74.0%	75.9%	80.5%	92.3%	‡
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy§	72.3%	81.0%	48.8%	55.1%	‡

* Rates obtained from the *Report of the 2007 Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans*.
† 2007 rates obtained from the Healthy Families Program at http://www.mrmib.ca.gov/MRMIB/quality_reports.html.
‡ Healthy Families did not report data on these measures.
§ Due to significant changes in technical specifications, MPLs and HPLs had not yet been established for 2007. The rate is displayed for informational purposes only and will not be compared to benchmarks.
¶ For this 2007 measure, a lower rate indicates better performance. For 2008, this measure will be called *Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis*, and a higher score will be better.

In this section, Delmarva compares the 2007 rates of HPSJ to the 2006 national Medicaid averages, 2006 HEDIS national commercial averages, and 2007 California Healthy Families averages.

- HPSJ reported higher 2007 rates than the 2006 HEDIS national commercial average for the following measures:
 - *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*
 - *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*
 - *Chlamydia Screening in Women*

- HPSJ had higher rates than the 2007 California Healthy Families rates on one of the five comparable HEDIS measures—*Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*.

- HPSJ performed better than all benchmarks for the HEDIS measure *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*.

- HPSJ had mixed results for the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2006 HEDIS national Medicaid average, but lower than the 2006 HEDIS national commercial average, the 2007 California Healthy Families average, and the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average.)
 - *Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2006 HEDIS national Medicaid average, but lower than the 2006 HEDIS national commercial average and the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average.)
 - *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2006 HEDIS national commercial average, but lower than the 2006 HEDIS national Medicaid average and the 2007 California Healthy Families average.)
 - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2006 HEDIS national Medicaid average, but lower than the 2006 HEDIS national commercial average and the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average.)
 - *Chlamydia Screening in Women* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2006 national commercial average, but lower than the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2006 national Medicaid average.)

- HPSJ's scores were lower than all benchmarks for the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
 - *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma*
 - *Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*

Table 14. 2008 Performance Measurements Comparing Rates of Health Plan of San Joaquin to National and State Programs.

2008 Performance Measure	2008 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate ^(a)	2008 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average ^(a)	2007 HEDIS National Medicaid Average ^(a)	2007 HEDIS National Commercial Average ^(a)	2007 California Healthy Families Average ^(b)
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2	78.1%	80.1%	73.3%	79.8%	79.2%
Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3 ^(c)	72.0%	72.0%	60.6%	65.8%	73.4%
Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life	67.6%	60.2%	55.6%	72.9%	56.6%
Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life	82.0%	75.8%	66.8%	66.7%	72.9%
Adolescent Well-Care Visits	44.8%	39.6%	43.7%	40.3%	43.5%
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care	83.5%	82.6%	81.2%	90.6%	(d)
Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care	63.7%	59.1%	59.1%	79.9%	(d)
Breast Cancer Screening	55.8%	50.4%	49.1%	68.9%	(d)
Cervical Cancer Screening	68.1%	68.7%	65.7%	81.0%	(d)
Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma	86.7%	88.8%	87.1%	91.6%	94.0%
Appropriate Treatment for Children with Upper Respiratory Infection	77.0%	83.1%	83.3%	82.8%	83.1%
Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis ^(e)	26.3%	28.4%	(e)	(e)	(d)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed	47.4%	58.1%	51.4%	54.7%	(d)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing	80.8%	82.1%	78.0%	87.5%	(d)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Good Control (<7.0%) ^(e)	28.5%	32.6%	N/A	41.8%	(d)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%) ^{(e)(f)}	47.2%	42.6%	48.7%	29.6%	(d)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening	78.1%	77.8%	71.1%	83.4%	(d)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Control(<100mg/dL) ^(e)	32.8%	34.2%	30.6%	43.0%	(d)
Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy	72.3%	78.3%	74.6%	79.7%	(d)

2008 Performance Measure	2008 Health Plan of San Joaquin Rate ^(a)	2008 Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average ^(a)	2007 HEDIS National Medicaid Average ^(a)	2007 HEDIS National Commercial Average ^(a)	2007 California Healthy Families Average ^(b)
Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits (Total Visits per 1,000 Member Months) ^(c) (g)	217.2	271.6	318.0	296.7	(d)
Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits (Total Visits per 1,000 Member Months) ^(c) (g)	42.3	37.3	57.0	16.7	(d)
Ambulatory Care—Ambulatory Surgery/Procedures (Total Procedures per 1,000 Member Months) ^(c) (g)	3.1	2.6	5.3	10.5	(d)
Ambulatory Care—Observation Room Stays (Total Stays per 1,000 Member Months) ^(c) (g)	1.7	0.8	1.8	0.8	(d)

(a) Rates obtained from the *Report of the 2008 Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans*.
 (b) 2007 rates obtained from the Healthy Families Program at http://www.mrmib.ca.gov/MRMIB/quality_reports.html.
 (c) Due to first-year reporting requirements, MPLs and HPLs were not established for 2008. The rate is displayed for informational purposes only and will not be compared to benchmarks.
 (d) Healthy Families did not report data on these measures.
 (e) 2007 and 2008 rates cannot be compared. The 2007 measure was called *Inappropriate Antibiotic Treatment for Adults With Acute Bronchitis*, and a lower score was better. The 2008 measure is called *Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis*, and a higher score is better.
 (f) This measure represents poor diabetes control as measured by HbA1c levels. A lower number represents better diabetes control.
 (g) MMCD has yet to determine whether to apply an MPL or HPL to the *Ambulatory Care* measure. Scores are reported, but no conclusions should be drawn regarding plan performance in this area.

Plan performance for newly required measures is not assessed because the first-year results are considered “baseline” results, and MMCD does not apply the MPL or HPL to these measures. In addition, the newly required *Ambulatory Care* indicators are not scored as percentages, but rather as utilization counts per 1,000 member months. MMCD has yet to determine whether to apply MPLs or HPLs to these measures.

In this section, Delmarva compares the 2008 rates of HPSJ to the 2007 national Medicaid average, 2007 HEDIS national commercial average, and the 2007 California Healthy Families average.

- When compared with the 2007 HEDIS national commercial average, HPSJ reported higher 2008 rates for the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*
 - *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*

- HPSJ had higher 2008 rates when compared with 2007 California Healthy Families averages for the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*
 - *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*

- HPSJ performed better than all benchmarks for the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*
 - *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*

- HPSJ had mixed results for the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2007 national Medicaid average, but lower than the 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average, the 2007 national commercial average, and the 2007 California Healthy Families average).
 - *Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life* (HPSJ scored higher than 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average, the 2007 national Medicaid average, and the 2007 California Healthy Families average, but lower than the 2007 national commercial average).
 - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2007 national Medicaid average, but lower than the 2007 HEDIS national commercial average.)
 - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2007 national Medicaid average, but lower than the 2007 HEDIS national commercial average.)
 - *Breast Cancer Screening* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2007 national Medicaid average, but lower than the 2007 HEDIS national commercial average.)
 - *Cervical Cancer Screening* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2007 national Medicaid average, but lower the 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2007 HEDIS national commercial average.)
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1C Testing* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2007 HEDIS national Medicaid average, but lower than the 2007 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2007 HEDIS national commercial average.)
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening* (HPSJ scored higher than the 2008 Medi-Cal managed care weighted average and the 2007 national Medicaid average, but lower than the 2007 HEDIS national commercial average.)

- HPSJ reported rates lower than all benchmarks for four HEDIS measures:
 - *Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma*
 - *Appropriate Treatment for Children with Upper Respiratory Infection*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy*

2007 Overall Strengths

HPSJ performed well in a several areas:

- HPSJ scored higher than the Medi-Cal managed care average and the national Medicaid average on the *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life* measure.
- HPSJ reported positive results in the CAHPS survey in the following composite areas—*Getting Needed Care Adult* category, *How Well Doctors Communicate Child* category, *Getting Care Quickly Child* category, *Courteous and Helpful Office Staff Child* category and *Health Plan’s Customer Service Adult* and *Child* categories.
- HPSJ achieved improvement over baseline in the QIP *Increasing the Number of HbA1c Tests Received Annually by Each Identified Diabetic Member*.
- HPSJ demonstrated sustained improvement or overall improvement for seven of the eight comparable HEDIS measures.

2007 Recommendations

In the areas of quality, access, and timeliness, Delmarva has identified several opportunities for improvement and recommends that HPSJ focus on:

- Why its performance was worse than other benchmarks for the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
 - *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma*
 - *Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
- Which factors may be causing HPSJ’s adult and child populations to respond with mixed results in the various CAHPS composite areas.
- Determine from published reports on the statewide collaborative QIP *Adolescent Health* which factors may have resulted in greater improvement for other plans and attempt to implement some of those “best practices.”

2007 Summary

Delmarva found both strengths and continued opportunities for improvement for HPSJ in the areas of quality, access, and timeliness.

- HPSJ reported improvement in the diabetes QIP. However, although the plan showed some improvement in its *Adolescent Health* statewide collaborative QIP, the rates did not improve enough to exceed any of the comparison benchmarks.
- On the CAHPS survey, HPSJ showed mixed results when compared to the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average in all composite areas, but ranked higher on most composite scores than the state benchmark.
- HPSJ also should address its lower performance compared to benchmarks for the following HEDIS measures:
 - *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
 - *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma*
 - *Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*

2008 HEDIS Measure Strengths

- From 2007 to 2008, HPSJ improved its HEDIS scores, in 12 of the 14 comparable measures.
- HPSJ's rates were higher than all benchmark rates for the following measures:
 - *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*
 - *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*

2008 Recommendations

In its assessment of HPSJ's 2008 HEDIS measures in the areas of quality, access, and timeliness, Delmarva has identified several opportunities for improvement and recommends that the plan focus on:

- Why its performance was worse than other benchmarks on the HEDIS measures:
 - *Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma*
 - *Appropriate Treatment for Children with Upper Respiratory Infection*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
 - *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy*
- Factors that have led to its excellent performance on the measure *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth* and *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*. Once identified, HPSJ should consider whether these factors can be applied to other projects.

2008 Summary

Delmarva concludes that HPSJ has both strengths and continued opportunities for improvement related to the HEDIS performance measures. In particular, HPSJ is performing well on two measures—*Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth* and *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*. HPSJ should focus on improving rates for the four indicators on which the plan performed worse than benchmarks.

Appendix A: HEDIS®

HEDIS Background

The Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®)⁸ is a nationally recognized, standardized set of performance indicators developed by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

NCQA's Committee on Performance Measurement annually evaluates and makes collective decisions about the content of the measures and the entire HEDIS process. State governments, employer and business groups, payers, and consumers use the results of these measures. More than 90 percent of all national health plans use HEDIS to measure their performance on established dimensions of health care and plan services.

HEDIS data collection and validation is standardized across all plans. HEDIS methodology makes it possible to compare the performance of health plans to each other and to national benchmarks. Results are used to identify performance variances to help plans focus their quality improvement activities.

HEDIS Domains of Care

- NCQA assigns each of the technically-defined HEDIS measures (71 measures in 2007 and 70 measures in 2008) to one of eight domains of care:
 - Effectiveness of Care
 - Access/Availability of Care
 - Satisfaction with the Experience of Care (Adult and Child CAHPS)
 - Use of Services
 - Cost of Care
 - Health Plan Descriptive Information
 - Health Plan Stability
 - Informed Health Care Choices

⁸ HEDIS® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

DHCS-Required Measures

2007 DHCS-Required HEDIS Measures

For the 2007 Reporting Year, the DHCS required plans to report on 12 selected HEDIS measures—including multiple indicators for *Comprehensive Diabetes Care* and *Prenatal and Postpartum Care*—for a total of 16 measurement indicators.⁹

- *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*
- *Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection*
- *Breast Cancer Screening**
- *Cervical Cancer Screening**
- *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2*
- *Chlamydia Screening in Women*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening**
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy**
- *Inappropriate Antibiotic Treatment for Adults With Acute Bronchitis**
- *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
- *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
- *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma*
- *Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life*
- *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*

⁹The measures are set forth annually in All Plan Letters issued by the DHCS and available on its website. See All Plan Letter No. 06-010, entitled “Quality and Performance Improvement Program Requirements for 2007.”

* MPLs/HPLs were not applied to these measures in 2007.

2008 DHCS-Required HEDIS Measures

For the 2008 Reporting Year, the DHCS required plans to report on 12 selected HEDIS measures—including multiple indicators for *Ambulatory Care*, *Childhood Immunization Status*, *Comprehensive Diabetes Care*, and *Prenatal and Postpartum Care*—for a total of 23 measurement indicators.¹⁰

- *Adolescent Well-Care Visits*
- *Ambulatory Care—Outpatient Visits (Total Visits per 1,000 Member Months)**
- *Ambulatory Care—Emergency Department Visits (Total Visits per 1,000 Member Months)**
- *Ambulatory Care—Ambulatory Surgery/Procedures (Total Procedures per 1,000 Member Months)**
- *Ambulatory Care—Observation Room Stays (Total Stays per 1,000 Member Months)**
- *Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection*
- *Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis**
- *Breast Cancer Screening*
- *Cervical Cancer Screening*
- *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 2*
- *Childhood Immunization Status—Combination 3**
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Eye Exam (Retinal) Performed*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Good Control (<7.0%)**
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Poor Control (>9.0%)**
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—HbA1c Testing*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Screening*
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—LDL-C Control (<100mg/dL)**
- *Comprehensive Diabetes Care—Medical Attention for Nephropathy*
- *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Postpartum Care*
- *Prenatal and Postpartum Care—Timeliness of Prenatal Care*
- *Use of Appropriate Medications for People With Asthma*
- *Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life*
- *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life*

The DHCS strives to select measures that gauge the quality of care provided to and access to care experienced by the largest segments of the Medi-Cal managed care population. The EQRO compiles and validates the measurement results from all the plans and communicates the results to the DHCS in an annual *Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans* report.

¹⁰The measures are set forth annually in All Plan Letters issued by the DHCS and available on its website. See All Plan Letter No. 07-013, entitled “Quality and Performance Improvement Program Requirements for 2008.”

* MPLs/HPLs were not applied to these measures in 2008.

The *Report of the 2007 Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans* and the *Report of the 2008 Performance Measures for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans* (“*Annual Performance Measures reports*”) provide the Medi-Cal managed care weighted average for each measure. The Medi-Cal managed care weighted average accounts for variation in membership across plans. The plans’ HEDIS data processes are audited according to the protocols described in the *Annual Performance Measures reports*. HPSJ’s rates in this plan report were taken from the *Annual Performance Measures reports*, as were the state and national benchmark rates used for comparison.

Performance Level Criteria

This report utilizes the following established benchmarks in assessing plans’ performance on measures:

- Medi-Cal Managed Care Weighted Average (Same Year)
- National Medicaid Average (Prior Year)
- National Commercial Average (Prior Year)

The DHCS compares plan rates to Minimum Performance Levels (MPLs) and High Performance Levels (HPLs) for each measure to assess further program-wide quality of care and to identify specific health plan improvement needs. MPLs and HPLs are equal to the 25th and the 90th percentiles, respectively, of the 2006 and 2007 national Medicaid results. The performance benchmarks (MPLs and HPLs) were taken from NCQA’s *Quality Compass* for the previous year.

The HPL rates help identify plans that outperform the national Medicaid 90th percentile from the previous year. The DHCS does not apply the MPL and HPL to the first-year scores reported for any measure since that rate establishes a “baseline”. Similarly, the MPL and HPL are not applied in years when there were substantive changes to a measure’s technical specifications, since making a comparison to the previous rate would be inappropriate.

Appendix B: CAHPS®

CAHPS Background

The Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS®)¹¹ program is funded and administered by the U.S. Agency of Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). AHRQ works closely with a consortium of public and private organizations to develop and support a comprehensive and evolving family of standardized surveys that ask consumers and patients to report on and evaluate their health care experiences.

The CAHPS surveys capture members' ratings of health care experiences and probe those aspects of care for which members are the best, and sometimes, the only source of information. CAHPS results allow the DHCS to determine how well health plans are meeting their members' expectations and provide individual feedback to plans. This data-driven communication encourages health plan accountability and supports health plan efforts to develop and implement action plans for improving members' satisfaction with their healthcare and plan services. CAHPS results are presented and discussed in this report in relation to quality, access, and timeliness.

The DHCS generally has CAHPS surveys administered every two years. The survey discussed in this report was administered in 2007. Across all Medi-Cal managed care plans, a total of 38,824 adult surveys and 85,028 child surveys were mailed to members. A total of 12,985 adult members and 25,224 child members responded to this survey—a 35 percent and 30 percent adjusted response rate,¹² respectively.

CAHPS Measurements

During this reporting period, the 2007 CAHPS 4.0H Adult Medicaid and the 3.0H Child Medicaid surveys were administered to members of the Medi-Cal managed care contracted health plans.

The 2007 Adult (4.0H CAHPS) survey consisted of 51 questions. The 51 questions were categorized into five major areas:

- Your Health Care in the Last 6 Months
- Your Personal Doctor
- Getting Health Care From Specialists
- Your Health Plan
- About You

¹¹ CAHPS® is a registered trademark of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

¹² The adjusted response rate for the category is calculated by dividing the total number of surveys completed by the difference between the number of surveys mailed and the number of surveys found to be ineligible.

The 2007 Child (3.0H CAHPS) survey consisted of 110 questions. The 110 questions were categorized into seven major areas:

- Your Child's Personal Doctor or Nurse
- Getting Health Care From a Specialist
- Your Child's Health Care in the Last 6 Months
- Specialized Services
- Your Child's Health Plan
- Prescription Medicines
- About Your Child and You

Survey results were divided into composite areas. The composite areas are used to report plan scores and are derived by combining similar questions. Composite areas include *Getting Needed Care*, *Getting Care Quickly*, *How Well Doctors Communicate*, *Courteous and Helpful Office Staff*, and *Customer Service*. As with other data sources used throughout this report, Delmarva assessed CAHPS scores using the quality, access, and timeliness framework. CAHPS composite scores were divided as follows:

- Quality
 - *Getting Needed Care*
 - *How Well Doctors Communicate*
- Access
 - *Getting Care Quickly*
- Timeliness
 - *Courteous and Helpful Office Staff*
 - *Customer Service*

Adult members were classified as those 18 years or older and child members were classified as those members 17 years or younger for survey purposes.

Medi-Cal Adult and Child overall averages were calculated from the ratings of all 30 contracts within the Medi-Cal managed care plans operating in the State of California and were weighted to be proportionate to plan enrollment. Delmarva employed a calculation method whereby a plan's result is considered indicative of high performance in a CAHPS composite area when 80 percent or more of the total responses for the composite area fall within the most positive response category (*i.e.*, definitely yes, always, etc.). It should be noted that this calculation method differs from the standardized scoring method established by NCQA. For future CAHPS surveys, California is likely to adopt NCQA's calculation methods, including scoring.

Sample Selection and Survey Methodology

Sample selection and survey methodology are summarized below:

Sample Groups

Surveyors pulled a random sample of eligible members from each managed care plan for participation in the survey.

Adult Sample

For each managed care plan, the CAHPS 4.0H adult survey sample was drawn first, employing the required sample size. An overall score was calculated for the adult population by collecting the results from all plans and weighting the results by each plan's population size relative to the total Medi-Cal managed care population.

Child Sample

The CAHPS 3.0H child survey sample was drawn second, employing the required sample size.

Children with Chronic Conditions and CSHCN Population

The Children with Chronic Conditions (CCC) supplemental sample is drawn from the set of prescreened members who were not already selected for the CAHPS 3.0H child survey sample. The CCC survey-based screening tool contains five questions representing five different health consequences. A child member is identified as having a chronic condition if all parts of the question for at least one of the specific health consequences are answered "Yes."

The CSHCN population consists of all child members identified as having a chronic condition, as defined by the parent/guardian's responses to the CCC survey-based screening tool. The term "CSHCN" refers to all child members surveyed who met the criteria for Children with Special Health Care Needs. After Sample A was drawn, an oversample (Sample B) was drawn as required by NCQA sampling methodology. Sample B contains the CCC Measurement Set. The prescreening process described above identified these children. Therefore, it is important to note that the CCC population data set is a subset of Sample A/General Population and the CCC population may also have been included in the results for Sample B.

Calculating an overall score by collecting the results from all plans and weighting the results by plan population size could not be accomplished for the CSHCN population due to the selection methodology and possibility of "double counting". Overall, 31 percent of child members across all plans qualified as having special health care needs based on parent's/guardian's responses to the CCC screening tool.

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