



**Clarifications, Technical Corrections, and Policy Changes
to the Performance Assessment Methodology Manual for the
MassHealth ACO Quality and Equity Incentives Program
Performance Years 3-5**

This document outlines clarifications, technical corrections, and policy changes to the Performance Assessment Methodology (PAM) Manual for Performance Year 3-5 (PY3-5) of the MassHealth ACO Quality and Equity Incentives Program (AQEIP). Updates are incorporated into the change log table below.

Section Header/Sub-section Header	Page #	Update	Update release date
A. Individual Measure Scoring Approaches	3	Added a note: "Performance thresholds, goals, and improvement targets will be monitored and may be adjusted as needed."	3/9/26
A. Individual Measure Scoring Approaches	4	Noted in Table 1 that subcomponents of Quality Performance Disparities Reduction Measure are quality measures to be selected by ACOs.	3/9/26
A. Individual Measure Scoring Approaches	4	Removed in Table 1 the "Member Experience Survey (MES) Accommodation Needs Screening Rate sub-component from the Disability Accommodation Needs measure.	3/9/26
A. Individual Measure Scoring Approaches	4	Changed in Table 1 the name of subcomponents of Member Experience measure from "CG-CAPHS" to "Member Experience Survey" questions.	3/9/26
A. Individual Measure Scoring Approaches	4	Changed Member Experience PY4 performance status to P4R (pay-for-reporting).	3/9/26
B. Performance Assessment Methodology; i.RELDSOGI Data Completeness, HRSN Screen, Language Access, Disability Competent Care,...	5	Included clarification on meeting minimum denominator to be eligible for scoring on measures/sub-measures.	3/9/26
Same as above.	6	Clarified baseline periods for each measure and when the potential for improvement points takes effect.	3/9/26
Same	5-12	General re-organization of sections for improved flow of content: Member	3/9/26

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		experience and Table 2 moved up before section on “Interaction of Attainment Threshold, Performance Goal, and Improvement Threshold. Table 3 set as its own subsection.	
Same as above.	7-9	Table 2. Added a reference to the QEIP User Guide about the audit process.	3/9/26
Same as above.	8	Table 2. Removed MES Rate sub-component of the Disability Accommodation Needs measure.	3/9/26
Same as above.	9	Table 2. Adjusted Member Experience Measure to indicate measure is P4R (and therefore no benchmarks) in PY4 and to be determined in PY5.	3/9/26
Same as above.	12	Table 3. Removed MES Rate from sub-measure weights for Disability Accommodation Needs Measure. Redistributed sub-measure weight to Rate and 2.	3/9/26
Same as above.	12	Table 3. Removed sub-measure weights for Member Experience measure for PY4 (as it is P4R) and ‘To be determined’ for PY5.	3/9/26
ii. Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	13-15	Added a description of the performance assessment methodology for the Quality Performance Disparities Reduction measure.	3/9/26
iii. Equity Improvement Interventions	16	Updated PIP reporting scoring information.	3/9/26
iv. Achievement of External Standards for Health Equity	17	Included a footnote that effective January 15, 2026, per the NCQA, the health Equity Accreditation is renamed Health Outcomes Accreditation.	3/9/26
iv. Achievement of External Standards for Health Equity	17	Included a footnote that TJC HCE Certification is now referred to as Excellent Health Outcomes for All Certification.	3/9/26
iv. Achievement of External Standards for Health Equity	17	Clarified that PY4 and PY5 are pay-for-reporting.	3/9/26
C. Performance Measure, Domain, and Health Equity Scoring; ii. Domain Scoring	19	Clarified domain scoring formula and that bonus points are added to the domain score and capped at the maximum eligible points for the domain.	3/9/26
Appendix C	26-27	Added scoring examples for Quality Performance Disparities Reduction measure – Disparities Reduction Methodology – Stepwise Calculation	3/9/26

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Individual Measure Scoring Approaches	3	Clarified that bonus points are applied to the domain score.	6/20/25
Measure Assessment Overview & Scoring	5	Removed notes that an ACO will earn 0 points if “both threshold and improvement target are not met” and that “partial points may not be earned in PY3 or PY4 if the improvement target is not met...” [see “Interaction of Attainment Threshold, Performance Goal, and Improvement Threshold” Section for more information on earning partial improvement points].	6/20/25
Measure Assessment Overview & Scoring	6	Moved the DCC Measure partial improvement points example to Appendix B.	6/20/25
Interaction of Attainment Threshold, Performance Goal, & Improvement Threshold	6	Clarified the language regarding how ACOs can earn partial improvement points when the performance goal is not met but attainment threshold and/or improvement targets are met or not met. Added reference to a new Appendix A that provides a flowchart outlining how points are earned in PY3-5.	6/20/25
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	13	Updated anticipated timing of Disparities Reduction PAM to Summer 2025.	6/20/25
Measure Scoring	16	Clarified that sub-measures will be weighted as outlined in Tables 3 and 4.	6/20/25
Appendix A	18	Added a flowchart outlining how points can be earned in PY3-5, for clarity.	6/20/25
Appendix B	19	Moved DCC example from “Measure Assessment Overview & Scoring” example to Appendix B.	6/20/25