

More so than ever before, the private and public entities that are paying for health care services are demanding a greater amount of value. They want to know if what they are paying for is actually improving health outcomes or improving the overall health status of the individuals receiving health services. The primary industry standard for measuring value is through measuring the quality service indicators identified through HEDIS (Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set). RCMG and PNCMS are currently coordinating programs in your area to help physicians better understand the importance of HEDIS and the roll it can play in payments and increasing patient quality.

According to NCQA (National Committee for Quality Assurance) - The Value in Health Care, August 1, 2017 by Cindy Pena), *"More than 90% of health plans use HEDIS to measure their performance in care and services for chronic disease management, screening, prevention and wellness, overuse and appropriateness and other areas. Plans also use HEDIS to help them focus improvement efforts. And because HEDIS is used so widely, consumers (and plans) can compare plan performance across the board."*

In an attempt to improve the overall quality of the health care delivery system as well as measure documented improvements to that delivery system, RCMG is working closely with Medi-Cal managed care health plans to increase the HEDIS related encounter data. The most important factor for all HEDIS measurements is to have physicians complete and document HEDIS identified services timely. Under the current Medi-Cal managed care programs, physician practices have many opportunities to increase quality related payments. RCMG and PNCMS have adopted HEDIS as a top priority focus for 2018. The HEDIS team at RCMG works closely with providers to identify members in need of prevention and health maintenance services. They also troubleshoot data and coding issues which are currently preventing providers from getting credit for all they do. They further offer evaluation of workflows and recommend best practice solutions to reach HEDIS benchmarks and perform provider and clinic staff training on specific HEDIS measures.

If you have questions of how RCMG can help you practice improve its HEDIS performance, please contact Valarie Toscano, RCMG HEDIS Manager at vtoscano@rcmg.com