New Tobacco Quality Measure for Health Plans for 2026

Tobacco Use Screening and Cessation Intervention (TSC-E) is a new quality measure for health plans to report to the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) in 2026. This population-based measure aligns with current reporting by health systems.

The TSC-E measure reports *two* rates:

Tobacco Use Screening

Percentage of patients 12 and older screened for tobacco use

Cessation Intervention

Percentage of tobacco users who received a cessation intervention

What counts as "Tobacco"*?

** Tobacco refers to commercial tobacco or nicotine products not approved by the FDA for smoking cessation.*



Smoking



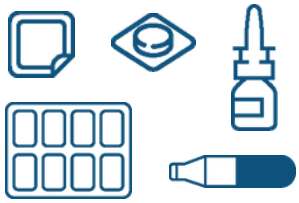
Smokeless



E-cigarettes and vapes

What counts as a "Cessation Intervention"?

FDA-Approved Medications



Nicotine patch, gum, lozenge, nasal spray, inhaler (if available)



Varenicline or bupropion

Counseling



Individual or group counseling



Referral to quitline or text/app



Referral to digital program

Visit the CA Quits program website and our Health System Change Toolkit to implement strategies for TSC-E for health systems and plans.

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