



Consensus Core Set: Pediatrics

The Core Quality Measures Collaborative (CQMC) core measure sets (core sets) are intended for use in value-based payment (VBP) programs and may also be used to drive improvement in high-priority areas. Payers can use the core sets to holistically assess quality or as a starting point to select measures to meet specific goals. The CQMC develops and maintains the core sets using a multistakeholder, consensus-based process and established [measure-selection principles](#). In the table below, the consensus-based entity (*CBE*) *Number/Specifications* column links to measure specifications and details, and the *Notes* column includes additional considerations for use.

Pediatric Measures

The CQMC core set measures focus on ambulatory care measures at the clinician-reporting level. The Pediatrics core set includes five measures that have been tested for reliability and validity at the clinician (individual or group/practice) reporting level. The remaining core set measures address important topics related to pediatric care, but they have not been tested at the clinician level of analysis. When using measures specified outside of the clinician level of analysis, core set users should ensure adequate measure denominator size based on their patient population.

Measure Topic	CBE Number/ Specifications	Measure	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
Asthma	N/A	Follow-Up After Acute Care Visits for Asthma (AAF-E)*	National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)	Health Plan	Never submitted for CBE endorsement.
	3599	Pediatric Asthma Emergency Department Use	Albert Einstein College of Medicine	Health Plan	Fall 2020: Endorsed Spring 2027: Next Maintenance Cycle Measure intended to serve as a population-based approach to inform quality improvement. Use with a sufficient denominator.

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Behavioral Health	Clinical Quality Measure (CQM) Version: 0418 Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Version: 0418e/eCQM Specifications CQM and eCQM Versions: CMS Measures Inventory Tool (CMIT) 672	Preventative Care and Screening: Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow-Up Plan	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Facility, Health Plan	Both CQM and eCQM Versions: Fall 2020: Endorsement Removed (developer plans to maintain measure independently) Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	3488/CMIT 264	Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence*	NCQA	Health Plan	Spring 2019: Endorsed Spring 2027: Next Maintenance Cycle Granted extension by the CBE to renew endorsement; see PQM website for details.
	N/A	Utilization of the PHQ-9 to Monitor Depression Symptoms for Adolescents and Adults (DMS-E)*	NCQA	Health Plan	Never submitted for CBE endorsement.
	N/A	Depression Screening and Follow-Up for Adolescents and Adults (DSF-E)*	NCQA	Health Plan	Never submitted for CBE endorsement.
	CMIT 394/eCQM Specifications	Initiation and Engagement of Substance Use Disorder Treatment (IET)*	NCQA	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan	Never submitted for CBE endorsement. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.

Measure Topic	CBE Number/ Specifications	Measure	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
	3489/CMIT 265	Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Mental Illness	NCQA	Health Plan	Spring 2019: Endorsed Spring 2027: Next Maintenance Cycle Granted extension by the CBE to renew endorsement; see PQM website for details. Performance may be initially low due to data availability challenges.
	CQM Version: 0108 eCQM Version: eCQM Specifications CQM and eCQM Versions: CMIT 271	Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication	NCQA	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan	CQM Version: Spring 2020: Endorsed Spring 2028: Next Maintenance Cycle Granted extension by the CBE to renew endorsement; see PQM website for details. eCQM Version: Never submitted for CBE endorsement. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
Overuse	CQM Version: 0002 eCQM Version: eCQM Specifications CQM and eCQM Versions: CMIT 72	Appropriate Testing for Pharyngitis (CWP)	NCQA	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan, Integrated Delivery System	CQM Version: Spring 2014: Endorsement Removed eCQM Version: Never submitted for CBE endorsement. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	CQM Version: 0069 eCQM Version: eCQM Specifications CQM and eCQM Versions: CMIT 74	Appropriate Treatment for Children With Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)	NCQA	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan	CQM Version: Fall 2020: Endorsed Spring 2027: Next Maintenance Cycle eCQM Version: Never submitted for CBE endorsement. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.

Measure Topic	CBE Number/ Specifications	Measure	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
Patient Experience	0005/CMIT 158/CAHPS for Merit-based Incentive Program System (MIPS) 321	CAHPS Clinician & Group Surveys (CG-CAHPS) – Version 3.0 -Adult, Child	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual	The CBE does not endorse instruments or surveys; it endorses measures derived from the instrument or surveys. Measures derived from 0005 underwent review in Fall 2025, where they were either endorsed or endorsed with conditions. (The condition being, when the measures return for maintenance, the developer must provide empirical evidence that the measure performs appropriately in the pediatric population.) For more information on endorsement for this set of measures, visit the PQM website. AHRQ guidance on sampling.
Prevention and Wellness	CQM Version: 0038/N/A eCQM Version: eCQM Specifications CQM and eCQM Versions: CMIT 124	Childhood Immunization Status (CIS)	NCQA	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan	CQM Version: Fall 2022: Endorsed Spring 2028: Next Maintenance Cycle eCQM Version: Never submitted for CBE endorsement. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	1407/CMIT 363/N/A/MIPS 394	Immunizations for Adolescents (IMA)	NCQA	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan	Fall 2022: Endorsed Spring 2028: Next Maintenance Cycle Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	1448/CMIT 1003/ MIPS 467	Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life	Oregon Health & Science University	Population: Regional and State, Health Plan	Spring 2017: Endorsement Removed (the steward still maintains the measure) Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	CQM Version: 0033 eCQM Version: eCQM Specifications CQM and eCQM Versions: CMIT 128	Chlamydia Screening in Women (CHL)	NCQA	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan	CQM Version: Spring 2021: Endorsed Spring 2027: Next Maintenance Cycle eCQM Version: Never submitted for CBE endorsement. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.

Measure Topic	CBE Number/ Specifications	Measure	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
	CQM Version: 0024/N/A eCQM Version: eCQM Specifications CQM and eCQM Versions: CMIT 760	Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children/Adolescents (WCC)	NCQA	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan, Integrated Delivery System	CQM Version: Endorsement Removed eCQM Version: Never submitted for CBE endorsement. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	N/A/CMIT 123	Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits (WCV)	NCQA	Health Plan	Never submitted for CBE endorsement.
	1360	Audiological Evaluation No Later Than 3 Months of Age*	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Facility, Other, Population: Regional and State	Fall 2014: Endorsement Removed
	2517	Oral Evaluation, Dental Services*	American Dental Association, Dental Quality Alliance	Health Plan	Spring 2025: Endorsed with Conditions. When the measure comes back for maintenance in 5 years, the developer should have: explored with accountable entities some nuances in the improvement data, including any challenges with and reasons for any limited improvement over time, and have identified facilitators to overcome those identified challenges. Spring 2030: Next Maintenance Cycle
Sickle Cell Anemia	3595	Hydroxyurea Use Among Children with Sickle Cell Anemia	University of Michigan	Health Plan	Fall 2020: Endorsed Spring 2027: Next Maintenance Cycle Use with a sufficient denominator.
	2797	Transcranial Doppler Ultrasonography Screening Among Children with Sickle Cell Anemia	University of Michigan	Health Plan	Fall 2022: Endorsed Spring 2027: Next Maintenance Cycle Use with a sufficient denominator.

* Measure added during most recent update.

Gap Areas for Future Consideration or Measure Development

- Behavioral health measures for pediatric populations, including general suicide risk assessment, anxiety, and referrals/follow-up
- Social determinants of health, access to care, and other closing gaps in care considerations (e.g., measure stratification to identify such gaps)
- Substance use measures, especially screening measures for vaping and e-cigarette use
- Patient-reported outcomes: clinical outcomes, patient and family engagement, additional methods of assessing experience (e.g., net promoter scores)
- Contraceptive care
- Obesity-related metrics, including body mass index, plan of care, and improvements in weight
- Care coordination
- Age-specific measures (e.g., adapting adult-focused survey instruments to suit adolescents)
- Measures that include virtual or telehealth visits as part of their specifications when appropriate (e.g., virtual visits for adolescent well-care)
- Revisit #2721e Screening for Reduced Visual Acuity and Referral in Children, if endorsed

Core Set Updates for 2025

The Pediatrics Workgroup added seven measures to the core set:

- Utilization of the PHQ-9 to Monitor Depression Symptoms for Adolescents and Adults (DMS-E)
- Depression Screening and Follow-Up for Adolescents and Adults (DSF-E)
- CBE #1360 Audiological Evaluation No Later Than 3 Months of Age
- Initiation and Engagement of Substance Use Disorder Treatment (IET)
- CBE #3488 Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence
- CBE #2517 Oral Evaluation, Dental Services
- Follow-Up After Acute Care Visits for Asthma (AAF-E)

The workgroup removed two measures from the core set:

- CBE #2811e Acute Otitis Media - Appropriate First-Line Antibiotics
- CBE #1800 Asthma Medication Ratio