

STATE INNOVATION MODEL (SIM) PROXY MEASURE: **ASTHMA**

OVERVIEW

In 2012, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) launched the ambitious State Innovation Model (SIM) to improve health care and lower costs across the nation. Colorado is one of 25 states implementing a plan to influence the health of 80 percent of Coloradans by 2019.

The CO APCD is one of the sources for data and analytics for the Colorado SIM effort. In collaboration with the SIM Office, CIVHC developed innovative ways to use the CO APCD to assess how integrated behavioral and physical health influences patient health and cost of care. The health care community calls these “quality measures.”

Using nationally accepted specifications, methodologies were established using health insurance claims across Medicare, Medicaid and commercial payers in the CO APCD to create claims-based quality measures. These quality measures allow benchmarking between payers and providers across the entire state to identify opportunities to create targeted, meaningful interventions that improve population health, improve care, and lower costs for Colorado.

ASTHMA is a chronic condition requiring ongoing care and active treatment.

MEASURING CARE FOR ASTHMA

- Patients with persistent asthma are ideally prescribed and are using one or more maintenance medications.
- For patients between 5 and 64 years of age diagnosed with persistent asthma, this quality measure provides the percent of patients who filled one or more prescription asthma medications during 2015.
- This measure aligns with National Quality Forum Measure (NQF) #0036 and Clinical Quality Measure (CQM) 126v3 developed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid.

ACROSS THE NATION



Over **24 million people** have asthma, resulting in over **439,000 hospitalizations, 1.6 million ER visits, and 3,600 deaths annually.**ⁱⁱ



IN COLORADO

Over **343,000 people have asthma**, and **in 2014**, asthma was the underlying cause of **46 deaths in the state.**ⁱⁱⁱ

SIM PRACTICES

Use of Appropriate Asthma Medications (One or More Prescription Medications Filled)

	All Ages	5-11 years	12-18 years	19-50 years	51-64 years
SIM Practices	44.2%	49.6%	41.6%	41.5%	43.1%
Statewide	44.8%	48.3%	42.6%	42.4%	45.6%

TAKEAWAYS

- For the majority of age groups and overall, Coloradans with SIM providers appear to have about the same adherence to their asthma medication when compared to others with asthma across the state.
- Most Coloradans with asthma are not filling one asthma prescription medication each year.

IMPROVING CARE FOR ASTHMA

- Coloradans’ lack of medication adherence may be due to increasing use of over-the-counter medications, lower symptoms leading to poor medication adherence, and high cost of medications.
- Asthma remains a significant health issue in Colorado, and programs designed to increase medication compliance will improve the lives of people with asthma.
- These proxies create opportunities for public health agencies to target communication campaigns and outreach interventions to entire populations.

SOURCES

ⁱ TriStar Horizon Medical Center. (2017, January). What Does Quality in Health Care Mean? Retrieved from TriStar Horizon.com: <http://tristarhorizon.com/about/newsroom/what-does-quality-in-health-care-mean>

ⁱⁱ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017, January). Most Recent Asthma Data - National Health Care Use - Adult Prevalence and Mortality. Retrieved from [cdc.gov: https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/most_recent_data.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/most_recent_data.htm)

ⁱⁱⁱ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017, January). Most Recent Asthma Data - State or Territory Data - Adult Prevalence and Mortality. Retrieved from [cdc.gov: https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/most_recent_data_states.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/most_recent_data_states.htm)