DHCS
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES

MY25 MCAS COUNTY-LEVEL REPORTING

County-Level Reporting

Managed Care Plans (MCPs) are required to report Managed Care Accountability Set (MCAS) measure rates at the county level. While these submissions are not subject to audit by Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG), they are a required component of Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) reporting expectations.

Rate Reporting Template (RRT)

DHCS, in coordination with HSAG, will be releasing the updated RRT. The template will include detailed instructions on formatting, validation rules, and submission protocols. MCPs should prepare to use the forthcoming template for all county-level submissions.

MCPs serving more than one county must submit an RRT for each county. MCPs operating within a single county do not need to submit an additional RRT on top of their plan-level submission. An RRT for a reporting unit or a group of counties does not satisfy the county-level reporting requirement. MCPs are instructed to contact Michelle Joo (mjoo@hsag.com) and Patricia Ferry (pferry@hsag.com) to obtain access to the designated SAFE site folder for submission of RRTs.

Attestation

Included in the RRT is a tab for attestation. An authorized representative of the MCP must certify, under penalty of perjury, that data elements are complete, accurate, and based on the specifications provided by DHCS.

Reporting Methodology

Several MCAS measures allow for either the administrative or hybrid data collection methodology**. For any given measure, MCPs must use the same reporting methodology (administrative or hybrid) across both the plan-level and county-level rates.** Plans may still choose between administrative or hybrid where applicable; however, the chosen methodology must remain consistent across both levels of county-level and plan-level reporting within a given measure.

For a given measure reported using **hybrid** methodology, the aggregate sum of all eligible populations at the county level must equal the plan-level eligible population. If a given measure is reported using the **administrative** or **electronic clinical data systems (ECDS)** methodology, the aggregate sum of all eligible populations, numerators, and denominators of county-level rates must equal those at the plan level.

Hybrid Measures

For any measures reported using the hybrid method, MCPs must ensure that all required data fields—identified with an "H" in the Required Fields tab of the template—are completed. If a measure is reported using the administrative method, these fields should be left blank.

Denominator for County-Level Rates Reported Via Hybrid Methodology

The following guidance applies to measures reported by the hybrid methodology.

Based on consideration of balancing operational parameters of the data abstraction tools and statistical sampling, the **minimum** sample size for county-level hybrid measure reporting is set at 100.

The HSAG-audited plan-level approved hybrid sample size, following the National Committee for Quality Assurance's (NCQA's) Minimum Required Sample Size (MRSS), should be used as the foundation for determining the county-level sampling required. Starting with the plan-level hybrid NCQA-reported sample, plans would then stratify by county to determine where any eligible populations for a given county fall below the minimum sample size of 100 for county-level reporting. The additional members to be drawn into the sample should come from the total eligible population for a given measure within the county from which the additional sampling is being drawn. **It is important that the additional county-level sampling is conducted AFTER the plan-level hybrid sampling has been completed following NCQA's sampling guidelines.**

- If a county has 100 or more members represented in the plan-level sample, the plan will use that data to report that county's rate. **No additional sampling is required. For county-level rates, the MCP may sample the MRSS for the measure, which is typically 411.**
- If a county has less than 100 members represented in the plan-level sample, the plan will need to perform additional county-level sampling to reach at least a minimum sample size of 100. **For county-level rates, the MCP may sample the MRSS for the measure, which is typically 411.**
- If a county's eligible population for a measure has less than 100 members, the entire eligible population is included in the hybrid reporting process for that county. **No**

additional sampling is required. The total eligible population for the county is reported.

Below are some example scenarios in approaching county-level hybrid measure sampling to meet the DHCS-required county-level sample size of 100.

Generate plan-level hybrid measure samples following NCQA's sampling guidelines of 411 for all eligible hybrid measures. This is the population that will be reported via NCQA's Interactive Data Submission System (IDSS) and audited by HSAG. **It is important that the plan-level hybrid sampling following NCQA's sampling guidelines is conducted PRIOR to generating county-level samples using the DHCS-required county-level sample size of 100.**

- To support county-level reporting, using the NCQA plan-level hybrid measure sample, plans should then stratify the eligible population size by county.
- For each county, determine the additional number of members to be sampled to meet the county-level minimum sample size of 100.

Scenario 1: Where the County-Level Eligible Population Meets the DHCS Required Sample Size of 100

- Using your plan-level reported NCQA hybrid sample as the foundation for determining the county-level sampling, stratify the NCQA hybrid reported sample by county.
- For example, see the following stratification across Counties A, B, and C:
    - 341 members from County A
    - 23 members from County B
    - 47 members from County C
- To meet the DHCS-required sample size of 100 county-level reporting, see the table below that shows the additional members that need to be randomly drawn from each of the county eligible populations for the given measure.

Scenario 1: Where the County-Level Eligible Population Meets the DHCS-Required Sample Size of 100			
Plan/County	**Members**	**Additional Members Needed to Achieve the County-Level DHCS-Required Sample Size of 100**	**County-Level Total**
Plan-Level MRSS:	**411**		
County A:	**341**	**0**	**341**
County B:	**23**	**100-23=77**	**100**
County C:	**47**	**100-47=53**	**100**
Total	**411**		**541**

- County A: The sample has more than 100 members; therefore, no additional members are required to pull into the County A sample. The county-level rate is determined from this sample.
- County B: The sample has a total of 23 members, which is less than 100. To meet the minimum of 100, plans would randomly draw in 77 new members from the County B eligible population to meet the minimum required sample size. Of the 77 new members, if an exclusion is identified, an additional member is randomly drawn in from the County B eligible population to achieve the DHCS-required sample size.

- County C: The sample has a total of 47 members, which is less than 100 members. To meet the minimum of 100, plans would randomly draw in 53 new members from the County C eligible population to meet the minimum required sample size. Of the 53 new members, if an exclusion is identified, an additional member is randomly drawn in from the County C eligible population to achieve the DHCS-required sample size.

Scenario 2: Where the County's Eligible Population is Less Than the DHCS-Required Sample Size

Using your plan-level reported hybrid sample as the foundation for determining county level, stratify the hybrid reported sample by county.

- For example, see below stratification across County A, B, and C:
    - 341 members from County A
    - 23 members from County B
    - 47 members from County C
- To meet the DHCS-required sample size for county-level reporting, see the table below on the additional members that need to be randomly drawn from the county eligible populations for the given measure.

Scenario 2: Where the County's Eligible Population is Less Than the DHCS-Required Sample Size of 100			
Plan/County	**Members**	**Additional Members Needed to Achieve the County-Level DHCS-Required Sample Size of 100**	**County-Level Total**
Plan-Level MRSS:	**411**		
County A:	**341**	**0**	**341**
County B:	**23**	**Total Eligible Population**	**23**
County C:	**47**	**Total Eligible Population**	**47**
Total	**411**		**411**

- County A: The sample has more than 100 members; therefore, no additional members are required to pull into the County A sample. The county-level rate is determined from this sample.
- County B: The sample has a total of 23 members, which is less than 100. The 23 members reported in County B are reflective of the total eligible population for the given measure. No additional members are required.

- County C: The sample has a total of 47 members, which is less than 100. The 47 members reported in County B are reflective of the total eligible population for the given measure. No additional members are required.