

Hospital Equity Reporting Program and Health Care Equity Measures Advisory Committee

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Legislative Intent

- Recognizes disparate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and need for further data on access, quality, and outcomes of care.
- Data could be used to analyze these disparities by age, sex, race, ethnicity, language, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, payor, and socioeconomic status.
- Data would contribute to well-informed health policy and public health response and would improve the overall health of individuals and communities in the state.

Hospital Statutory Requirements – Annual Equity Reports

Content – Measures

- Analysis of health status and the disparities in access to care for patients based on age, sex, race, ethnicity, language, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and payor.

Content – Health Equity Plan

- Plan to achieve disparity reduction for disparities identified in the data.
- Includes measurable objectives and specific timeframes in which disparities identified need to be addressed.[^]
- Addresses the 10 widest disparities in health care quality for vulnerable populations[^] in terms of access, or outcomes and performance across all the following priority areas:
 - Person-centered care.
 - Patient safety.
 - Addressing patient social determinants of health.
 - Effective treatment.
 - Care coordination.
 - Access to care.

[^] as recommended by the Advisory Committee

Hospital Statutory Requirements – Annual Equity Reports

Administrative Aspects

- All hospitals that meet the definition of “Hospital” under 127371(d) are subject to the Medical Equity Disclosure Act.
- Reported to the extent information is available and the information will be presented in a way that protects personal information of patients
 - Hospitals will be required to de-identify information included in the reports submitted and posted on the website pursuant to deidentification requirements as specified by the department as well as state and federal privacy laws including the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
- Posted on the hospital website including the words “Equity Report”
- First reports due September 30, 2025, but not until 12 months after release of CMS measures
- Hospital systems, with more than one hospital, must submit an equity report that is disaggregated at the individual hospital level and aggregated across all hospitals in the system.

Committee Statutory Requirements

- **Measures Development**

- Make recommendations on the appropriate measures that hospitals are required to report in their annual equity reports. (Due December 31, 2022*)

- **Health Equity Plans**

- Advise in identifying the 10 widest disparities in health care quality for vulnerable populations, in terms of access or outcome and priority performance areas
 - Provide recommendations on the measurable objectives and specific timeframes in which disparities for vulnerable populations identified in the data need to be addressed
 - After first year reporting make a second set of recommendations regarding the submitted hospitals' health equity plans. (Due September 30, 2027**)
- Through its meetings, provide a forum for stakeholder and public engagement.

All recommendations will be published on the HCAI Website

* Or 120 days after the release of CMS health equity measures

**Or 24 months after the release of the CMS health equity measures

HCAI Statutory Requirements

- Convene and staff advisory committee
- Build out regulations that establish a reporting schedule and format for collection of reports including the measures that will need to be applied to the reports
- Establish a system to collect and annually post reports on the HCAI website
- Annually post a report that identifies hospitals that did not submit equity reports
- Provide technical assistance to hospitals in applying the measures as specified in the regulations

Related HCAI Data

- AHRQ Measures – Inpatient Mortality Indicators (IMIs), Prevention Quality Indicators, Patient Safety Indicators
- Utilization Reports – Examples: Trends in utilization and impact of COVID, ED Burden (Homelessness, Behavioral Health), Patients Experiencing Homelessness, Behavioral Health, Cancer surgery volume
- Quality Reports – CABG, Elective PCI, Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR), IMIs
- Patient Characteristics
- Healthy Places Index
- HCAI data used by partner organizations

2022-2025 Hospital Equity Reporting Program Roadmap

