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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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NCQA Maps Quality Measurement Strategy for People With Both Medicare and Medicaid

Washington, DC — A white paper released today by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)—[Integrated Care for People With Medicare and Medicaid: A Roadmap for Quality](https://inetshop01.pub.ncqa.org/publications/product.asp?dept_id=2&pf_id=11103-400-13) (https://inetshop01.pub.ncqa.org/publications/product.asp?dept_id=2&pf_id=11103-400-13) — outlines how to measure efforts to integrate care for people enrolled in both public insurance programs simultaneously. The report was produced with support from The SCAN Foundation.

“Care for people with Medicare and Medicaid—including seniors and people with disabilities and mental illness—is an important frontier in quality measurement,” said NCQA President Margaret E. O’Kane. “People enrolled in both programs tend to have multiple chronic conditions and too often receive spotty, poorly coordinated care. This report will help build measurement strategies that foster integrated, high-quality care for this vulnerable population.”

CMS, state Medicaid departments and health plans are engaged in the difficult work of integrating care across the two very different financing systems, making NCQA’s white paper timely and relevant.

By helping federal, state and private insurers design and measure the effectiveness of integrated care programs, NCQA’s recommendations can support integration and improve the quality of care that people with Medicare and Medicaid receive.

The white paper articulates a goal of a national measurement system that evaluates health outcomes. As a bridge or transitional strategy for creating that environment, an implementation plan presented by the paper starts with measuring structures and processes that are known to improve quality and that are necessary to capture data needed for outcome measurement.

Effective integration of care for people in Medicare and Medicaid is an important factor in the financial soundness of both programs. Dual-eligible enrollees account for a disproportionate share of the programs' spending—39 percent of costs from just 15 percent of enrollees, in the case of Medicaid.

To advance a measurement agenda that improves care of people with Medicare-Medicaid eligibility, NCQA seeks to collaborate with a few leading integrated care plans over the next three years to develop meaningful, person-centered measures. Interested organizations should contact communications@ncqa.org.

DOWNLOAD THE WHITE PAPER

[Integrated Care for People With Medicare and Medicaid: A Roadmap for Quality](https://inetshop01.pub.ncqa.org/publications/product.asp?dept_id=2&pf_id=11103-400-13) (https://inetshop01.pub.ncqa.org/publications/product.asp?dept_id=2&pf_id=11103-400-13) will be available indefinitely in electronic format (PDF) on ncqa.org. A limited number of printed copies are available free of charge.

ABOUT THE SCAN FOUNDATION

Integrated Care for People With Medicare and Medicaid: A Roadmap for Quality is supported by a grant from The SCAN Foundation. [The SCAN Foundation](#) is dedicated to creating a society in which seniors receive medical treatment and human services that are integrated in the setting most appropriate to their needs.

ABOUT NCQA

NCQA is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to improving health care quality. NCQA accredits and certifies a wide range of health care organizations. It also recognizes clinicians and practices in key areas of performance. NCQA's Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS[®]) is the most widely used performance measurement tool in health care. NCQA is committed to providing health care quality information for consumers, purchasers, health care providers and researchers.

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