



HIV/AIDS Bureau

Rockville, MD 20857

APR 29 2009

Dear Colleague,

The HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) is pleased to release the 3rd group of clinical performance measures: *HAB HIV/AIDS Core Clinical Performance Measures for Adults & Adolescents: Group 3*. Based on the tremendous amount of feedback received on the April 2007 draft measures, the performance measures were revised to address many of the issues raised. The modified performance measures are being released in phases to allow for staged implementation. The measures included in Group 1 represented five (5) core clinical performance measures that are deemed critical for HIV programs to monitor. Group 2 includes nine (9) additional measures that reflect important aspects of care that impact HIV-related morbidity and focus on treatment decisions that affect a sizable population. Group 3 measures represent areas of care that are considered "best practice," but may lack written clinical guidelines or rely on data that are difficult to collect. Feedback on performance measures related to case management, Aids Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), oral health and systems are currently under review and are expected to be released in Fall 2009.

The core clinical performance measures (Groups 1-3) can be used by all programs funded by the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program that provide HIV care or other relevant services and can be used at the provider, grantee, or system level. The measures can be rolled up across multiple providers to look at issues from a system perspective, such as with Part A and B Programs. While data on the measures are not required to be submitted to HAB beyond the elements embedded in Client Level Data, grantees are encouraged to include the core clinical performance measures in their quality management plan.

To assist grantees in the use and implementation of the core clinical performance measures, a reference guide was developed: *HAB HIV Core Clinical Performance Measures for Adults & Adolescents: Companion Guide*. Many of the questions raised during the input process are addressed in this document and additional questions have been included to address issues specific to Group 3. Additional questions related to the core clinical performance measures can be posed to the TARGET Center HELPDESK at 301/443-0067 or to your Project Officer.

HAB is extremely interested in receiving feedback regarding the core clinical performance measures, particularly as it relates to the use of the measures. If you have any information you would like to share in regards to the utility, suggestions for improvement or examples of how the information has been used, please send an e-mail to HIVmeasures@hrsa.gov.

Sincerely,

Deborah Parham Hopson, PhD, RN, FAAN
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Associate Administrator