

# Memorandum

To: Gold Coast Health Plan Primary Care Providers

From: Kim Osajda, RN, MSN  
Director of Quality Improvement

Re: **Depression Screening and Follow-Up for Adolescents and Adults**

Date: August 29, 2017

The state Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) recently announced that it is switching the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) measure it uses for depression screening.

The current measure, *Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow-Up Plan (CDF)*, is being replaced by the National Committee for Quality Assurance's (NCQA) new measure, *Depression Screening and Follow-Up for Adolescents and Adults (DSF)*. This change is effective immediately, for the measurement year (MY) 2017 / reporting year (RY) 2018.

The new DSF measure is similar to the CDF measure. The DSF measure looks at the percentage of members 12 years of age and older who were screened for clinical depression using a standardized tool and, if screened positive, who received follow-up care within 30 days. The measure does not require medical record review, but relies on Electronic Clinical Data System (ECDS), which uses the following electronic methods for data collection: electronic health records (EHR), health information exchange (HIE) / clinical registry, case management registry, and administrative claims.

[Click here](#) for more information about ECDS data and reporting.

Proper coding, as well as accurate documentation, is essential.

The table below highlights the differences between the DSF measure and the CDF measure.

New DSF measure	Former CDF measure
Looks at the percentage of members 12 years of age and older who were screened for clinical depression using a standardized tool and, if screened positive, who received follow-up care within 30 days.	Looked at the percentage of patients ages 12 years and older who were screened for clinical depression on the date of the encounter using an age-appropriate standardized depression screening tool AND if positive, a follow-up plan was documented on the date of the positive screen.

Does not require an encounter for the <b>screening alone</b> ; requires service or encounter for the follow-up if the screening is positive.	Required an encounter for the screening and follow-up.
Seven adolescent and 12 adult screening tools to choose from.	Five adolescent and seven adult screening tools to choose from.

**Acceptable screening tools for the adolescent population:**

- Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)<sup>®</sup>
- Patient Health Questionnaire Modified for Teens (PHQ-9M)<sup>®</sup>
- PRIME MD-PHQ2<sup>®</sup>
- Beck Depression Inventory-Fast Screen (BDI-FS)<sup>®</sup>
- Mood Feeling Questionnaire (MFQ)
- Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CES-D)
- PROMIS Depression

**Acceptable screening tools for the adult population:**

- Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)<sup>®</sup>
- PRIME MD-PHQ2<sup>®</sup>
- Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II or BDI-FS)<sup>®</sup>
- Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CES-D)
- Depression Scale (DEPS)
- Duke Anxiety-Depression Scale (DADS)<sup>®</sup>
- Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS)
- Cornell Scale for Depression in Dementia (CSDD)
- Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS)
- My Mood Monitor (M-3)<sup>®</sup>
- PROMIS Depression
- Clinically Useful Depression Outcome Scale (CUDOS)

[Click here](#) for the NCQA's information about the DSF measure.

[Click here](#) for the GCHP provider tip sheet and coding information for the DSF measure.

If you have questions, please contact GCHP's Quality Improvement Department at 1-805-437-5740 or at [hedis@goldchp.org](mailto:hedis@goldchp.org).