

Strategic Measure Profiles and Detailed Measure Crosswalk

Building Your Quality Strategy One Measure at a Time

By now, you have explored the quality measurement systems that influence health center performance and learned how they work together to support a comprehensive quality strategy. You have also seen that many clinical measures align across UDS, HEDIS, QIP, and other quality initiatives, while requiring different improvement approaches depending on the patient population being measured.

The next step is translating those strategic concepts into measure-level planning.

This section of the toolkit provides two practical resources designed to support that work:

- **Strategic Measure Profiles** – concise planning guides that explain why each measure matters, how it aligns across quality measurement systems, and the types of improvement strategies most likely to influence performance.
- **Detailed Measure Crosswalk** – an Excel-based technical reference that compares measure specifications across quality programs and supports quality planning, reporting, and implementation.

Used together, these resources help quality leaders move from understanding quality measurement systems to designing coordinated improvement strategies.

From Quality Strategy to Quality Improvement

The Health Center Quality Strategy Map introduced earlier in this toolkit describes quality planning as a progression.

Understand the Quality Landscape
Identify Strategic Measure Alignment
Establish Organizational Priorities
Prepare for Improvement

The Strategic Measure Profiles and Detailed Measure Crosswalk support the final two steps of this process.

Once organizational priorities have been established, quality leaders need practical tools that help answer questions such as:

- Which measures should we focus on this year?
- Why is this measure strategically important?
- Does this measure align across multiple reporting systems?
- Should our improvement strategy focus on population health outreach, care delivery during visits, or both?

- What technical specifications do our teams need to understand to accurately measure performance?

This chapter provides those tools.

Strategic Measure Profiles

The Strategic Measure Profiles are designed to help quality leaders think beyond measure specifications and understand how each measure contributes to organizational quality strategy.

Each profile follows a consistent format to support annual quality planning.

Each profile includes:

Why This Measure Matters

Provides clinical context, health equity considerations, and the importance of the measure for rural and frontier communities.

Measure Alignment

Shows where the measure aligns across:

- UDS
- HEDIS
- QIP
- Population Health Management initiative (PHMI)

Understanding alignment helps identify opportunities where one improvement effort can support multiple organizational goals.

Understanding the Improvement Strategy

Each profile introduces two complementary improvement perspectives:

Population Health Perspective	Care Delivery Perspective
Focuses on identifying assigned patients with care gaps through outreach, registry management, and panel management.	Focuses on reducing missed opportunities by improving workflows, documentation, and preventive care delivered during patient encounters.

Regional Performance

Regional performance data provide context for understanding variation across Northern California health centers and identifying opportunities for improvement.

Measure Definition and Benchmarks

Each profile concludes with a concise measure definition and key benchmark information to support planning discussions.

Detailed Measure Crosswalk

The accompanying Excel workbook serves as the technical companion to this toolkit by bringing together detailed information about each measure in a single reference.

Measures are organized using the same clinical portfolios introduced throughout the toolkit:

- Primary Prevention
- Immunizations
- Chronic Disease Management and Risk Reduction
- Child and Adolescent Health
- Medication Management

Organizing measures by clinical portfolio reinforces the concept that quality improvement should be organized around patient care priorities rather than individual reporting programs.

What's Included in the Detailed Measure Crosswalk

The Detailed Measure Crosswalk compares quality measures across reporting systems and includes information such as:

- Measure alignment across UDS, HEDIS, QIP, and other programs
- Reporting periods
- Numerator and denominator definitions
- Look-back periods
- Exclusions
- Data sources
- Documentation requirements
- Benchmark information
- Related measure specifications

This resource is intended to complement—not replace—the official specifications published by HRSA, DHCS, NCQA, and Partnership HealthPlan.

Using These Resources Throughout the Quality Planning Cycle

The Strategic Measure Profiles and Detailed Measure Crosswalk are designed to support quality leaders throughout the year, not just during annual reporting.

During the Quality Planning Cycle...	Use the Strategic Measure Profiles to...	Use the Detailed Measure Crosswalk to...
Review organizational performance	Understand why measures matter and how they align across programs.	Compare technical specifications and reporting requirements.
Select annual priorities	Identify high-leverage measures and appropriate improvement approaches.	Confirm measure definitions and reporting differences.
Plan improvement initiatives	Discuss population health and care delivery strategies with improvement teams.	Review numerator, denominator, exclusions, and documentation requirements.
Engage clinical teams	Explain the clinical importance of measures and why they have been prioritized.	Answer detailed measure questions and support EHR reporting.
Monitor improvement	Interpret performance trends within the context of organizational strategy.	Validate data and ensure consistent measurement over time.

Quality Leadership in Practice

One of the themes of this toolkit is that quality leadership extends beyond reporting performance.

Quality leaders help organizations translate multiple reporting requirements into a coordinated improvement strategy that supports patients, clinicians, and organizational goals.

The Strategic Measure Profiles and Detailed Measure Crosswalk are intended to support that work by helping quality leaders:

- Connect individual measures to broader organizational priorities.
- Recognize opportunities where one improvement effort can influence multiple reporting systems.
- Select improvement approaches that match the population being measured.
- Build a shared understanding of quality measures across clinical, operational, and executive teams.
- Prepare improvement initiatives using consistent technical specifications and performance data.

When used together with the Health Center Quality Strategy Map, these resources provide a common framework for moving from quality measurement to quality improvement.

Looking Ahead

Quality improvement is an ongoing process of learning, prioritizing, and adapting to changing patient and organizational needs. While reporting requirements and measure specifications will continue to evolve, the principles presented in this toolkit remain constant:

- Understand the quality landscape.
- Identify where measures align.
- Focus improvement efforts where they will have the greatest impact.
- Use data to guide continuous learning and improvement.

The Strategic Measure Profiles and Detailed Measure Crosswalk are intended to be practical resources that support this work and help quality leaders build a coordinated, patient-centered quality strategy that advances the mission of California's federally qualified health centers.