

CHIA Advice to DOI Straw Model
 Use of SQMS in Provider Tiering
 April 14, 2014

Discussion Question		Straw Model	Other Options
1	Is it appropriate to regulate tiering based on measures exclusively from the SQMS?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The current SQMS measures are appropriate and sufficient for tiering of hospitals and physician groups by commercial plans.</p>	Not yet. Quality measures in general are not yet ready for use in tiering.
			No. The SQMS does not contain the measures most necessary for provider tiering.
			No. Payers should also be able to use measures not currently in the SQMS (e.g. full Leapfrog set).
2	Should DOI distinguish the SQMS measures appropriate for hospital and primary care physician tiering??	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The SQAC and CHIA have identified and agreed on the SQMS measures for hospitals and physician groups; CHIA will provide this information to DOI.</p>	
3	Should DOI regulate the tiering of specialists based on the SQMS at this time?	<p>Not yet.</p> <p>The SQMS does not currently contain measures that would be appropriate for the tiering of specialists.</p>	

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4	<p>Should DOI define the way in which SQMS measures are used for tiering?</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>Require that minimum sample sizes be used.</i> b. <i>Require all SQMS measures be used.</i> c. <i>Require a minimum number of SQMS measures be used.</i> d. <i>Specify performance threshold for Tier 1.</i> e. <i>Exclude certain measures from tiering.</i> f. <i>Provide guidance on use of composites or weighting.</i> g. <i>Specify performance targets.</i> h. <i>Exclude measures with high compliance, low variability.</i> 	<p>Not yet.</p> <p>Today, payers should be able to determine how performance on SQMS measures is incorporated into tiering methodologies. DOI should reserve the authority to set industry standards in the future, based on experience in the coming years.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Minimum sample sizes should come from the measure steward, when possible.</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>For instance, CHIA may provide guidance on excluding certain measures when they were proven to be misaligned with best practices in measurement year (e.g. HEDIS is two years behind clinical guidelines for cervical cancer screening).</p>
5	<p>Should DOI require that standard specifications be used when calculating performance for tiering?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>DOI should require that plans use standard specifications, as identified by CHIA for measure calculations.</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>Payers should be able to determine their own measure specifications.</p>
6	<p>Should DOI require that standard measurements results be used for tiering, when available?</p>	<p>CHIA will publish all-payer performance results for certain measures (e.g. claims-based measures) and DOI should require those results be used for provider tiering.</p>	