

# The Wisconsin Collaborative Diabetes Quality Improvement Project: Effective Statewide Collaboration

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## Project Goals:

- Evaluate trends in diabetes care
- Promote collaboration
- Provide a forum to share best practices
- Enhance diabetes quality improvement measures

## Methods:

### Collected HEDIS<sup>®</sup> measures, including:

- Comprehensive Diabetes Care
- Cardiovascular Care, Cancer Screening, Asthma Care, Smoking Cessation, Weight Assessment, Antidepressant Medication Management, and Arthritis Care

### Conducted analyses:

- Trends in collective performance since 1999
- Trends in individual performance over time, reported confidentially to each organization
- Collaborative and national performance comparisons

### Met to discuss:

- WCDQIP meets quarterly to discuss quality improvement initiatives, best practices, and trends in diabetes care

## Results:

- All performance measures improved
- Variation between plans decreased

### Wisconsin and National Comparisons:

- HEDIS<sup>®</sup> has expanded the number of Comprehensive Diabetes Care measures from four to eight since 1999.
- Wisconsin continues to exceed the national average and perform comparably with the national 90<sup>th</sup> percentile.

## Key Publications and Initiatives:

As a result of the continued collection and analysis of HEDIS<sup>®</sup> measures, the WCDQIP has produced several publications/ reports and supported several initiatives targeting continued **quality improvement** in selected areas. Some of these include:

- *The Wisconsin Collaborative Diabetes Quality Improvement Project 2010* report
- Implementation of the 2008 *Wisconsin Diabetes Mellitus Essential Care Guidelines*
- Production of a bilingual DVD: *Protect Your Vision: The Dilated Eye Exam*, (in collaboration with the Wisconsin Lions Foundation)

- Production of a bilingual DVD: *The Links to Chronic Kidney Disease: Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, and Family History*, (in collaboration with the Wisconsin Lions Foundation and the National Kidney Foundation)
- Publication of the *Cardiovascular Care Performance* report

**Discussion:**

- Bringing statewide partners together to implement and evaluate diabetes care initiatives continues to be successful
- Discussion of performance on the HEDIS<sup>®</sup> measures helps focus initiatives. Collaborators can:
  - Assess whether change is occurring
  - Determine where further work is needed
  - Share successful quality improvement strategies
- Non-competitive atmosphere encourages open discussion among collaborative members
- Quality of diabetes care has improved overall

**Limitations:**

- HEDIS<sup>®</sup> specifications sometimes change, which can limit ability to track trends
- Over time, some plans have merged, dissolved, or stopped participating. Other plans have joined the collaborative
  - To address this, averages are calculated two ways: average of all plans and average of continuously participating plans
- A causal relationship cannot be established between collaborative initiatives and overall improvement in HEDIS<sup>®</sup> measures

**Conclusions:**

- Wisconsin's performance continues to exceed national averages for all HEDIS<sup>®</sup> Comprehensive Diabetes Care measures
- Diabetes quality improvement initiatives have been undertaken, both by the WCDQIP and by participating organizations
- Project is a model for quality monitoring and improvement in other programs, states, and communities

**Future Directions:**

- Chronic Disease Program Integration:
  - Chronic disease program addendum reports (Arthritis, Asthma, Cancer, Tobacco Control, Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention, Nutrition, Physical Activity, & Obesity Prevention)
  - Evaluation of integration efforts can be used to design and implement new initiatives to improve care for chronic disease
- RRU (Relative Resource Use) data collection and reporting to measure the efficiency and value of services rendered by plans