

**Medicaid Section 1115 Serious Mental Illness and Serious  
Emotional Disturbance Demonstrations  
Monitoring Report Template**

*Note: PRA Disclosure Statement to be added here*

**1. Title page for the state’s serious mental illness and serious emotional disturbance (SMI/SED) demonstration or the SMI/SED component of the broader demonstration**

*The state should complete this title page at the beginning of a demonstration and submit as the title page for all monitoring reports. The content of this table should stay consistent over time. Definitions for certain rows are below the table.*

<b>State</b>	District of Columbia
<b>Demonstration name</b>	Behavioral Health Transformation
<b>Approval period for section 1115 demonstration</b>	01/01/2020 – 12/31/2024
<b>SMI/SED demonstration start date<sup>a</sup></b>	01/01/2020
<b>Implementation date of SMI/SED demonstration, if different from SMI/SED demonstration start date<sup>b</sup></b>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
<b>SMI/SED (or if broader demonstration, then SMI/SED - related) demonstration goals and objectives</b>	The goal of this demonstration is for the District to maintain and enhance access to mental health services and continue delivery system improvements to provide more coordinated and comprehensive treatment for Medicaid beneficiaries with serious mental illness (SMI) and serious emotional disturbance (SED). This demonstration authorizes the District to receive federal financial participation (FFP) for delivering high-quality, clinically appropriate treatment to beneficiaries diagnosed with SMI and receiving treatment while they are short-term residents in settings that qualify as Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD). This demonstration also complements the District’s efforts to implement models of care that are focused on increasing supports for individuals outside of institutions, in home and community-based settings (HCBS) to improve their access to SMI/SED services at varied levels of intensity.
<b>SMI/SED demonstration year and quarter</b>	SMI/SED DY1Q4
<b>Reporting period</b>	10/01/2020 – 12/31/2020

<sup>a</sup> **SMI/SED demonstration start date:** For monitoring purposes, CMS defines the start date of the demonstration as the *effective date* listed in the state’s STCs at time of SMI/SED demonstration approval. For example, if the state’s STCs at the time of SMI/SED demonstration approval note that the SMI/SED demonstration is effective January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2025, the state should consider January 1, 2020 to be the start date of the SMI/SED demonstration. Note that the effective date is considered to be the first day the state may begin its SMI/SED demonstration. In many cases, the effective date is distinct from the approval date of a demonstration; that is, in certain cases, CMS may approve a section 1115 demonstration with an effective date that is in the future. For example, CMS may approve an extension request on 12/15/2020, with an effective date of 1/1/2021 for the new demonstration period. In many cases, the effective date also differs from the date a state begins implementing its demonstration.

**<sup>b</sup> Implementation date of SMI/SED demonstration:** The date the state began claiming federal financial participation for services provided to individuals in institutions of mental disease.

## 2. Executive summary

During the fourth quarter, the District established Medicaid payments for Transition Planning Services through rulemaking. With the publication of this rulemaking, the District has now implemented all of the approved demonstration services.

The District held the annual post-award public forum on October 20, 2020. Over 100 attendees participated in the meeting. Attendees noted the resiliency of the District in continuing to implement the demonstration during the unanticipated COVID-19 public health emergency. Attendees advocated for expanding services to incarcerated populations. Attendees also requested the District consider strategies to reduce the administrative burden on IMD providers when billing for services across MCO and FFS payors when the MCO “in lieu of” benefit is exceeded.

Near the end of DY1Q1, the COVID-19 public health emergency affected waiver implementation. Some District IMD providers altered admission policies and/or decreased patient volume to ensure the safety of their clients near the end of DY1Q1. The COVID-19 public health emergency continued to affect implementation of the Demonstration throughout DY1 and we believe the COVID-19 public health emergency will continue affecting implementation of the Demonstration going into future demonstration years.

The District hypothesizes that the COVID-19 public health emergency also slightly reduced local expenditures for outpatient community-based mental health services. The District expended \$29,982,414.36 in local funding for outpatient community-based mental health services in FY20, compared to \$30,343,484.26 in FY19, a variance of \$361,069.91. The District hypothesizes that this reduction is largely due to the increased federal matching funds available to the District during the public health emergency under the federal CARES Act and the decreased service utilization during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

After decreasing between Q1 and Q2 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and an enrollment drop, the claims-based SMI/SED measures began to rebound during Q3. Overall utilization (identified by metric #18 – any service) in Q3 surpassed Q1, due in part to increases in services provided through telehealth.

There were significant increases in the HIT metrics due to the activities of the HIE Connectivity grant, as outlined in the implementation plan.

There were no changes greater than +/- 2% between Q3 and Q4 for the grievance and appeal measures.

**3. Narrative information on implementation, by milestone and reporting topic**

Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	Related metric(s) (if any)	State response
<b>1. Ensuring Quality of Care in Psychiatric Hospitals and Residential Settings (Milestone 1)</b>			
<b>1.1. Metric trends</b>			
1.1.1. The state reports the following metric trends, including all changes (+ or -) greater than 2 percent related to Milestone 1.	X		
<b>1.2. Implementation update</b>			
1.2.1. Compared to the demonstration design and operational details, the state expects to make the following changes to:			
1.2.1a. The licensure or accreditation processes for participating hospitals and residential settings	X		
1.2.1b. The oversight process (including unannounced visits) to ensure participating hospital and residential settings meet state’s licensing or certification and accreditation requirements	X		
1.2.1c. The utilization review process to ensure beneficiaries have access to the appropriate levels and types of care and to provide oversight on lengths of stay	X		
1.2.1d. The program integrity requirements and compliance assurance process	X		
1.2.1e. The state requirement that psychiatric hospitals and residential settings screen beneficiaries for co-morbid physical health conditions, SUDs, and suicidal ideation, and facilitate access to treatment for those conditions	X		
1.2.1f. Other state requirements/policies to ensure good quality of care in inpatient and residential treatment settings	X		
1.2.2. The state expects to make other program changes that may affect metrics related to Milestone 1.	X		

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Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	Related metric(s) (if any)	State response
<b>2. Improving Care Coordination and Transitions to Community-Based Care (Milestone 2)</b>			
<b>2.1. Metric trends</b>			
2.1.1. The state reports the following metric trends, including all changes (+ or -) greater than 2 percent related to Milestone 2.	X		
<b>2.2. Implementation update</b>			
2.2.1. Compared to the demonstration design and operational details, the state expects to make the following changes to: 2.2.1a. Actions to ensure that psychiatric hospitals and residential treatment settings carry out intensive pre-discharge planning, and include community-based providers in care transitions			As outlined in the implementation plan, in October 2020 the District established Medicaid payments for Transition Planning Services through rulemaking.
2.2.1b. Actions to ensure psychiatric hospitals and residential settings assess beneficiaries' housing situations and coordinate with housing services providers			As outlined in the implementation plan, in October 2020 the District established Medicaid payments for Transition Planning Services through rulemaking. An individual's physical and mental health needs, as well as the need for non-clinical supports, including housing, are to be assessed during the discharge planning process.
2.2.1c. State requirement to ensure psychiatric hospitals and residential settings contact beneficiaries and community-based providers within 72 hours post discharge	X		
2.2.1d. Strategies to prevent or decrease the lengths of stay in EDs among beneficiaries with SMI or SED (e.g., through the use of peers and psychiatric consultants in EDs to help with discharge and referral to treatment providers)	X		
2.2.1e. Other State requirements/policies to improve care coordination and connections to community-based care	X		
2.2.2. The state expects to make other program changes that may affect metrics related to Milestone 2.	X		

Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	Related metric(s) (if any)	State response
<b>3. Access to Continuum of Care, Including Crisis Stabilization (Milestone 3)</b>			
<b>3.1. Metric trends</b>			
<p>3.1.1. The state reports the following metric trends, including all changes (+ or -) greater than 2 percent related to Milestone 3.</p>		<p>#13: Inpatient</p> <p>#14: Intensive Outpatient and Partial Hospitalization</p> <p>#15: Outpatient</p> <p>#17: Telehealth</p> <p>#18: Any service</p>	<p>The number of Medicaid beneficiaries receiving inpatient care increased by 5% between Q2 (4/1/20 – 6/30/20) and Q3 (7/1/20-9/30/20). After an initial drop in utilization in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, utilization rebounded, but not to levels reported in Q1.</p> <p>The number of Medicaid beneficiaries receiving intensive outpatient and partial hospitalization services increased by 65% between Q2 (4/1/20 – 6/30/20) and Q3 (7/1/20-9/30/20). After an initial drop in utilization in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, utilization rebounded, but not to levels reported in Q1.</p> <p>The number of Medicaid beneficiaries receiving outpatient services increased by 6% between Q2 (4/1/20 – 6/30/20) and Q3 (7/1/20-9/30/20). After an initial drop in utilization in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, utilization rebounded close to levels reported in Q1.</p> <p>The number of Medicaid beneficiaries with telehealth visit decreased by 7% between Q2 (4/1/20 – 6/30/20) and Q3 (7/1/20-9/30/20). This drop is likely due to more in-person utilization after the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The number of Medicaid beneficiaries with any service increased by 5% between Q2 (4/1/20 – 6/30/20) and Q3 (7/1/20-9/30/20). After an initial drop in utilization in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, this measure surpassed Q1 levels in Q3, likely due to the increase in telehealth in Q2 and the increase in in-person utilization in Q3.</p>

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Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	Related metric(s) (if any)	State response
<b>3.2. Implementation update</b>			
3.2.1. Compared to the demonstration design and operational details, the state expects to make the following changes to: 3.2.1a. State requirement that providers use an evidenced-based, publicly-available patient assessment tool to determine appropriate level of care and length of stay	X		
3.2.1b. Other state requirements/policies to improve access to a full continuum of care including crisis stabilization	X		
3.2.2. The state expects to make other program changes that may affect metrics related to Milestone 3.	X		
<b>4. Earlier Identification and Engagement in Treatment, Including Through Increased Integration (Milestone 4)</b>			
<b>4.1. Metric trends</b>			
4.1.1. The state reports the following metric trends, including all changes (+ or -) greater than 2 percent related to Milestone 4.	X		
<b>4.2. Implementation update</b>			
4.2.1. Compared to the demonstration design and operational details, the state expects to make the following changes to: 4.2.1a. Strategies for identifying and engaging beneficiaries in treatment sooner (e.g., with supported education and employment)	X		
4.2.1b. Plan for increasing integration of behavioral health care in non-specialty settings to improve early identification of SED/SMI and linkages to treatment	X		
4.2.1c. Establishment of specialized settings and services, including crisis stabilization services, focused on the needs of young people experiencing SMI or SED	X		



Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	Related metric(s) (if any)	State response
4.2.1d. Other state strategies to increase earlier identification/engagement, integration, and specialized programs for young people	X		
4.2.2. The state expects to make other program changes that may affect metrics related to Milestone 4.	X		
<b>5. SMI/SED health information technology (health IT)</b>			
<b>5.1. Metric trends</b>			
5.1.1. The state reports the following metric trends, including all changes (+ or -) greater than 2 percent related to its health IT metrics.		Q1: Active DC HIE behavioral health provider users  S1: DC Medicaid-enrolled behavioral health care facilities/providers receiving data from the HIE  S2: DC Medicaid-enrolled behavioral health care facilities/providers sending data to the HIE  Q2: Behavioral health providers managed in provider directory  Q3: DC HIE behavioral health users who	Q1: The number of active DC HIE behavioral health provider users increased by 32.5% due to the activities of the HIE Connectivity grant. As outlined in the implementation plan, the HIE Connectivity grant provides technical assistance to connect nearly all Medicaid providers to HIE by 2022 and behavioral health providers were assigned priority for technical assistance.  S1: The number of DC Medicaid-enrolled behavioral health care facilities/providers receiving data from the HIE increased by 19.9% due to the activities of the HIE Connectivity grant, as described above.  S2: The number of DC Medicaid-enrolled behavioral health care facilities/providers sending data to the HIE increased by 33.3% due to the activities of the HIE Connectivity grant, as described above.  Q2: The 24.7% increase in the number of behavioral health providers managed in provider directory corresponds with the overall increase in the number of active DC HIE behavioral health provider users, as described above.  Q3: The 7.9% increase in the number of DC HIE behavioral health users who performed a patient care snapshot in the last 30 days

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Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	Related metric(s) (if any)	State response
		performed a patient care snapshot in the last 30 days	corresponds with the overall increase in the number of active DC HIE behavioral health provider users, as described above.
<b>5.2. Implementation update</b>			
5.2.1. Compared to the demonstration design and operational details, the state expects to make the following changes to:			
5.2.1a. The three statements of assurance made in the state’s health IT plan	X		
5.2.1b. Closed loop referrals and e-referrals from physician/mental health provider to physician/mental health provider and/or physician/mental health provider to community-based supports	X		
5.2.1c. Electronic care plans and medical records	X		
5.2.1d. Individual consent being electronically captured and made accessible to patients and all members of the care team	X		
5.2.1e. Intake, assessment and screening tools being part of a structured data capture process so that this information is interoperable with the rest of the health IT ecosystem	X		
5.2.1f. Telehealth technologies supporting collaborative care by facilitating broader availability of integrated mental health care and primary care	X		
5.2.1g. Alerting/analytics	X		
5.2.1h. Identity management	X		
5.2.2. The state expects to make other program changes that may affect metrics related to health IT.	X		

Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	Related metric(s) (if any)	State response
<b>6. Other SMI/SED-related metrics</b>			
<b>6.1. Metric trends</b>			
6.1.1. The state reports the following metric trends, including all changes (+ or -) greater than two percent related to other SMI/SED-related metrics.	X		
<b>6.2. Implementation update</b>			
6.2.1. The state expects to make the following program changes that may affect other SMI/SED-related metrics.	X		

**4. Narrative information on other reporting topics**

Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	State response
<b>7. Annual Assessment of the Availability of Mental Health Services (Annual Availability Assessment)</b>		
<b>7.1. Description of changes to baseline conditions and practices</b>		
7.1.1. Describe and explain any changes in the mental health service needs (for example, prevalence and distribution of SMI/SED) of Medicaid beneficiaries with SMI/SED compared to those described in the Initial Assessment of the Availability of Mental Health Services. Recommended word count is 500 words or less.	X	
7.1.2. Describe and explain any changes to the organization of the state’s Medicaid behavioral health service delivery system compared to those described in the Initial Assessment of the Availability of Mental Health Services. Recommended word count is 500 words or less.	X	

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Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	State response
7.1.3. Describe and explain any changes in the availability of mental health services for Medicaid beneficiaries with SMI/SED in the state compared to those described in the Initial Assessment of the Availability of Mental Health Services. At minimum, explain any changes across the state in the availability of the following services: inpatient mental health services; outpatient and community-based services; crisis behavioral health services; and care coordination and care transition planning. Recommended word count is 500 words or less.	X	
7.1.4. Describe and explain any changes in gaps the state identified in the availability of mental health services or service capacity while completing the Annual Availability Assessment compared to those described in the Initial Assessment of the Availability of Mental Health Services. Recommended word count is 500 words or less.	X	
7.1.5. Describe and explain whether any changes in the availability of mental health services have impacted the state’s maintenance of effort (MOE) on funding outpatient community-based mental health services. Recommended word count is 500 words or less.	X	
<b>7.2. Implementation update</b>		
7.2.1. Compared to the demonstration design and operational details, the state expects to make the following changes to: 7.2.1a. The state’s strategy to conduct annual assessments of the availability of mental health services across the state and updates on steps taken to increase availability	X	

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Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	State response
7.2.1b. Strategies to improve state tracking of availability of inpatient and crisis stabilization beds	X	
<b>8. Maintenance of effort (MOE) on funding outpatient community-based mental health services</b>		
<b>8.1. MOE dollar amount</b>		
8.1.1. Provide as a dollar amount the level of state appropriations and local funding for outpatient community-based mental health services for the most recently completed state fiscal year.		The District expended \$29,982,414.36 in local funding for outpatient community-based mental health services in FY20, compared to \$30,343,484.26 in FY19, a variance of \$361,069.91.
<b>8.2. Narrative information</b>		
8.2.1. Describe and explain any reductions in the MOE dollar amount below the amount provided in the state’s application materials. The state should confirm that it did not move resources to increase access to treatment in inpatient or residential settings at the expense of community-based services.		The District saw a very minor reduction (1.2 percent) in local expenditures for outpatient community-based mental health services in FY20. The District hypothesizes that this reduction is largely due to the increased federal matching funds available to the District during the public health emergency under the federal CARES Act and the decreased service utilization during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Some reduced in-person service utilization was likely offset by increased telemedicine utilization. The District also saw increased spending for new community-based services implemented as part of this 1115 demonstration. The District did not move resources to increase access to treatment in inpatient or residential settings at the expense of community-based services.
<b>9. SMI/SED financing plan</b>		
<b>9.1. Implementation update</b>		
9.1.1. Compared to the demonstration design and operational details, the state expects to make the following changes to: 9.1.1a. Increase availability of non-hospital, non-residential crisis stabilization services, including services made available through crisis call centers, mobile crisis units, and observation/assessment centers, with a coordinated community crisis response that involves law enforcement and other first responders	X	

Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	State response
9.1.1b. Increase availability of on-going community-based services, e.g., outpatient, community mental health centers, partial hospitalization/day treatment, assertive community treatment, and services in integrated care settings such as the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic model	X	
<b>10. Budget neutrality</b>		
<b>10.1. Current status and analysis</b>		
10.1.1. Describe the current status of budget neutrality and an analysis of the budget neutrality to date. If the SMI/SED component is part of a broader demonstration, the state should provide an analysis of the SMI/SED-related budget neutrality and an analysis of budget neutrality as a whole.		SMI MEGs make up 2 of 6 MEGs in the District’s IMD Demonstration. The two MEGs are separated by Fee for Service and MCO beneficiaries. Both MEGs are below their PMPM caps with the FFS MEG being 16.1% lower than its cap and the MCO MEG 63.6% lower. For both MEGs the variance from budget neutrality estimates are due to psychiatric hospitalization costs being lower than estimates submitted in the budget neutrality demonstration. Overall, the demonstration is performing well with 5 of the 6 MEGs recording PMPMs lower than their PMPM caps.
<b>10.2. Implementation update</b>		
10.2.1. The state expects to make the following program changes that may affect budget neutrality.	X	
<b>11. SMI/SED-related demonstration operations and policy</b>		
<b>11.1. Considerations</b>		
11.1.1. The state should highlight significant SMI/SED (or if broader demonstration, then SMI/SED-related) demonstration operations or policy considerations that could positively or negatively impact beneficiary enrollment, access to services, timely provision of services, budget neutrality, or any other provision that has potential for beneficiary impacts. Also note any activity that may accelerate or create delays or impediments in achieving the SMI/SED demonstration’s approved goals or objectives, if not already reported elsewhere in this document. See Monitoring Report Instructions for more detail.		The COVID-19 public health emergency has the potential to broadly affect DC Medicaid. The public health emergency could impact beneficiary enrollment, access to services, and timely provision of services.

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Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	State response
<b>11.2. Implementation update</b>		
11.2.1. The state experienced challenges in partnering with entities contracted to help implement the demonstration (e.g., health plans, credentialing vendors, private sector providers) and/or noted any performance issues with contracted entities.	X	
11.2.2. The state is working on other initiatives related to SMI/SED.	X	
11.2.3. The initiatives described above are related to the SMI/SED demonstration as described (The state should note similarities and differences from the SMI/SED demonstration).	X	
11.2.4. Compared to the demonstration design and operational details, the state expects to make the following changes to: 11.2.4a. How the delivery system operates under the demonstration (e.g. through the managed care system or fee for service)	X	
11.2.4b. Delivery models affecting demonstration participants (e.g. Accountable Care Organizations, Patient Centered Medical Homes)	X	
11.2.4c. Partners involved in service delivery	X	
11.2.4d. The state Medicaid agency’s Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or other agreement with its mental health services agency	X	

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Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	State response
<b>12. SMI/SED demonstration evaluation update</b>		
<b>12.1. Narrative information</b>		
12.1.1. Provide updates on SMI/SED evaluation work and timeline. The appropriate content will depend on when this report is due to CMS and the timing for the demonstration. There are specific requirements per the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for annual reports. See Monitoring Report Instructions for more details.		In October 2020 CMS reviewed the District’s proposed beneficiary survey. The beneficiary survey will be fielded in February 2021.
12.1.2. Provide status updates on deliverables related to the demonstration evaluation and indicate whether the expected timelines are being met and/or if there are any real or anticipated barriers in achieving the goals and timeframes agreed to in the STCs.		The District submitted a revised evaluation design to CMS by the requested deadline of November 30, 2020. CMS approved the District’s evaluation design on January 6, 2021.
12.1.3. List anticipated evaluation-related deliverables related to this demonstration and their due dates.	X	
<b>13. Other demonstration reporting</b>		
<b>13.1. General reporting requirements</b>		
13.1.1. The state reports changes in its implementation of the demonstration that might necessitate a change to approved STCs, implementation plan, or monitoring protocol.	X	
13.1.2. The state anticipates the need to make future changes to the STCs, implementation plan, or monitoring protocol, based on expected or upcoming implementation changes.		Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and the dedication of staff resources elsewhere, the District requested a six-month extension to submit the SPAs for non-IMD services. On December 2, 2020, CMS approved the District’s extension request.
13.1.3. The state identified real or anticipated issues submitting timely post-approval demonstration deliverables, including a plan for remediation.	X	



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Prompt	State has no trends/update to report (place an X)	State response
13.1.4. Compared to the demonstration design and operational details, the state expects to make the following changes to: 13.1.4a. The schedule for completing and submitting monitoring reports		CMS approved the District’s monitoring protocol on December 8, 2020 and requested that the District submit retrospective reporting when submitting DY1Q4 reports. That retrospective reporting is included in the District’s submission package as separate documents.
13.1.4b. The content or completeness of submitted monitoring reports and/or future monitoring reports		Per STC #31, the District is to report on Quality Improvement Strategy measures for 1915-like HCBS in the annual demonstration monitoring reports. The Quality Improvement Strategy was approved in February 2021 and the District was granted an extension for reporting until the DY2Q2 monitoring reports.
<b>13.2. Post-award public forum</b>		
13.2.1. If applicable within the timing of the demonstration, provide a summary of the annual post-award public forum held pursuant to 42 CFR § 431.420(c) indicating any resulting action items or issues. A summary of the post-award public forum must be included here for the period during which the forum was held and in the annual monitoring report.		The District held the annual post-award public forum on October 20, 2020. Over 100 attendees participated in the meeting. Attendees noted the resiliency of the District in continuing to implement the demonstration during the unanticipated COVID-19 public health emergency. Attendees advocated for expanding services to incarcerated populations. Attendees also requested the District consider strategies to reduce the administrative burden on IMD providers when billing for services across MCO and FFS payors when the MCO “in lieu of” benefit is exceeded.
<b>14. Notable state achievements and/or innovations</b>		
<b>14.1. Narrative information</b>		
14.1.1. Provide any relevant summary of achievements and/or innovations in demonstration enrollment, benefits, operations, and policies pursuant to the hypotheses of the SMI/SED (or if broader demonstration, then SMI/SED related) demonstration or that served to provide better care for individuals, better health for populations, and/or reduce per capita cost. Achievements should focus on significant impacts to beneficiary outcomes. Whenever possible, the summary should describe the achievement or innovation in quantifiable terms, e.g., number of impacted beneficiaries.	X	

\*The state should remove all example text from the table prior to submission.

Note: Licensee and state must prominently display the following notice on any display of Measure rates:

*The MPT, FUH-CH, FUH-AD, FUA-AD, FUM-AD, AAP, and APM measures (#13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 7, 8, 9, 10, 26, 29) are Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) measures that are owned and copyrighted by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS measures and specifications are not clinical guidelines, do not establish a standard of medical care and have not been tested for all potential applications. The measures and specifications are provided “as is” without warranty of any kind. NCQA makes no representations, warranties or endorsements about the quality of any product, test or protocol identified as numerator compliant or otherwise identified as meeting the requirements of a HEDIS measure or specification. NCQA makes no representations, warranties, or endorsement about the quality of any organization or clinician who uses or reports performance measures and NCQA has no liability to anyone who relies on HEDIS measures or specifications or data reflective of performance under such measures and specifications.*

*The measure specification methodology used by CMS is different from NCQA’s methodology. NCQA has not validated the adjusted measure specifications but has granted CMS permission to adjust. A calculated measure result (a “rate”) from a HEDIS measure that has not been certified via NCQA’s Measure Certification Program, and is based on adjusted HEDIS specifications, may not be called a “HEDIS rate” until it is audited and designated reportable by an NCQA-Certified HEDIS Compliance Auditor. Until such time, such measure rates shall be designated or referred to as “Adjusted, Uncertified, Unaudited HEDIS rates.”*