



**Clarifications, Technical Corrections, and Policy Changes
to the Technical Specifications for the
MassHealth 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 Hospital Quality and Equity Incentives Program (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	3	Clarification	Introduction	Added language on audit process for the HQEIP	2/21/25
Health-Related Social Needs Screening	63	Clarification	Measure Requirement and Assessment: 3-5	Audit of data submitted for Rate 1 and Rate 2	2/21/25
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language other than English	78-79	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	2/21/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	88	Technical Correction	Measure Requirement and Assessment: 3-5	Corrected the date in the examples from March 31 to June 30	2/21/25
Disability Accommodation Needs	88	Clarification	Measure Requirement and	Revised audit language from MassHealth “reserves” the right to	2/21/25

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			Assessment: 3-5	"expects" to audit data submitted for Rate 1 and Rate 2	
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Race Data Completeness	5	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed "pending" and replaced with "with permission from NCQA"	5/19/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Hispanic Data Completeness	11	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed "pending" and replaced with "with permission from NCQA"	5/19/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Preferred Language Data Completeness	17	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed "pending" and replaced with "with permission from NCQA"	5/19/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Disability Data Completeness	27	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed "pending" and replaced with "with permission from NCQA"	5/19/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Sexual Orientation Data Completeness	40	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed "pending" and replaced with "with permission from NCQA"	5/19/25
RELD SOGI Data Completeness – Gender Identity Data Completeness	46	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed "pending" and replaced with "with permission from NCQA"	5/19/25
Health-Related Social Needs	54	Clarification	Eligible Population	Removed "pending" and replaced with "with permission from NCQA"	5/19/25
Health-Related Social Needs	56	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	58	Clarification	Administrative Specification	Removed "pending" and replaced with "with permission from NCQA"	5/19/25
Health-Related Social Needs Screening	61	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	66	Policy Update	Table 1	Added the following quality measures to the slate:	5/19/25

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Disparities Reduction				<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 	
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language other than English	74-75	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	77	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	82	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	85-86	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 Completeness measure (under Eligible Population)	5/19/25
Meaningful Access to Healthcare Services for Individuals with a Preferred Language other than English	75 & 77	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

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