



**Clarifications, Technical Corrections, and Policy Changes
to the Technical Specifications for the
MassHealth Cambridge Health Alliance Hospital 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 (PY3-5) of the MassHealth Cambridge Health Alliance Hospital Quality and Equity Incentives Program (CHA-HQEIP). 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
N/A	4	Clarification	Introduction	Added language on audit process for the HQEIP	2/28/25
Health-Related Social Needs Screening	79	Clarification	Measure Requirement and Assessment: 3-5	Audit of data submitted for Rate 1 and Rate 2	2/28/25
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language other than English	95-96	Clarification	Measure Requirement and Assessment: 3-5	Revised audit language from MassHealth “reserves” the right to “expects” to audit data submitted for Component 2; moved this language from <i>Reporting Methods</i> section to the <i>Measure Requirement and Assessment: 3-5</i> section	2/28/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	106	Technical Correction	Measure Requirement and Assessment: 3-5	Corrected the date in the examples from March 31 to June 30	2/28/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	106	Clarification	Measure Requirement and Assessment: 3-5	Revised audit language from MassHealth “reserves” the right to “expects” to audit data submitted for Rate 1 and Rate 2	2/28/25

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Health-Related Social Needs Screening (Ambulatory)	124	Clarification	Measure Requirement and Assessment: 3-5	Audit of data submitted for Rate 1 and Rate 2	2/28/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Race Data Completeness	6	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed “pending” and replaced with “with permission from NCQA”	5/19/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Hispanic Data Completeness	15	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed “pending” and replaced with “with permission from NCQA”	5/19/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Preferred Language Data Completeness	24	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed “pending” and replaced with “with permission from NCQA”	5/19/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Disability Data Completeness	37	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed “pending” and replaced with “with permission from NCQA”	5/19/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Sexual Orientation Data Completeness	52	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed “pending” and replaced with “with permission from NCQA”	5/19/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Gender Identity Data Completeness	60	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed “pending” and replaced with “with permission from NCQA”	5/19/25
Health-Related Social Needs	71	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed “pending” and replaced with “with permission from NCQA”	5/19/25
Health-Related Social Needs	73	Technical Correction	Administrative Specification— Rate 1	Modified the denominator description, specifying denominators for inpatient/observation stay and emergency department rates	5/19/25
Health-Related Social Needs	75	Clarification	Administrative Specification	Removed “pending” and replaced with “with permission from NCQA”	5/19/25

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Health-Related Social Needs Screening		Technical Correction	Administrative Data Reporting Requirements-- Inadequate Housing	Added Z58.6 (Inadequate drinking-water supply) to <i>Inadequate Housing</i>	5/19/25
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	83-84	Policy Update	Table 1	Added the following quality measures to the slate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCQA: Follow-up After ED Visit for Mental Illness (7 and 30 Day) • SUB-3: Alcohol & Other Drug Use Disorder – Treatment provided/offered at discharge 	5/19/25
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language other than English	92-93	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed “pending” and replaced with “with permission from NCQA”	5/19/25
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language other than English	93 & 95	Clarification	Eligible Population and Administrative Specifications	Addition of “language services documentation system (e.g., vendor logs)” as an acceptable source of documentation	5/19/25
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language other than English	95	Technical Correction	Administrative Specification— Component 2	Modified the denominator description, specifying denominators for inpatient/observation stay and emergency department rates	5/19/25
Disability Competent Care	101	Clarification	Administrative Specification	Addition of “Other” that provides clarification on MassHealth expectations for hospitals choosing to change their targeted DCC training area and/or targeted patient-facing staff	5/19/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	105-106	Technical Correction	Definition— Patient with Self-reported Disability	Revised ages for each of the six questions to align with the ages listed in the RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Disability Data	5/19/25

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Measure Name	Page #	Type of Update	Section Header	Update	Update release date
				Completeness measure (under Eligible Population)	
Health-Related Social Needs	121	Clarification	Administrative Specification	Removed “pending” and replaced with “ <i>with permission from NCQA</i> ”	5/19/25
Health-Related Social Needs Screening	125	Technical Correction	Administrative Data Reporting Requirements—Inadequate Housing	Added Z58.6 (Inadequate drinking-water supply) to <i>Inadequate Housing</i>	5/19/25
Introduction	4	Clarification	Patient Population Definition	Clarification on MassHealth member definition	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Race Data Completeness	6	Technical Correction	Eligible Population—Age	Corrected and standardized age of eligible population	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Race Data Completeness	6-7	Clarification	Definitions—Hospital File [“Enhanced Demographics Data File”]	Clarification on MassHealth Member ID	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Race Data Completeness	7	Technical Correction	Definitions—Members	Modification on MassHealth member definition to align with the HQEIP Implementation Plan	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Hispanic Data Completeness	15	Technical Correction	Eligible Population—Age	Corrected and standardized age of eligible population	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Hispanic Data Completeness	15-16	Clarification	Definitions—Hospital File [“Enhanced Demographics Data File”]	Clarification on MassHealth Member ID	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Hispanic Data Completeness	16	Technical Correction	Definitions—Members	Modification on MassHealth member definition to align with the HQEIP Implementation Plan	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Preferred	24	Technical Correction	Eligible Population—Age	Corrected and standardized age of eligible population	10/17/25

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Measure Name	Page #	Type of Update	Section Header	Update	Update release date
Language Data Completeness					
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Preferred Language Data Completeness	25	Clarification	Definitions—Hospital File [“Enhanced Demographics Data File”]	Clarification on MassHealth Member ID	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Preferred Language Data Completeness	25	Technical Correction	Definitions—Members	Modification on MassHealth member definition to align with the HQEIP Implementation Plan	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Disability Data Completeness	37	Technical Correction	Eligible Population—Age	Corrected and standardized age of eligible population	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Disability Data Completeness	38	Clarification	Definitions—Hospital File [“Enhanced Demographics Data File”]	Clarification on MassHealth Member ID	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Disability Data Completeness	38	Technical Correction	Definitions—Members	Modification on MassHealth member definition to align with the HQEIP Implementation Plan	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Disability Data Completeness	39-40	Technical Correction	Administrative Specification—Numerator Set	Revised ages for each of the six questions to align with the ages listed under Eligible Population	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Disability Data Completeness	50	Technical Correction	CHA-Specific Adaptations—Administrative Specification: Numerator	Revised ages for each of the six questions to align with the ages listed under Eligible Population	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Sexual Orientation Data Completeness	53	Technical Correction	Eligible Population—Age	Corrected and standardized age of eligible population	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data	53	Clarification	Definitions—Hospital File	Clarification on MassHealth Member ID	10/17/25

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Measure Name	Page #	Type of Update	Section Header	Update	Update release date
Completeness – Sexual Orientation Data Completeness			["Enhanced Demographics Data File"]		
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Sexual Orientation Data Completeness	54	Technical Correction	Definitions—Members	Modification on MassHealth member definition to align with the HQEIP Implementation Plan	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Gender Identity Data Completeness	61	Technical Correction	Eligible Population—Age	Corrected and standardized age of eligible population	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Gender Identity Data Completeness	61	Clarification	Definitions—Hospital File ["Enhanced Demographics Data File"]	Clarification on MassHealth Member ID	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Gender Identity Data Completeness	62	Technical Correction	Definitions—Members	Modification on MassHealth member definition to align with the HQEIP Implementation Plan	10/17/25
Health-Related Social Needs	72	Technical Correction	Eligible Population—Age	Corrected and standardized age of eligible population	10/17/25
Health-Related Social Needs	73	Technical Correction	Definitions—Members	Modification on MassHealth member definition to align with the HQEIP Implementation Plan	10/17/25
Health-Related Social Needs	81	Clarification	Measure Requirement and Assessment—Measure Requirements	Clarification on submission expectations (e.g., time)	10/17/25
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	82	Policy Update	Measure Summary	Removed that alternative standard quality measures may be approved by MassHealth on an individual basis	10/17/25
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	83-85	Technical Correction	Administrative Specification	Modified description of the PY3 Measure Assessment Report and information on assessment and	10/17/25

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Measure Name	Page #	Type of Update	Section Header	Update	Update release date
				measure performance in PY4-5; revised measure slate (Table 1)	
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	85-86	Technical Correction	Measure Requirements and Assessment	Updated submission date of PY3 Measure Assessment Report; removed approval of alternative measures for PY3 Performance Assessment	10/17/25
Equity Improvement Interventions	89-90	Technical Correction	Performance Requirements and Assessment	Revised information to reflect only PY3-5 submission requirements and updated submission date for PIP1 Closure Report for PY4	10/17/25
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language Other Than English	93	Technical Correction	Eligible Population—Component 2	Modification on MassHealth member definition to align with the HQEIP Implementation Plan	10/17/25
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language Other Than English	93	Technical Correction	Eligible Population—Component 2	Corrected and standardized age of eligible population	10/17/25
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language Other Than English	93	Technical Correction	Eligible Population—Component 2	Corrected the typo of PY3 measurement period	10/17/25
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language Other Than English	94	Technical Correction	Definitions—Members	Modification on MassHealth member definition to align with the HQEIP Implementation Plan	10/17/25
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for	97-98	Technical Correction & Clarification	Measure Requirement and Assessment—	Corrected submission date for Component 1 and clarification on submission expectations for Component 2	10/17/25

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Measure Name	Page #	Type of Update	Section Header	Update	Update release date
Individuals with a Preferred Language Other Than English			Measure Requirements		
Disability Competent Care	102	Technical Correction	Measure Requirement and Assessment—Measure Requirements	Modified the deliverable submission date	10/17/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	105	Technical Correction	Eligible Population	Modification on MassHealth member definition to align with the HQEIP Implementation Plan	10/17/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	105	Technical Correction	Eligible Population—Age	Corrected and standardized age of eligible population	10/17/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	106-107	Technical Correction	Definition—Patient with Self-reported Disability	Revised age description for each disability question to align with the standardized 'Age' description	10/17/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	109	Clarification	Measure Requirement and Assessment—Measure Requirements	Clarification on submission expectations (e.g., time)	10/17/25
Achievement of External Standards for Health Equity	112	Technical Correction	Measure Requirement and Assessment—Measure Requirements	Corrected deliverable submission date	10/17/25
Patient Experience: Communication, Courtesy, and Respect	115	Clarification	Measure Requirement and Assessment—Measure Requirements	Clarified age for “1. Total number of MassHealth <i>adult (18+)</i> acute inpatient...”	10/17/25
Collaboration	119	Clarification	Measure Requirement and Assessment—Measure Requirements	Added the deliverable submission date	10/17/25
Health-Related Social Needs	120	Clarification	Measure Summary—Description	Clarified the description of the overall measure and Rate 1	10/17/25

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Measure Name	Page #	Type of Update	Section Header	Update	Update release date
Screening (Ambulatory)					
Health-Related Social Needs Screening (Ambulatory)	123	Clarification	Administrative Specification Rate 1: HRSN Screening Rate— Numerator	Added clarification about screening in other settings	10/17/25
CHA-HQEIP Ambulatory Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	130	Technical Correction	Administrative Specification	Modified description of the PY3 Measure Assessment Report and information on assessment and measure performance in PY4-5	10/17/25
CHA-HQEIP Ambulatory Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	132	Technical Correction	Measure Requirements and Assessment	Updated submission date of PY3 Measure Assessment Report; removed approval of alternative measures for PY3 Performance Assessment	10/17/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Sexual Orientation Data Completeness	53	Technical Correction	Eligible Population	Corrected members age to 19 and older and below 65 years of age	12/24/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Gender Identity Data Completeness	61	Technical Correction	Eligible Population	Corrected members age to 19 and older and below 65 years of age	12/24/25
Health-Related Social Needs	77 & 78	Clarification	Administrative Data Reporting Requirements	Added a note about G0136 code that will no longer be applicable beginning January 1, 2026	12/24/25
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	86	Technical Correction	Measure Requirement and Assessment: PY3-5 – Measure Requirements and Performance Assessment	Updated to include submission of PY3 SUB-2 and PC-02 data for Medicaid patients; removed “approval by MassHealth of measures for the served uninsured population”	12/24/25

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Measure Name	Page #	Type of Update	Section Header	Update	Update release date
Disability Accommodation Needs	104 & 105	Clarification	Measure Summary	Clarified rates will be calculated separately for inpatient/observation stays and ambulatory radiology	12/24/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	106	Clarification	Eligible Population—Event	Included a note about inclusion and exclusion of ambulatory radiology visits	12/24/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	106	Clarification	Eligible Population—Event	Added information on MassHealth ID and use of “999999999999” in the supplemental file that will be excluded from rate calculations	12/24/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	109 & 110	Technical Correction	Administrative Specifications— Rate 1: Accommodation Needs Screening and Rate 2: Accommodation Needs Related to a Disability Documented	Corrected both rates to reflect denominator and numerator for each inpatient/observation stays and ambulatory radiology	12/24/25
Achievement of External	113 & 114	Clarification	Measure Requirement and Assessment: PY3-5 – Measure Requirements	If applicable, clarified certification and maintenance requirements apply to additional acute care hospital sites operated by hospital	12/24/25
Patient Experience: Communication, Courtesy, and Respect	117	Technical Correction	Measure Requirement and Assessment: PY3-5 – Measure Requirements	Changed reference to PY2 to PY for response rate (#5)	12/24/25
Health-Related Social Needs (Ambulatory)	126	Clarification	Administrative Data Reporting Requirements	Added a note about G0136 code that will no longer be applicable beginning January 1, 2026	12/24/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness	69-70	Clarification	Measure Requirements and Assessment: PY3-5	Added information on PY4 and PY5 submission requirements	3/27/26
Health-Related Social Needs	76	Clarification	Administrative Specification – Rate 1, Exclusions	Added exclusions of patients leaving against medical advice, eloping, or without being seen	3/27/26

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Measure Name	Page #	Type of Update	Section Header	Update	Update release date
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	84-85	Technical Correction	Table 1	Removed CMS IPFQR: Follow up After Psychiatric Hospitalization measure and added SUB-3: Alcohol & Other Drug Use Disorder – Treatment provided/offered at discharge measure; removed note about 7 Day rate for Follow-up After ED Visit for Substance Use measure; removed note about Medicaid population and added a note about served uninsured patient population for Follow-up After Hospitalization for Mental Illness measure	3/27/26
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	85	Technical Correction	Additional Measure Information	Removed language on race and ethnicity data standards for stratification	3/27/26
Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	85-86	Technical Correction & Clarification	Measure Requirements and Assessment: PY3-5 – Measure Requirements	Updated the PY3 Measure Assessment Report submission date and added information on PY4 and PY5 submission requirements	3/27/26
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language Other Than English	93	Technical Correction	Eligible Population – Event/Diagnosis	Corrected the typo of discharges, stays, visits date range (aligns with the Measurement Years defined in row above)	3/27/26
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language Other Than English	96	Clarification	Administrative Specification – Component 2, Exclusions	Added exclusions of patients leaving against medical advice, eloping or without being seen	3/27/26
Disability Competent Care	101-102	Technical Correction	Administrative Specification	Added the DCC Training Rate formula (note: formula is the same as the one included in PY2 HQEIP Technical Specifications)	3/27/26

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Disability Accommodation Needs	106	Policy Update	Eligible Population – Event	Added to the “Note” that radiology services included as a part of an inpatient stay is excluded Also, revised Step 2 to reflect the updated approach— hospitals identify patients with a self-reported disability	3/27/26
Disability Accommodation Needs	106	Technical Correction	Definition – Patient with Self-reported Disability	Added “during the measurement year”	3/27/26
Disability Accommodation Needs	107	Technical Correction	Definition – Patient with Eligibility for MassHealth on the Basis of a Disability	Definition no longer applicable given the measure’s revised approach	3/27/26
Disability Accommodation Needs	109	Technical Correction	Administrative Specification – Rate 1, Numerator	Expanded staff/providers who may render screening	3/27/26
Achievement of External Standards for Health Equity	111-113	Clarification	Measure Summary – Description; Measure Requirements	Included a footnote on the name change for the HCE Certification	3/27/26
CHA-HQEIP Ambulatory Quality Performance Disparities Reduction	133	Technical Correction	Measure Requirements and Assessment: PY3-5 – Measure Requirements	Updated the PY3 Measure Assessment Report submission date and added information on PY4 and PY5 submission requirements	3/27/26

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