Understanding the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) WHAT IS GPRA AND HOW DOES IT AFFECT ME?

Introduction to GPRA for Providers and Clinic Staff

What is GPRA?

The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) is a federal law. It requires Federal agencies to demonstrate that they are using their funds effectively toward meeting their missions. The law requires federal agencies to have a 5-year Strategic Plan and to submit Annual Performance Plans and Reports with their budget requests.

The Annual Performance Plan describes what the agency intends to accomplish with its annual budget. All federal agencies have specific annual performance *measures* with specific annual targets. For the Indian Health Service (IHS), these annual targets are set by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in consultation with the representatives from IHS and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). GPRA is a critical part of the annual budget request for IHS.

The GPRA "year" runs from July 1st- June 30th. Quarterly reports are run for the second quarter (ending Dec. 31st), and third quarter (ending March 31st), and a final report is run at the end of the year (ending June 30th). These reports are cumulative. Reports are sent to the California Area Office (CAO), which has the National GPRA Support Team (NGST). This team is responsible for aggregating all data received and creating reports showing how the agency performed over the GPRA year, including whether the annual targets are met. Only national aggregate data is reported to Congress; no individual clinic or Area-level data is reported.



Introduction to GPRA for Medical Staff

What is a GPRA Clinical Measure?

A GPRA clinical measure is a specific indicator of performance on patient care. Current GPRA Clinical Measures include:

- Diabetes
 - Blood Sugar Control
 - Blood Pressure Control
 - Cholesterol
 - Nephropathy
 - Retinopathy
- Dental
 - Access
 - Topical Fluorides
 - Sealants
- Immunizations
 - Childhood
 - Adult Influenza
 - Adult Pneumococcal
- Cancer Screening
 - Mammography
 - Pap Screening
 - Colorectal Cancer Screening
- Behavioral Health
 - Depression Screening
 - Alcohol Screening
 - Domestic Violence Screening
 - Tobacco Cessation
- Cardiovascular/BMI
 - CVD Comprehensive Screening
 - Childhood Weight Control
- HIV
 - Prenatal HIV Screening

There are also a number of non-clinical GPRA measures that assess supporting factors such as facility accreditation, environmental and sanitation services, and health provider scholarship placements. These measures are reported directly by the programs that administer these activities.

How is GPRA data reported?

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- At the end of each GPRA quarter and at the end of the GPRA year, facilities run their National GPRA report and export their data to their respective Area Offices.
- Area GPRA Coordinators load the facility reports and run an Area Aggregate report. This report shows if the overall Area GPRA measures are being met.

CRS

The Clinical Reporting System (CRS), a software application in the Resource Patient Management System (RPMS), is the tool for reporting of all GPRA clinical measures at IHS.

- Federal (IHS) facilities are required to use CRS for GPRA reporting
- Tribal and Urban facilities are not required to use CRS but are strongly encouraged to use it
- Currently, there is no way to combine data from sites that do not run RPMS into the GPRA data set
- CRS provides verified and validated data with an audit trail; this is critical for Congressional reporting
- CRS data is reported in aggregate, and does not contain any patient identifiers.

Introduction to GPRA for Medical Staff

Government Performance and Results Act



"What do Meaningful Use and GPRA have in Common?"

The HITECH Act strives to improve patient care through the meaningful use (MU) of certified electronic health records (EHRs).

In order to demonstrate meaningful use, eligible providers and hospitals will report clinical performance measures that are similar, but not identical to GPRA. Both sets of measures correspond directly to quality of healthcare delivery.

CMS EHR Financial Incentives

Participants in the Medicare program must demonstrate meaningful use during their first year of participation while participants in the Medicaid program must simply adopt, implement, or upgrade a certified EHR. More information is available at: www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/



Introduction to GPRA for Medical Staff

How to generate good GPRA data and improve GPRA performance:

Providers:

- Participate in quality improvement activities at your facility.
- Review documentation standards that support GPRA performance activities.
- If your site is not using the Electronic Health Record (EHR), communicate with data entry staff on what they should look for on the encounter forms and ensure they know how to enter it into PCC.
- Ensure you and/or others are asking patients the questions that need to be asked (e.g. do you smoke, drink) and getting height, weight, and blood pressure measurements. Ensure that the information is being documented on the encounter form in the appropriate place.
- Document patient refusals, patient education, and health factors.
- Ask patients about tests/ immunizations/procedures that the patient may have received outside of your clinic and document them on the encounter form according to the policy in place at your facility.
- Review the National GPRA report for the measures that are applicable to you. For example, if you are a dentist, review the GPRA dental measures. If you are the Diabetes Coordinator, review the diabetes measures. Review throughout the GPRA year; do not wait until the last minute.

All staff:

- Monitor data input frequently.
- During a review of data, consider:
 - Do the rates look reasonable? If not, obtain a copy of the patient list(s) for the measure(s) and compare with the charts to see where problems may exist.
 - Is the data in the chart but not in PCC? Does the data entry staff need to be advised on how to enter it in PCC? Was it documented in the correct place on the encounter form?
 - Was the data in PCC but documented with an incorrect code?

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For additional information on the Government Performance and Results Act, please contact National GPRA Support Team (NGST)

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