

HIV Ambulatory Quality of Care Performance Results: Beginning 2011

OVERVIEW

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

September 2017

Health Data NY



General Description:

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 prescription of antiretroviral medication, viral suppression, STI screening and treatment, tobacco cessation and stigma reduction.

All HIV ambulatory programs throughout New York State with at least a minimum caseload (30 patients among all sites) are expected to self-report their annual quality of care performance data using standardized submission tools and methodologies. After using a stand-alone desktop application, called HIVQUAL, for several years, the review has been implemented since 2010 via a secure website application (eHIVQUAL) designed 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 HIV Quality of Care Advisory Committee continues to review, refine and develop new indicators that are used in the eHIVQUAL application.

Data Methodology:

The dataset being published on 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, NYSDOH_..._IndicatorGuide_2013.pdf and NYSDOH_..._IndicatorGuide_2014.pdf) and submits their performance data via eHIVQUAL. The current dataset includes submissions from 204 HIV clinics, which represents data submitted through the eHIVQUAL application as of December 5, 2016, and after exclusion of submissions from clinics that had 5 or fewer patients meeting the eligibility criteria and incomplete or missing submissions. 171 of these clinics are represented in the data for care provided in 2011, 177 for 2013 and 178 for 2014. Clinics that changed names are listed by their name as of December 2016.

In 2011, the eligible caseload for inclusion in the review consisted of all HIV-infected patients 13 years and older who had at least one HIV primary care visit during each half of the review year. In 2013, this was expanded to include HIV-infected patients who had at least one ambulatory care visit during the year but not in each half of the year.

The data received and scored for 2014 included the entire caseload for 13 community health centers, which represent 42 individual clinics, whose data were submitted from a data warehouse maintained by Azara Healthcare, an organization that extracted their data directly from their EMRs. The eligible caseload for clinics submitting data through the direct submission process remained the same as 2013, consisting of all HIV-infected patients 13 years and older who had at least one HIV primary care visit during the review year. For Azara extract submissions (see [NYSDOH_HIVAmbulatoryCare_AzaraParticipation_2014.pdf](#) for a list), the eligible caseload was defined as all HIV-infected patients 13 years and older who had at least one ambulatory care visit during the 2014 review year. Patients were excluded if Azara-partnered providers identified that they were engaged in ongoing HIV care elsewhere.

For each year, 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. See [NYSDOH_HIVAmbulatoryCare_DataDictionary.xlsx](#) for a description of each field in the data set. An appendix, [NYSDOH_HIVAmbulatoryCare_DataDictionary.xlsx](#), provides scoring details for each indicator in each year. A master indicator ID is provided to cross-reference indicators that remained essentially unchanged across years, even if the descriptive indicator name changed, facilitating longitudinal comparisons.

Except for the 2014 Azara reviews, clinics with 25 or more eligible patients had the option each year of using a sampling methodology (details available upon request) to reduce the data collection burden. The denominators for certain indicators are small (e.g., PCP prophylaxis) because eligible populations for these indicators are small. Data are only included for specific measures if the eligible population for that measure at a given facility is greater than five patients.

Limitations of Use:

Public access to the HIV ambulatory care data is intended solely to allow the public convenient and timely 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. While all attempts are made to provide accurate, current, and reliable information, the Department of Health recognizes the possibility of human and/or mechanical error and that information captured at a point in time often becomes obsolete. Therefore, the Department of Health, its employees, officers and agents make no representation, warranty or guarantee as to the accuracy, completeness, currency, or suitability of the information provided here.

Additional information about eHIVQUAL is available at www.eHIVQUAL.org. The website for the AIDS Institute is located at www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/about/.

Published on Health.data.ny.gov: May 2013

Last Updated: September 2017