



MARYLAND
HEALTH CARE
COMMISSION



Quality Measures and Performance Levels for Home Health Agency Certificate of Need Review

Maryland Health Care Commission

September 23, 2021

Background

- HHA Chapter, COMAR 10.24.16, effective April 2016
- New approach: consumer choice of quality providers
- Evolving quality measures: CMS Compare websites
- Recommended quality measures and performance levels by types of applicants for public comment, ended August 20, 2021
- Approved quality metrics to be used in CON review
 - Jurisdictional need
 - Qualifying an applicant
 - Determining preference among competing applicants

Recommended Performance-Related Measures and Levels by Type of Applicant

- General parameters are set forth in COMAR 10.24.16.07
- Define minimum CMS star ratings to be achieved
- Recommend Maryland state average: CMS Overall Quality of Patient Care (QoPC), Experience of Care (CAHPS) Star Ratings
- Home Health Agencies: ★ ★ ★ ★ on both, CMS October 2020 data set
- Hospitals: ★ ★ ★ on both, for three years CMS October 2018 – 2020 data sets
- Nursing Homes: ★ ★ ★ ★ CMS October 2018; ★ ★ ★ CMS October 2019 and 2020 data sets.
- Maryland Nursing Homes: Maryland-specific EOC survey, average rating scores varied: 8.1 (out of 10) in CY 2016; 7.7 in CY 2018; and 7.6 in CY 2019
- Residential Service Agencies (RSAs): no standardized measures, submit quality information

Staff Responses to Comments Received on Public Notice

- Two commenters: MNCHA and Lorien Health Services
- MNCHA:
 - Current and available CMS quality data
 - Consideration of higher scoring acquiring lower scoring HHA requires regulatory change
 - CMS public sources provide consistent, objective data rather than private data sources
- Lorien Health Services:
 - Qualify nursing home as defined in NH Chapter requires regulatory change
 - NH resident abuse citation cause for disqualification
 - Maryland-specific NH EOC Survey is valid, reliable
 - RSA accreditation is objective quality measure
 - Proposed CON “exemption” outside scope; requires regulatory/statutory changes
- Summary: no changes to staff recommended performance-related measures by types of applicant

HHA Need: Jurisdiction and Multi-Jurisdictional Region

- Additional HHA Need in Five Jurisdictions
- Carroll, Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties
- For CON Review Scheduling:
 - Single Jurisdiction (Carroll County)
 - Lower Eastern Shore Region (Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester Counties)

Requested Action

Approve recommended quality measures and performance levels for the upcoming HHA CON review schedule.