



## Transparency improves quality.

The State of Minnesota is working to provide health care quality data that is meaningful for physicians and consumers.

In 2010 Minnesota's physician clinics were required by law to register with the state and submit clinical data on diabetes and vascular disease outcomes and information on their health information technology adoption.

The Minnesota Statewide Quality Reporting and Measurement System is evolving and this brochure outlines 2011 reporting requirements for physician clinics.



612/362-3766 | [www.MMAonline.net/measure](http://www.MMAonline.net/measure)

A physician clinic is defined as “any location where primary or specialty care ambulatory services are provided for a fee by one or more physicians in the state of Minnesota.” This includes ambulatory surgical centers and hospital-based outpatient clinics.

## Registration

All physician clinics are required to register with the Minnesota Department of Health through MN Community Measurement’s Website.

Practices can obtain a login ID and a password from MN Community Measurement.

Registration starts in November 2010 and must occur no later than February 10, 2011.

- Download instructions: [www.mncm.org](http://www.mncm.org)

## Patient experience

Beginning in September 2012, physician clinics will be required to assess patient experience using the Clinicians and Group CAHPS visit-specific survey. Instruments, tools, and resources are available in the Clinician & Group Survey and Reporting Kit available online at [www.cahps.ahrq.gov](http://www.cahps.ahrq.gov).

## 2011 Changes

### What if we have multiple sites?

In 2011 multiple clinic locations will be permitted to report as one clinic if the clinic locations meet all of the following criteria:

1. locations are commonly owned;
2. have a majority of common clinical staff working across the multiple locations; and
3. the total clinical staff across all locations is no greater than 20 clinical FTE staff.

### If we are a pediatric practice do we submit data for adult measures?

In 2011 pediatric physician clinics and hospitals are no longer required

to submit data on measures designed only for adults if less than 10% of their patients are ages 18 or older.

### If we have an electronic medical record can we still submit a random sample?

Yes, but if a physician clinic has an electronic medical record in place for the prior year’s full measurement cycle, it must begin to report data on its full population in 2012.

## Measures

When practices register with MN Community Measurement they will learn for which measures they are required to submit data. The table below summarizes measures, which physician specialties are affected, and timelines.

Affected physician clinics	Task	Opens	Closes
<b>Fall</b>			
All physician clinics	<b>Registration</b>	Nov. 2010	Feb. 10, 2011
<b>Winter</b>			
<b>Data Submission</b>			
Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Geriatrics, Endocrinology	Optimal Diabetes Care	Jan. 17, 2011	Feb. 15, 2011
Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Geriatrics, Cardiology	Optimal Vascular Care	Jan. 17, 2011	Feb. 15, 2011
Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Geriatrics, Psychiatry, Behavioral Health professionals (if there is a physician on staff)	Depression Care Measures	Feb. 7, 2011	Feb. 25, 2011
<b>Spring</b>			
<b>Data Submission</b>			
All physician clinics	Health Information Technology Survey	Feb. 15, 2011	Mar. 15, 2011
<b>Summer</b>			
<b>Data Submission</b>			
Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Allergy/ Immunology, Pulmonology	Optimal Asthma Care	July 11, 2011	Aug. 19, 2011
Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Geriatrics, Obstetrics/ Gynecology	Colorectal Cancer Screening	July 11, 2011	Aug. 19, 2011

# Data Collection

Physician clinics will gather their data by extracting it from an electronic medical record (EMR) system or through a medical record/chart review.

Physician clinics should begin thinking about how to extract their data, identify patients, and how to segment data for risk adjustment reporting.

**Patient Identification:** Clinics will need to develop a list of eligible patients by using a patient registry, practice management billing system, or EMR. Refer to the measure specifications to determine patient eligibility. The measure specifications and other data collection tools are available on the “resources page” of the MN Community Measurement Website at [www.mncm.org](http://www.mncm.org).

**Risk adjustment:** Data for the diabetes care, vascular care, asthma care, and colorectal screening measures will be risk adjusted by primary payer type. Clinics will need to segment their patient data by primary payer type (i.e., commercial insurance, Medicare, Minnesota Health Care Programs, and uninsured/self-pay) for each measure and each individual component.

Data for the depression measure will be risk-adjusted for severity of illness based on the patient’s initial PHQ9 score. Clinics will need to submit data by patient initial PHQ9 scores using the identified severity bands.

## Submitting data

Clinics submit data using an electronic data submission template provided by MN Community Measurement. Physician clinics will upload their formatted data via the MN Community Measurement Web-based portal. See the “resources page” for detailed data submission instructions on the MN Community Measurement Website at [www.mncm.org](http://www.mncm.org).

Clinics can choose to submit data on their full population or submit data on a random sample of patients. The minimum number of charts required for a random sample is 60 records per clinic, per measure. If a practice has fewer than 60 patients eligible for a measure it must submit data for all of the patients in the population.

Information on a practice’s use of health information technology will be collected via an Internet-based survey, which will be emailed to all registered practices in February and March of 2011.

## Data Validation

Physician clinics must document and retain the methodology they used to determine which patients met the criteria, the data submitted to MN Community Measurement and all of the data used to calculate the results for two years.

## Questions?

Additional technical resources including clinic registration, measure and data submission information can be found on MN Community Measurement’s Web site [www.mncm.org](http://www.mncm.org) or by contacting MN Community Measurement at [support@mncm.org](mailto:support@mncm.org).

For questions about the rule or requirements contact MDH at [health.reform@state.mn.us](mailto:health.reform@state.mn.us)

Visit MMA’s quality resources page on the MMA Web site at: [www.mnmed.org/measures](http://www.mnmed.org/measures)