

Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)

Dear Provider,

As part of its mission to advance health equity, CMS is requesting that ACO REACHs and their participating providers collect Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) data for aligned beneficiaries using one of the approved screening tools listed below. The information that we collect throughout the year will be compiled and submitted to CMS in Q4.

Please help us complete this request from CMS by providing the requested information in 1 of 2 ways.

Option 1: Paper Survey (Ongoing)

Have patients aligned to the ACO REACH complete a paper survey specific to your clinic. Scan and upload completed surveys once every 2 weeks to: getmabel.com/uploadHEDR

NOTE: Patients may also complete a survey online by scanning the QR code.

OR

Option 2: EHR Data Export (Quarterly)

If your practice has already collected or intends to collect SDoH data directly in the EHR using one of the 3 approved surveys listed below (no hybrid responses are allowed), please export the SDoH data as a spreadsheet (.csv file or .xls file) and upload to: getmabel.com/HEDRexport

- Accountable Health Community (AHC) assessment tool
- North Carolina (NC) assessment tool
- PRAPARE assessment tool

NOTE: Additional guidance for EHR exports is provided at getmabel.com/hedr-exports

This will be an ongoing effort for each performance year

For this year's aligned beneficiaries for whom we have not received SDoH data, our ACO REACH will email and/or mail the surveys on behalf of your practice later in the year.

Please see the attached FAQs and feel free to reach out to your ACO representative if you have any questions. Thank you again for your partnership.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Health Equity Data Reporting (HEDR)?

The ACO REACH model aims to advance health equity and bring the benefits of accountable care to underserved communities. As part of this goal, CMS is requesting that ACO REACHs and their participating providers identify underserved communities and implement initiatives to measurably reduce health disparities within their beneficiary populations.

2. What is the benefit of collecting health equity data, such as SDoH data?

Collecting demographic and SDoH data allows for a more comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing health outcomes and enables targeted strategies to improve health equity and population health. This is a key strategic objective for the CMS Innovation Center.

- *Requirement of ACO REACH participation:* All new models, including ACO REACH, require participants to collect and report health equity data for their aligned patients. CMS is interested in identifying health disparities and enhancing health equity.
- *Identify high-risk patients and develop interventions:* SDoH data collection allow providers and ACOs to identify high-risk patients and tailor interventions to help prevent chronic diseases and reduce the need for costly medical interventions.

3. Is completing the HEDR survey mandatory?

No, patients are not required to complete the survey. If patients choose not to complete the survey, please check the corresponding box and record the date. This will count towards satisfying CMS' requirement to collect SDoH data.

4. Are the survey responses kept confidential?

Patient responses will be shared with the provider, the ACO REACH, and CMS. Under HIPAA, this information can be collected and shared to improve care for patients.

5. What types of questions are included in the HEDR survey?

The HEDR survey is focused on collecting SDoH data (such as food, housing, transportation, etc.) and demographic data (such as language, race, etc.), if not already collected.

6. If our practice is unable to collect SDoH data, what happens next?

Aligned beneficiaries from whom we do not receive SDoH data will receive a survey by email and/or mail so we can capture their responses and submit to CMS. These will be sent to aligned beneficiaries on behalf of your practice.

7. Will our practice have access to the HEDR survey data collected?

Yes, any collected data we receive for patients who are aligned to your practice and complete the survey will be available for your practice to access so you can better manage their care.

Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

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