Item #4: Hospital Equity Measures Program Updates

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Administrative Procedure Act - Regulations Process

Step 1
- Workshopping (Information Gathering)

Step 2
- Draft Proposed Regulations Package

Step 3A
- Notice to Public Comment and Public Comment Period

Step 3B
- Adjustments to regulations based on public comment, and subsequent 15-day public comment period

Step 4
- Prepare Final Regulations Package

Step 5
- Office of Administrative Law Review and Approval

Step 6
- Regulations filed with the Secretary of State

Target Effective Date: January 2025

HCAi
Department of Health Care
Access and Information

Summary of Regulatory Changes

- Comments may only be made on the changed regulatory language
  - Changes are shown in <u>double underlines</u> for additions and ~~double strikethroughs~~ for deletions.

- Changes include:
  - Minor updates to stratification groupings to ensure clarity and ability to more effectively compare reports
  - Update to HCAI All-Cause Unplanned 30-Day Hospital Readmission Rate, stratified by behavioral health diagnosis to add a "No behavioral health condition diagnosis" category group.
  - Reduction of administrative burden by aligning reporting of CMS Hospital Commitment to Health Equity Structural measure from a yes/no structure to a 1/0 structure, to better align with CMS requirements
  - Addition of an appendix of ICD 10 codes to clarify exclusions to the readmissions measure based on diagnosis
  - Addition of a separate definition for "patient" that is aligned with :"patient population" to ensure clarity.
  - Adding hospital system report guidance into the file specifications
  - Addition of a 120-day window for any reporting revisions, to further support hospitals with submitting accurate data.

Social and Community Impact with Data

Highlights programs and data visualizations that provide transparency into the direct social and community impacts of California's hospitals with a focus on social drivers of health.
- Hospital Supplier Diversity
- Community Benefits Reporting
- Hospital Fair Billing
- **Hospital Equity Reporting Program**

Social and Community Impact with Data

DATA & REPORTS   FEATURED   TOPICS   SOCIAL IMPACT   DATASETS   REQUEST DATA   SUBMIT DATA

HCAI collects and manages data from across California's health care system to promote transparency and empower stakeholders. HCAI's Social and Community Impact page highlights core data programs that provide transparency into the direct social and community impacts of California's hospitals with a focus on social drivers of health, or SDoH.

According to Healthy People 2030, social drivers of health are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. Social drivers of health are typically grouped in a few general categories including: economic stability, education access and quality, healthcare access and quality, social and community context, and neighborhood and built environment. Taking these broad categories HCAI has identified six priority social drivers for which HCAI data can be reported: preferred language spoken, the actual payer or entity that will pay the greatest share of medical bills, employment rate, rate of park access, homeownership rate, and homes with basic kitchen facilities.

Understanding and addressing these drivers are essential for developing effective interventions, reducing health disparities, and promoting overall community health and resilience. As additional data becomes available, this webpage will reflect the healthcare system's evolving efforts to address these social drivers within California's communities.

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4. Get Involved

https://hcai.ca.gov/data/social-and-community-impact-with-data/

Hospital Equity Data Toolkit

Three tools you can use to improve equity in healthcare and participate in HCAI's Hospital Equity Measures Program.

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https://hcai.ca.gov/hospital_equity_data_toolkit/