

Medicaid/CHIP Child Core Set

Title IV of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 ([CHIPRA](#)) focused on strengthening quality of care and health outcomes for children with a number of provisions relating to the development and use of quality measures. Among these provisions was the identification of an "Initial Child Core Set" of quality measures for voluntary use by state Medicaid/CHIP programs with required annual updates. In 2009, the [initial set of 24 measures](#) was released for public comment by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). This initial set represented an important starting point, but it did not address all critical gaps in child quality measurement. The 2009 CHIPRA legislation also included a provision to create a Pediatric Quality Measurement Program ([PQMP](#)), which funded seven [Centers of Excellence](#) to identify and develop a portfolio of child healthcare quality measures for consideration in the Child Core Set and beyond. Periodic assessments and updates of measures have occurred every year since 2013, with the goal of filling gap areas. Each year, some measures are retired, and new PQMP measures are included. As of 2015, the [Child Core Set](#) included 25 measures. CMS provides in-depth [technical support](#) to help states collect, report, and use the Child Core Set measures. States have increased reporting each year since the first report was published in 2010.

The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), CHIP provides matching funds to states in order to provide health insurance to children in families whose income is too high to qualify for Medicaid, but too low to afford private insurance. In 2014, 8.1 million children were enrolled in CHIP.

In addition to the Child Core Set, CMS has established a [core set](#) of health care quality measures for adults enrolled in Medicaid, including measures on maternal and perinatal health and preventive care for women (2015 secretary's report [here](#)), 2015 child secretary's report [here](#)).

2015 Core Set of Children's Health Care Quality Measures for Medicaid and CHIP

Developer(s)	The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) currently works with the National Quality Forum's (NQF) Measure Applications Partnership (MAP) to review and annually strengthen the Child Core Set using measures developed by health services researchers.
Funder(s)	Depends on the measure.
Purpose(s)	To measure the quality of healthcare services delivered to children, financed through the Medicaid and CHIP programs.
Target Populations	Infants, children, adolescents, pregnant women, and those with special health care needs enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP.
Data Sources	The measures rely on various data sources. Some of the measures use "administrative" claims/encounter data. Others may use the "hybrid" method, involving both claims/encounter data and electronic medical records or medical chart review. Other data sources may include vital records, immunization registries, or surveys.
Technical Measure Descriptions	The measures are described in the Technical Specifications and Resource Manual , which is updated annually. The specifications define the numerators and denominators and provide links to value sets, where applicable.
Number of Measures	25 measures in the 2015 Child Core Set.
Topics of Measurement	Access to care, primary and preventive care, perinatal care, behavioral health care, care of acute and chronic conditions, dental and oral health services, and experience of care.
Reporting Requirements	Reporting by states is voluntary. However, the Secretary of HHS is required to summarize state-specific Core Set data every year.
Recommended or Required Stratification	Stratification of the Core Set measures is optional.
Link to Additional Info	2015 MAP review process HHS annual reports: 2010 , 2011 , 2012 , 2013 , 2014 , 2015

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