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

This document outlines clarifications, technical corrections, and policy changes to the Technical Specifications 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.

MassHealth's working definitions for clarification, technical correction and policy changes are as follows:

Clarification is additional information that explains an existing requirement.

Technical Correction is a change made to rectify an error in the technical specification.

Policy Update is a modification of an existing requirement.

Measure Name	Page #	Type of Update	Section Header	Update	Update release date
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Race	3	Policy Update	Measure Summary – Description and Numerator	Modified PY4-5 requirement to include self-reported data collected or verified within the past 3 years	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Race	4	Clarification	Measure Summary – Denominator	Clarified denominator is the eligible population	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Ethnicity	9	Policy Update	Measure Summary – Description and Numerator	Modified PY4-5 requirement to include self-reported data collected or verified within the past 3 years	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Ethnicity	10	Clarification	Measure Summary – Denominator	Clarified denominator is the eligible population	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Language	14-15	Policy Update	Measure Summary –	Modified PY4-5 requirement to include self-	06/05/26

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			Description and Numerator	reported data collected or verified within the past 3 years	
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Language	15	Clarification	Measure Summary - Description	Added note that rates are calculated separately for preferred spoken language and preferred written language	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Language	15	Clarification	Measure Summary – Denominator	Clarified denominator is the eligible population	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Language	18-19	Policy Update	Additional Measure Information – Completeness Calculations	Modified PY4-5 requirement to include self-reported data collected or verified within the past 3 years	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Disability	23	Policy Update	Measure Summary – Description and Numerator	Modified PY4-5 requirement to include self-reported data collected or verified within the past 3 years	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Disability	24	Clarification	Measure Summary – Denominator	Clarified denominator is the eligible population	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Disability	27	Policy Update	Additional Measure Information – Completeness Calculations	Modified PY4-5 requirement to include self-reported data collected or verified within the past 3 years	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Sexual Orientation	35	Policy Update	Measure Summary – Description and Numerator	Modified PY4-5 requirement to include self-reported data	06/05/26

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				collected or verified within the past 3 years	
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Sexual Orientation	36	Clarification	Measure Summary – Denominator	Clarified denominator is the eligible population	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Gender Identity	44	Policy Update	Measure Summary – Description and Numerator	Modified PY4-5 requirement to include self-reported data collected or verified within the past 3 years	06/05/26
RELDSOGI Data Completeness – Gender Identity	41	Clarification	Measure Summary – Denominator	Clarified denominator is the eligible population	06/05/26
Equity Improvement Interventions	64	Technical Correction	PY3-5 Performance Requirements and Assessment	Submission due date updated from 10/1/26 to 10/19/26 for the PY3 PIP2 Remeasurement 1 Report	06/05/26
Language Access	70	Clarification	Administrative Specifications: Component 2	Noted an additional exclusion type where in contrast to the ACO's own E M R, there is documentation in the practice or sites' medical record that the member reported English as their preferred spoken language at the outpatient visit	06/05/26
Disability Competent Care	76	Technical Correction	PY3-5 Performance Requirements and Assessment	Clarified the information reported in the DCC training report	06/05/26

Measure Name	Page #	Type of Update	Section Header	Update	Update release date
Disability Accommodation Needs	78-79	Clarification	Eligible Population	Added clarification on how entities complete step 2 to identify eligible visits	06/05/26
Member Experience	89-90	Clarification	PY3-5 Performance Requirements and Assessment	Added details about the Pay-for-reporting requirement and assessment for PY4	06/05/26
HRSN	54	Clarification	PY3-5 Performance Requirements & Assessment	Clarified due date (time – 5pm)	3/9/26
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	58	Technical Correction	Additional Measure Information	Removed section (not applicable to PY3-5)	3/9/26
Language Access	65	Policy Update	Eligible Population	Clarified measurement period for PY3 (July 1 – December 31, 2025)	3/9/26
Language Access	65	Technical Corrections	Eligible Population	Clarified name of the referenced HEDIS Value Set – Outpatient Value Set	3/9/26
Language Access	69	Clarification	PY3-5 Performance Requirements & Assessment	Clarified due date (time – 5pm)	3/9/26
Disability Accommodation Needs	75	Policy Update	Overview	Removed member experience survey component of the measure.	3/9/26
Disability Accommodation Needs	75-81	Clarification	Measure Summary, Eligible Population, Administrative	Removed member experience survey component of the measure.	3/9/26

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			Specifications, Reporting Method, and PY3-5 Performance Requirements and Assessments		
Disability Accommodation Needs	76	Technical Corrections	Eligible Population	Corrected age to “at least 6 years of age on the date of the visit”	3/9/26
Disability Accommodation Needs	76	Technical Corrections	Eligible Population	Clarified name of the referenced HEDIS Value Set – Outpatient Value Set	3/9/26
Disability Accommodation Needs	76	Policy Update	Eligible Population	Note that ACOs will identify the eligible population (denominator) for reporting	3/9/26
Disability Accommodation Needs	77	Clarification	Definitions	Clarified definition for “members with a self-reported disability” to align with RELDSOGI definition (adding “as of December 31 of the measurement year).	3/9/26
Disability Accommodation Needs	77	Clarification	Definitions	Removed definition for “Members with Eligibility for MassHealth on the Basis of a Disability”	3/9/26
Disability Accommodation Needs	80	Clarification	PY3-5 Performance Requirements & Assessment	Clarified due date (time – 5pm)	3/9/26

Measure Name	Page #	Type of Update	Section Header	Update	Update release date
External Standards for Health Equity	82	Clarification	Measure Summary	Clarified that TJC's Health Care Equity Certification is current named "Excellent Health Outcomes for All"	3/9/26
HRSN Screening	52 & 55	Clarification	Data Reporting Requirements	Added a note about G0136 code that it will no longer be applicable beginning January 1, 2026.	1/9/26
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	60	Technical Correction	Performance Requirements and Assessments	Changed due date of Measure Assessment Report from Oct 31, 2025 to "to be further specified by MassHealth."	1/9/26
Equity Improvement Interventions	63	Technical Correction	Performance Requirements and Assessment	Revised information to reflect only PY3-5 submission requirements.	1/9/26
Equity Improvement Interventions	63	Technical Correction	Performance Requirements and Assessment	Updated submission date for PIP1 Closure Report for PY4 from 8/1/2026 to 7/31/2026.	1/9/26
Equity Improvement Interventions	63-4	Technical Correction	Performance Requirements and Assessment	Clarified scoring of remeasurement 1 and 2 reports and closure reports.	1/9/26
Disability Competent Care	74	Technical Correction	Administrative Specifications	Included the revised formula used to calculate the DCC Training Rate (Rate 1) and removed previous "Denominator" and	1/9/26

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				"Numerator" descriptions	
Disability Competent Care	75	Technical Correction	Performance Requirements and Assessment	Modified to state MassHealth will calculate the DCC Training Rate (Rate 1)	1/9/26
Achievement of External Standards for Health Equity	86-88	Clarification	All sections	Noted the updated NCQA product name change from "Health Equity Accreditation" to "Health Outcomes Accreditation."	1/9/26
Achievement of External Standards for Health Equity	86	Clarification	Measure Summary	Clarified the ACO Leap certification cycles for ACOs on a different timeline.	1/9/26
Member Experience: Communication, Courtesy, and Respect	89	Policy Update	Overview	Given the decision to sunset the CG-CAPHS survey in 2026. Clarified that PY4 is Pay-for-Reporting and PY5 is Pay-for-Performance.	1/9/26
Member Experience: Communication, Courtesy, and Respect	91	Clarification	Administrative Specifications	Removed Question #5 in the Child Composite for Communication as it is not part of the composite.	1/9/26
Member Experience: Communication, Courtesy, and Respect	91	Policy Update	Additional Measure Information	Added a note that MassHealth will not be administering the survey for PY2026.	1/9/26
Member Experience: Communication,	92	Policy Update	PY3-5 Performance Requirements and Assessment	Added that PY4 and PY5 Performance Requirements and	1/9/26

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Courtesy, and Respect				Assessment are under development.	
HRSN Screening	50	Clarification	Administrative Specification	Removed "pending" and replaced with "*with* permission from NCQA."	6/13/25
HRSN Screening	54	Technical Correction	Administrative Data Reporting Requirements	Added ICD-10 Code Z58.6 (Inadequate drinking-water supply) to *Inadequate Housing.*	6/13/25
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	59	Technical Correction	Administrative Specification	Removed "30 day follow up" from FUM, FUA, and FUH (to align with Quality measure reporting).	6/13/25
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	60	Clarification	Additional Measure Information	Clarified acceptable use of imputed data in the stratified reports.	6/13/25
Language Access	66	Clarification	Measure Summary	Clarified Component 2, changing "either interpreter services or in language services" to "language assistance services."	6/13/25
Language Access	67	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed "pending" and replaced with "*with* permission from NCQA."	6/13/25
Language Access	68	Clarification	Eligible Population	Clarified Step 2 of "Event/Diagnosis," adding "language	6/13/25

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				services documentation system (e.g., vendor logs)" as an acceptable source for preferred spoken language other than English data.	
Language Access	70	Clarification	Administrative Specification	Clarified Component 2 description and numerator, changing "either interpreter services or in language services" to "language assistance services."	6/13/25
Language Access	70	Clarification	Administrative Specification	For Component 2 Numerator, addition of "language services documentation system (e.g., vendor logs)" as an acceptable source of documentation for language assistance services provided.	6/13/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	79	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed "pending" and replaced with "*with* permission from NCQA."	6/13/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	80	Technical Correction	Definitions	Revised ages for each of the six questions to align with the ages listed in the RELD	6/13/25

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				SOGI Data Completeness – Disability Data Completeness measure (under Eligible Population).	
Disability Accommodation Needs	80, 81	Clarification	Definitions	Added definition for “Covered Individual with Eligibility for MassHealth on the Basis of a Disability.”	6/13/25
HRSN Screening	55	Clarification	PY3-5 Performance Requirements & Assessment	Clarified that the data submission due date is applicable to all data submitted by the ACO (administrative and supplemental, as applicable).	3/14/25
HRSN Screening	56	Clarification	PY3-5 Performance Requirements & Assessment	Added language about audit expectations.	3/14/25
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	58	Policy Update	Administrative Specification	Removed reference to selection of alternative measures (given ACOs may select any measure from their Quality Slate).	3/14/25
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	58	Clarification	Administrative Specification	Clarified that MassHealth may request member-level data.	3/14/25
Quality Performance	59	Policy Update	Administrative Specification	Expanded the full list of measures eligible for	3/14/25

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Disparities Reduction				disparities reduction to include the entire MassHealth ACO Quality Slate and removed option to select alternative measures.	
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	60	Clarification	Additional Measure Information	Clarified that the Race & Ethnicity standards for stratification apply to the PY3 Measure Assessment Report.	3/14/25
Language Access	71, 72	Clarification	PY3-5 Performance Requirements & Assessment	Added language about audit expectations.	3/14/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	84	Clarification	Reporting Method	Added language about audit expectations for PY3.	3/14/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	85	Clarification	PY3-5 Performance Requirements & Assessment	Added language about audit expectations for PY4-5.	3/14/25