

Consensus Core Set: Behavioral Health

The Core Quality Measures Collaborative (CQMC) creates core measure sets (core sets) for use in value-based payment (VBP) programs and 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.

Behavioral Health Measures

The CQMC core set measures focus on ambulatory care measures at the clinician reporting level. The Behavioral Health core set includes 10 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 behavioral health 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
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)	Clinical Quality Measure (CQM) Version: 0108 Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Version: eCQM Specifications CQM and eCQM Versions: CMS Measures Inventory Tool (CMIT) 271	Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication	National Committee for Quality Assurance (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.

Measure Topic	CBE Number/ Specifications	Measure	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
Depression	CQM Version: 0418/MIPS 134 eCQM Version: 0418e/eCQM Specifications CQM and eCQM Versions: CMIT 672	Preventive Care and Screening: Screening for 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.
	1885/MIPS 370/ CMIT 190	Depression Response at 12 Months- Progress Towards Remission	Minnesota Community Measurement	Clinician: Group/Practice, Facility	Spring 2022: Endorsement Removed
	N/A	Depression Remission or Response for Adolescents and Adults (DRR-E)*	NCQA	Health Plan	Never submitted for CBE endorsement.
	N/A/CMIT 1781	Postpartum Depression Screening and Follow-up (PDS-E)*	NCQA	Health Plan	Never submitted for CBE endorsement. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	eCQM Version: N/A/CMIT 1851	Prenatal Depression Screening and Follow-up (PND-E)*	NCQA	Health Plan	Never submitted for CBE endorsement. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
Serious Mental Illness	1879/MIPS 383/ CMIT 18	Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals with Schizophrenia	CMS	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan	Spring 2025: Endorsed Spring 2030: Next Maintenance Cycle Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	2800/CMIT 448	Metabolic Monitoring for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics	NCQA	Health Plan	Fall 2019: Endorsed Fall 2027: Next Maintenance Cycle Granted extension by the CBE to renew endorsement; see PQM website for details. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	1932/CMIT 202	Diabetes Screening for People With Schizophrenia or Bipolar Disorder Who Are Using Antipsychotic Medications (SSD)	NCQA	Health Plan, Integrated Delivery System, Population: Regional and State	Spring 2018: Endorsement Removed (No longer pursuing endorsement) Telehealth eligible for CMS programs

Measure Topic	CBE Number/ Specifications	Measure	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
Suicide Risk	MIPS 504/CMIT 1713	Initiation, Review, and/or Update to Suicide Safety Plan for Individuals With Suicidal Thoughts, Behavior, or Suicide Risk*	American Psychiatric Association (APA)	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual	Never submitted for CBE endorsement. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
Tobacco, Alcohol, and Other	2152/MIPS 431 CMIT 597	Preventive Care and Screening: Unhealthy Alcohol Use: Screening & Brief Counseling	NCQA	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan	Fall 2018: Endorsement Removed (No longer pursuing endorsement) Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	CQM Version: 0028/MIPS 226 eCQM Version: 0028e/eCQM Specifications CQM and eCQM Versions: CMIT 596	Preventive Care and Screening: Tobacco Use: Screening and Cessation Intervention	NCQA	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan	CQM Version: Fall 2022: Endorsed Spring 2028: Next Maintenance Cycle eCQM Version: Fall 2019: Endorsement Removed Telehealth eligible for CMS programs. The workgroup emphasized the importance of assessing tobacco/nicotine use and cessation in patients with mental illness.
	3589/CMIT 1761	Prescription or Administration of Pharmacotherapy to Treat Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)	RTI International	Clinician: Individual, Facility	Fall 2020: Endorsed Fall 2026: Next Maintenance Cycle
	N/A	Pharmacotherapy for Opioid Use Disorder (POD) (HEDIS)	NCQA	Health Plan	Never submitted for CBE endorsement.
	3590	Continuity of Care After Receiving Hospital or Residential Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment	RTI International	Facility	Fall 2020: Endorsed Fall 2026: Next Maintenance Cycle Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.

Measure Topic	CBE Number/ Specifications	Measure	Steward	Level of Analysis	Notes
Other	0576/MIPS 391/CMIT 268	Follow-Up After Hospitalization for Mental Illness	NCQA	Clinician: Group/Practice, Clinician: Individual, Health Plan	Fall 2020: Endorsed Spring 2027: Next Maintenance Cycle Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	3489/CMIT 265	Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Mental Illness	NCQA	Health Plan	Spring 2019: Endorsed Spring 2027: Next Endorsement Cycle Granted extension by the CBE to renew endorsement; see PQM website for details. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.
	MIPS 502/CMIT 377	Improvement or Maintenance of Functioning for Individuals with a Mental and/or Substance Use Disorder*	APA	Clinician: Group/Practice	Never submitted for CBE endorsement. Telehealth eligible for CMS programs.

* Measure added during most recent update

Gaps Areas for Future Consideration and Measure Development

- Coordinated care, including bidirectional integrated behavioral health care and general health care and primary care
- Patient-reported measures, including patient experience with psychiatric care
- Suicide-risk measures independent of a major depressive disorder diagnosis, specific age group, or care setting
- Measures for anxiety disorder, trauma, and other stress-related disorders
- Depression remission measures that span beyond 6 months but count remission if it is achieved earlier than 12 months, and measures for prepartum and postpartum depression
- Psychosocial rehabilitation and/or rehabilitation recovery measures, including person-centered outcomes
- Autism measures, including applied behavioral analysis (ABA) treatment
- Client performance and function (e.g., engaging in an occupation)
- Measure on opioid overdoses in the emergency department created by the Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality (WCHQ)
- New Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) Mental Health Care Survey (once developed)
- APA measures related to measurement-based care (once developed)
- NCQA person-centered outcomes measure (once developed)
- Access to a prescriber, access to therapy, and access to peer services
- Patient perspective (e.g., cash-paid visits versus insurance paid visits and the decline of in-network behavioral health providers)
- Geriatric mental health measures
- Child and adolescent mental health measures beyond ADHD

Core Set Updates for 2025

The Behavioral Health Workgroup added seven measures to the core set:

- Depression Remission or Response for Adolescents and Adults (DRR-E)
- Postpartum Depression Screening and Follow-up (PDS-E)
- Prenatal Depression Screening and Follow-up (PND-E)
- CMIT #1713 Initiation, Review, and/or Update to Suicide Safety Plan For Individuals With Suicidal Thoughts, Behavior, or Suicide Risk
- CMIT #377 Improvement or Maintenance of Functioning for Individuals with a Mental and/or Substance Use Disorder

The workgroup removed one measure from the core set:

- CBE #1884 Depression Response at Six Months - Progress Towards Remission