

HIV Ambulatory Care  
Quality of Care  
Performance Results:  
Beginning 2011

## Overview

New York State Department of Health  
AIDS Institute's HIV Quality of Care Program

[Health.data.ny.gov](http://Health.data.ny.gov)

The NYSDOH AIDS Institute's HIV Quality of Care Program assesses the quality of HIV care provided to persons living with HIV throughout New York State and promotes quality improvement activities in a variety of ways. Through performance measurement, provision of technical assistance and setting expectations for quality management standards, the AIDS Institute's Office of the Medical Director assists health care facilities in the development, implementation and maintenance of their quality management programs.

The ultimate objective for each HIV program is the development of a sustainable HIV-specific quality management program that reflects the capacity to dynamically analyze and continuously improve HIV treatment, care and supportive services. Recent areas of emphasis have included coordination of care, patient retention, viral load suppression, health literacy, one visit reviews, medical homes, and improving clinical information systems.

All HIV ambulatory programs throughout New York State with a caseload of 30 or more patients (at all clinics combined for multi-site programs) are expected to self-report their annual quality of care performance data using standardized submission tools and methodologies. Initially a stand-alone desktop application, eHIVQUAL has been implemented since 2010 as a secure website application for routine self-reporting of facility-level performance data. With the assistance of this application, performance data results are instantly available to HIV programs, allowing them to immediately utilize their data findings to prioritize upcoming quality activities, and are available for generating benchmarking reports across New York State.

The AIDS Institute sponsors the HIV Quality of Care Advisory Committee, which for the past 18 years has provided guidance to establish priorities for measurement. This Committee continues to review, refine and develop new indicators that are used in the eHIVQUAL application.

The dataset being published on [Health.data.ny.gov](http://Health.data.ny.gov) represents self-reported performance data by HIV ambulatory care programs in New York State. Each provider organization, with a minimal total caseload of at least 30 HIV-infected patients receiving ambulatory HIV care at one or more sites, uses a defined set of standardized indicators (see [NYSDOH\\_HIVAmbulatoryCare\\_IndicatorGuide\\_2011.pdf](#)) and submits their performance data via eHIVQUAL. The 2011 dataset includes submissions from 171 HIV clinics across 53 indicators, which represents data received as of December 3, 2012, and after exclusion of 15 submissions from clinics that had 5 or fewer patients meeting the eligibility criteria.

The dataset includes the facility scores broken down by each indicator reported by the program, including the number of patients for each indicator and the percentage score.

Public access to the HIV ambulatory care data is intended solely to allow the public convenient and immediate access to public information. All data used in this data set are self-reported by the HIV programs and are not validated by an external review agency. Nine HIV clinics have not submitted their data and are not included in this dataset. The eligibility criteria for inclusion in the dataset—at least one clinical visit in each half of the year—focus on those HIV-infected patients that are retained in ambulatory HIV care. The vast majority of HIV clinics use a sampling methodology (see documentation on [eHIVQUAL.org](http://eHIVQUAL.org)) to reduce the data collection burden. The denominators for certain indicators are small (e.g., PCP prophylaxis) because eligible populations for these indicators are reduced. If fewer than six patients are eligible, these specific indicator results are redacted.

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Additional information about eHIVQUAL is available at [www.eHIVQUAL.org](http://www.eHIVQUAL.org). The website for the AIDS Institute is located at [www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/about/](http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/about/).

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