



**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**Department of Employee Trust Funds**  
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 SECRETARY

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## **Correspondence Memorandum**

**Date:** July 11, 2022

**To:** Group Insurance Board

**From:** Brian Stamm, Deputy Director  
 Office of Strategic Health Policy

**Subject:** 2023 Plan Year Quality Credit

**This memo is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.**

### **Background**

As part of the annual health plan rate setting process, the Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) develops a quality credit that is applied to individual health plans' final rates, if earned. This memo provides an update to the Group Insurance Board (Board) on the status of the quality credits earned for the 2023 plan year. Health plan names have been de-identified and randomized within this memo. Additionally, one health plan did not have year-over-year data available, which made it easily identifiable, therefore information about this health plan was not included in the appendix. While the aggregate level Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) and Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) quality scores are publicly available, the individual measurement values are not. ETF has, therefore, de-identified the health plan names to maintain confidentiality. The Board, however, will receive a version of this memo with data identifiable by health plan.

### **Changes for the 2023 Plan Year Calculation**

The quality credit is a calculation comprised of data collected from each health plan. The data collected consists of HEDIS data as well as CAHPS data. These are industry standard, validated, and independently verified data sources that provide a quantitative analysis of quality of healthcare and services provided by a health plan.

The only change made in the 2023 plan year quality credit calculation compared to the previous year was the replacement of the Medication Management for People with Asthma (MMA) measure with the Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR) measure as described in the 2022 Plan Year Quality Credit memo ([Ref. GIB | 08.18.21 | 4B](#)) to the Board.

Reviewed and approved by Eileen K Mallow, Director, Office of Strategic Health Policy Electronically Signed 07/27/2022 
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It is worth noting two aspects of the calculation for full transparency. First, the point values allocated to each measurement are based on the National Committee for Quality Assurance's (NCQA) quality calculation and have been vetted and validated. ETF did not assign its own point values.

Secondly, there are cases in which measurements cannot be calculated with statistical significance due to low denominators, in which case the health plan's HEDIS report would list the result as "Not Reported – Low Denominator." In this case, the point value assigned to a measure that is not reported is spread evenly throughout the remaining measurements as not to impact the health plan negatively for insuring fewer members than other plans.

### **Results**

The calculation showed an increase year-over-year in quality scores for all but two health plans, as noted by Chart 2 in the appendix. The scores ranged from a 0.96% decrease to a 7.35% improvement. The increase in scores represents a bounce back in preventive health care performed despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Whether this is simply a one-time correction, or the start of a trend, is yet to be determined. In general, health plans that achieved the highest quality scores did so through endorsing proactive preventive medicine with their in-network providers. With that said, there is still significant room for improvement for the health plans themselves to directly interact with our membership to improve the health of the population through effective chronic condition and population health management.

The highest quality credit was earned by Health Plan #3 followed respectively by Health Plan #2, Health Plan #7, Health Plan #1, and Health Plan #8. The remaining health plans scored below the quality credit cutoff, and therefore did not receive a quality credit. ETF staff notified all health plans of their earned quality credit during health plan negotiations. All plans are welcome to discuss their individual scores with ETF staff in a private meeting to help develop a plan for improvement.

Staff will be available at the Board meeting to answer any questions.



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**Appendix**

**2023 Plan Year Quality Credit**  
**Chart 1 – Final Results**

Health Plan	Rating of Health Plan (9 + 10)	Coordination of Care (Always + Usually)	Flu Vaccination	Childhood Immunization Status (CIS) Combination #3	Childhood Immunization Status (CIS) Combination #10	Immunizations for Adolescents (IMA) Combination #2	Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)	Cervical Cancer Screening (CCS)	Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL)	Appropriate Testing for Children with Pharyngitis (cwp)	Controlling High Blood Pressure (cbp)	Comprehensive Diabetes Care (CDC) HbA1c Control (<8.0%)	Comprehensive Diabetes Care (cdc) Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg)	Antidepressant Medication Management (amm) Effective Continuation Phase Treatment	Follow-up After Hospitalization For Mental Illness (FUH) Total - 30-day Follow-up	Follow-up After Emergency Department Visit for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence (FUA) 30-Day Follow-up: Total	Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis (AAB) Total	Initiation and Engagement of AOD Abuse or Dependence Treatment (IET) Total: Engagement of AOD Treatment: Total	Prenatal and Postpartum Care (PPC) Timeliness of Prenatal Care	Prenatal and Postpartum Care (PPC) Postpartum Care	Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR) Total	
<b>Possible Points</b>	1.5	1.5	1	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Health Plan #1	0.6933	1.3236	0.5761	2.5398	0.7284	1.3503	0.7558	0.8370	0.7742	0.7704	2.1660	2.0781	2.4687	0.6677	0.7714	0.2102	0.5402	0.1040	0.9557	0.9430	0.8032	
Health Plan #2	0.6704	1.2717	0.5824	2.8824	0.9216	1.4445	0.8717	0.8467	0.7372	0.6875	2.1879	1.8813	2.1357	0.6883	#VALUE!	#VALUE!	#VALUE!	0.0882	0.8871	0.9194	0.8298	
Health Plan #3	0.8705	1.3668	0.7676	2.5767	0.7372	1.6203	0.7011	0.8078	0.7494	0.8584	2.3430	1.8687	2.1387	0.7341	0.8254	0.1806	0.7561	0.1307	0.9635	0.9538	0.8828	
Health Plan #4	0.6782	1.2402	0.6545	2.4513	0.7317	1.2045	0.7647	0.7744	0.6854	0.7983	1.8270	1.8360	2.1249	0.6907	0.8096	0.2481	0.6873	0.1333	0.9030	0.8657	0.8131	
Health Plan #5	0.6993	1.3095	0.5618	2.5119	0.6386	0.8505	0.8173	0.8297	0.7178	0.6864	2.2335	1.9488	2.4162	0.6419	0.8286	#VALUE!	0.3562	0.1261	0.9650	0.9500	0.9024	
Health Plan #6	0.4604	1.2794	0.7619	2.6076	0.6231	1.1178	0.7464	0.7703	0.6972	0.7657	2.1933	1.8438	2.3439	0.6087	0.7414	0.2353	0.5217	0.1085	0.9328	0.9478	0.8224	
Health Plan #7	0.7415	1.3323	0.5833	2.4546	0.6678	1.2483	0.7838	0.8387	0.7601	0.7725	2.3364	2.1078	2.3763	0.6332	0.8522	0.2333	0.4909	0.1396	0.9811	0.9434	0.8320	
Health Plan #8	0.6518	1.2621	0.6711	2.5434	0.7194	1.5297	0.7587	0.8297	0.7543	0.8170	2.2116	1.8687	2.2629	0.6710	0.7582	0.2489	0.6016	0.1533	0.9051	0.9246	0.8396	

Key for highlighted cells above ↑

- Cells highlighted in **Orange**: Lowest score within the measurement category
- Cells highlighted in **Blue**: Highest score within the measurement category
- Cells highlighted in **Salmon**: No score due to low denominator/not reported

Key for highlighted cells below ↓

- Cells highlighted in **Orange**: Largest decrease in percent change within the measurement category
- Cells highlighted in **Blue**: Largest increase in percent change within the measurement category
- Cells highlighted in **Salmon**: No value due to low denominator/not reported

**Chart 2 – Year-Over-Year Differences**

Health Plan	Rating of Health Plan (9 + 10)	Coordination of Care (Always + Usually)	Flu Vaccination	Childhood Immunization Status (CIS) Combination #3	Childhood Immunization Status (CIS) Combination #10	Immunizations for Adolescents (IMA) Combination #2	Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)	Cervical Cancer Screening (CCS)	Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL)	Appropriate Testing for Children with Pharyngitis (cwp)	Controlling High Blood Pressure (cbp)	Comprehensive Diabetes Care (CDC) HbA1c Control (<8.0%)	Comprehensive Diabetes Care (cdc) Blood Pressure Control (<140/90 mm Hg)	Antidepressant Medication Management (amm) Effective Continuation Phase Treatment	Follow-up After Hospitalization For Mental Illness (FUH) Total - 30-day Follow-up	Follow-up After Emergency Department Visit for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence (FUA) 30-Day Follow-up: Total	Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis (AAB) Total	Initiation and Engagement of AOD Abuse or Dependence Treatment (IET) Total: Engagement of AOD Treatment: Total	Prenatal and Postpartum Care (PPC) Timeliness of Prenatal Care	Prenatal and Postpartum Care (PPC) Postpartum Care	Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR) Total	Overall % Change Year to Year
Health Plan #1	2.55%	-4.31%	-10.04%	-0.47%	-2.88%	8.17%	5.35%	4.10%	-2.21%	-9.87%	-4.59%	9.47%	9.72%	2.52%	-5.69%	-25.96%	29.98%	-20.73%	2.29%	3.63%	-1.62%	1.85%
Health Plan #2	-7.47%	-2.85%	-8.56%	12.10%	18.84%	-5.25%	5.20%	12.25%	-2.88%	-1.18%	12.06%	12.08%	-1.97%	1.61%	#VALUE!	#VALUE!	#VALUE!	23.53%	31.79%	13.83%	-4.73%	7.35%
Health Plan #3	9.51%	-0.86%	3.58%	-3.01%	-5.61%	-3.48%	-1.56%	-0.60%	1.65%	-5.74%	18.44%	9.42%	8.11%	8.93%	-5.57%	-19.34%	-0.05%	-11.45%	-1.00%	2.09%	-1.39%	3.11%
Health Plan #4	7.11%	-0.65%	1.60%	-4.30%	-0.30%	4.45%	-0.75%	5.07%	-7.78%	-10.12%	-6.61%	-6.51%	3.31%	7.25%	2.40%	37.91%	6.25%	-7.30%	-5.33%	-6.61%	-3.17%	-0.53%
Health Plan #5	-13.04%	0.94%	-5.37%	0.25%	-4.73%	-1.80%	1.09%	2.71%	-3.27%	-11.76%	-4.98%	3.89%	-1.78%	13.67%	-6.45%	#VALUE!	58.52%	13.50%	-0.12%	1.42%	16.91%	0.32%
Health Plan #6	-14.54%	#VALUE!	4.69%	5.68%	2.23%	-7.29%	-2.14%	-0.01%	2.09%	-9.08%	-4.00%	-2.85%	1.61%	1.70%	-10.13%	#VALUE!	-0.55%	67.70%	-3.01%	2.02%	0.99%	-0.96%
Health Plan #7	12.32%	2.96%	-6.09%	-5.37%	-4.80%	14.00%	-0.01%	5.36%	-2.28%	-0.99%	3.92%	5.78%	-0.14%	-2.42%	9.42%	-25.34%	15.23%	10.71%	3.28%	-0.39%	2.93%	2.41%
Health Plan #8	-11.67%	-3.95%	-7.24%	0.41%	-2.74%	2.25%	0.45%	6.56%	-3.12%	-3.29%	10.57%	4.08%	9.16%	6.12%	-1.29%	-14.32%	12.09%	-6.01%	-2.88%	0.00%	-1.51%	2.30%