

Dear Stakeholders,

This is an update on the Quality and Accountability Program and on the quality measures for use in the upcoming 2014-2015 performance period.

Previously, on June 27, 2012, the Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) presented recommendations for new quality measures, including data and graphs for each measure. During follow-up meetings, some stakeholders expressed concerns about adopting the measure, “Percent of Residents Whose Need for Help with Activities of Daily Living Has Increased (Long Stay).”

The concern raised was that some research suggests Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) do not improve for individuals with unavoidable cognitive decline and dementia. This measure does not exclude these types of residents and this could bias results for the facilities specializing in this type of care.

Based on this concern, CDPH postponed the use of this measure for 2013–14. CDPH requested that HSAG review the CMS measure and conduct data analysis on this issue and provide a report addressing these concerns and assessing the utility of this measure for 2014–15.

As directed by CDPH, HSAG examined whether the proposed ADL measure would present biased results for facilities that specialize in assisting residents with unavoidable cognitive decline and dementia. HSAG conducted this analysis and found no bias, please see the attached report.

Based on extensive consultations with stakeholders, the update on the report findings and the National Quality Forum’s previous endorsement of this quality measure, CDPH and DHCS have approved the use of the ADL quality measure. This adds one new quality measure for 2014–15.

The full list of Quality Measures for Performance Period: July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015:

Physical Restraints (Long-Stay)  
Influenza Vaccination (Short-Stay)  
Pneumococcal Vaccination (Short-Stay)  
Pressure Ulcers (Long-Stay)  
Control of Bowel or Bladder (Long-Stay)  
Urinary Tract Infection (Long-Stay)  
Self-Report Moderate to Severe Pain (Short-Stay)  
Self-Report Moderate to Severe Pain (Long-Stay)  
Activities of Daily Living (Long-Stay) – **NEW**