



## Calculating the Controlling High Blood Pressure (CBP) Measure in the 2023 Adult and Health Home Core Sets

### Introduction

High blood pressure, or hypertension, increases the risk of heart disease and stroke, which are the leading causes of death in the United States.<sup>1</sup> Controlling high blood pressure is an important step in preventing heart attacks, strokes, and kidney disease and in reducing the risk of developing other serious conditions.<sup>2</sup> The Controlling High Blood Pressure (CBP) measure, which assesses the percentage of Medicaid beneficiaries who had a diagnosis of hypertension and whose blood pressure was adequately controlled during the measurement year, is included in both the Adult and Health Home Core Sets (see Table 1). It is also included on the Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Scorecard, reflecting Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) priorities around blood pressure control and quality measure alignment across the agency.<sup>3</sup>

This technical assistance resource highlights changes to the CBP measure for FFY 2023 Adult and Health Home Core Set reporting, which corresponds to measurement year 2022. It also provides considerations for using administrative data only to calculate the measure.

### FFY 2023 Reporting Cycle Changes

Key changes for the FFY 2023 reporting cycle include:

- Updated the numerator description in both the administrative and hybrid specifications.
- Replaced one of the value sets in the optional exclusions.

**Table 1. Overview of the CBP Measure for 2023 Adult and Health Home Core Set Reporting**

<b>Measure steward</b>	National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)
<b>Description</b>	Percentage of beneficiaries ages 18 to 85 who had a diagnosis of hypertension and whose blood pressure was adequately controlled (<140/<90 mm HG) during the measurement year
<b>Numerator</b>	Beneficiaries (ages 18 to 85) with hypertension whose most recent blood pressure reading is < 140/90 mm HG
<b>Denominator</b>	Beneficiaries (ages 18 to 85) with hypertension
<b>Exclusions</b>	<p>Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beneficiaries receiving hospice services or palliative care</li> <li>• Beneficiaries who died during the measurement year</li> </ul> <p>Optional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beneficiaries ages 66 to 80 with frailty and advanced illness</li> <li>• Beneficiaries ages 81 and older with frailty</li> <li>• Beneficiaries with a diagnosis of pregnancy during the measurement year, evidence of a nonacute inpatient admission during the measurement year, or evidence of end-stage renal disease (ESRD), dialysis, nephrectomy, or kidney transplant during the beneficiary’s history</li> </ul>
<b>Data source</b>	Administrative, Hybrid, or Electronic Health Record (EHR)

<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. “About High Blood Pressure.” 2020. Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/bloodpressure/about.htm>. Accessed February 3, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> James, P.A., S. Oparil, B.L. Carter, W.C. Cushman, C. Dennison-Himmelfarb, J. Handler, et al. “2014 Evidence-Based Guideline for the Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults: Report from the Panel Members Appointment to the Eighth Joint National Committee (JNC 8).” *JAMA*, vol. 311, no. 5, 2014, pp. 507–520.

<sup>3</sup> More information on the Medicaid & CHIP Scorecard is available at <https://www.medicaid.gov/state-overviews/scorecard/controlling-high-blood-pressure/index.html>.

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## Changes to the Numerator

- Updated the numerator description in the Administrative Specification to clarify that blood pressure (BP) readings taken in an acute inpatient setting or during an ED visit should be excluded.
- Clarified the numerator of the Hybrid Specification as follows:
  - BP readings taken by the beneficiary are eligible for use in reporting.
  - BP ranges and thresholds do not meet criteria.
  - BP documented as an “average BP” (e.g., “average BP: 139/70”) is eligible for use.

## Changes to the Denominator

- Clarified that beneficiaries in hospice or using hospice services anytime during the measurement year are a required exclusion.

## Changes to the Exclusions

- Replaced references to the Nephrectomy value set in the optional exclusions.

## Use of Administrative Data to Calculate the CBP Measure

Previously, NCQA revised the specifications for FFY 2020 Core Set reporting to include the use of administrative data in lieu of medical records or EHR data.<sup>4</sup> Some states have reported challenges using administrative data only due to limited use of the CPT II codes required to determine blood pressure control through claims and encounter data. States considering the use of administrative data to calculate the measure should assess the completeness of providers’ use of the CPT II codes required to determine blood pressure control in claims and encounter data. States should validate use of the CPT II codes by sampling beneficiaries who qualify for the denominator and reviewing medical charts to assess the completeness of CPT II codes in claims and encounter data. If documentation rates are low, states should continue using the hybrid method or EHR data to calculate the measure.

## Technical Assistance Resources for Calculating the CBP Measure

Several resources are available to help states calculate the CBP measure for Adult and Health Home Core Set reporting:

- The FFY 2023 technical specifications for the CBP measure are in the Adult and Health Home Core Set Resource Manuals.
- The FFY 2023 Core Set Measurement Period Tables include the date ranges that should be used for the denominators and numerators for the CBP measure.
- The FFY 2023 Child, Adult, and Health Home Core Set Reporting: Data Quality Checklist for States contains additional guidance to help states improve the completeness, accuracy, consistency, and documentation of the data reported.

Adult Core Set resources are available at:

<https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/performance-measurement/adult-and-child-health-care-quality-measures/adult-core-set-reporting-resources/index.html>.

Health Home Core Set resources are available at:

<https://www.medicaid.gov/state-resource-center/medicaid-state-technical-assistance/health-home-information-resource-center/quality-reporting/index.html>.

## For More Information

For technical assistance related to calculating and reporting the CBP measure, or other Child, Adult, and Health Home Core Set measures, please contact the TA mailbox at [MACQualityTA@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:MACQualityTA@cms.hhs.gov).

<sup>4</sup> A TA resource summarizing the FFY 2020 CBP measure specification changes is available at <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/downloads/adult-core-set-archive.zip>.