

Performance Measure 6: Assess the contribution of safety net providers in meeting the need for primary care, mental health, and dental services

Plan for the Coming Year

A. Apply the Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) methodology to recruit and retain primary care, mental health, and dental health providers who serve the medically underserved in these federally designated HPSAs.

This infrastructure-level strategy will be accomplished through the following activities:

1. Report the number of requests received for designation of primary care HPSAs;
2. Report the primary care HPSAs that are designated and the priorities assigned to them;
3. Report the number of requests received for designation of mental health HPSAs;
4. Report the mental health HPSAs that are designated and the priorities assigned to them;
5. Report the number of requests received for designation of dental health HPSAs; and
6. Report the dental health HPSAs that are designated and the priorities assigned to them.

B. Measure gaps in access to primary care, mental health, and oral health services and the contribution of safety net providers in addressing these gaps.

Access is defined for purposes of this measure as the ratio of primary care, mental health, and oral health providers needed to eliminate the HPSA designation based on federal guidelines. This infrastructure-level strategy will be accomplished through the following activities:

1. Report the number of HPSAs that have not been matched with an adequate number of primary care physicians, mental health providers, or dental health providers;
2. Report the number of primary care providers placed in HPSAs through Primary Care and Rural Health Program/Primary Care Unit recruitment/retention programs and the Dental Loan Repayment Program; and
3. Develop and implement a system to monitor the retention rate of primary care providers placed for at least 2 years past their final obligation date.

C. Assess access to primary care, mental health, and oral health services in HPSAs.

This infrastructure-level strategy will be accomplished by measuring the following:

1. Uncontrolled diabetes hospital admission rate;
2. Hypertension hospital admission rate;
3. Pediatric asthma hospital admission rate;
4. Oral health - % without visit in last year.