

# Understanding the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)/ GPRA Modernization Act (GPRAMA)

## What is GPRA/GPRAMA?

GPRA and GPRAMA are Federal laws. GPRA/GPRAMA shows Congress how well the Indian Health Service (IHS) is doing in providing health care services to American Indians and Alaska Natives who use IHS federal, tribal, and urban health facilities. IHS collects data and reports data to Congress on 6 GPRAMA measures and over 20 GPRA clinical budget measures every year.

## What are GPRA/GPRAMA measures?

GPRA/GPRAMA measures are indicators of how well the agency has provided clinical care to its patients. Overall, they measure how well the IHS has done in the prevention and treatment of certain diseases, and the improvement of overall health.

## Does GPRA/GPRAMA mean my health information is made public?

No! Clinics never share any individual patient health data, and only national rates are reported to Congress. The point of GPRA is to assess how well IHS is providing for all of its patients.

GPRA/GPRAMA data answers the following about the *entire population* served by the IHS:

### ▪ **Diabetes**

Are patients with diabetes having their blood sugar levels and blood pressures checked and are they within normal levels? Are cholesterol-controlling medicines being prescribed to those who need them?

Are patients with diabetes getting their kidneys and eyes checked regularly?

### ▪ **Immunizations**

How many young children receiving the immunizations they need by 3 years of age?

How many patients 6 months of age and older are receiving an annual flu shot?

How many adults age 65+ have received at least one pneumococcal shot?

### ▪ **Dental Care**

How many patients had a yearly dental visit?  
How many children received topical fluorides and dental sealants in the past year?

### ▪ **HIV**

Have all patients 13 years of age and older received an HIV test?

### ▪ **Cancer Screening**

Are women ages 21-64 years old getting a Pap smear at least every 3 years and women ages 50-64 years old getting a mammogram at least every 2 years?

How many adults ages 50-75 years old are being checked for colorectal cancer?

### ▪ **Behavioral Health**

Are all adult patients being screened for depression?

Are women being screened for domestic violence and alcohol use (to prevent birth complications like Fetal Alcohol Syndrome)?

Are tobacco-using patients being offered counseling to quit?

### ▪ **Cardiovascular Disease**

Are at-risk patients getting comprehensive Cardiovascular Disease assessment? Are patients with hypertension having their blood pressure checked regularly? How many children age 2-5 are at or over the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile for BMI (Body Mass Index)?

### ▪ **Breastfeeding**

How many infants are breastfeeding at the age of 2 months?

*GPRA provides information about how the IHS cares for you, your family, and your community.*

## What Can You Do To Help?

- Ask your health care provider if you are due for any screenings, tests, or immunizations and check to make sure appointments are scheduled for your medical needs.
- Make sure your provider takes your height and weight measurements at least once a year.
- Tell your provider about your health habits (examples: alcohol use and/or smoking).
- Tell your provider about any tests/procedures/ immunizations you had at a clinic other than where you normally receive care. For example, tell the provider about the colonoscopy you had five years ago at your prior facility.
- Make sure you arrive on time for your appointments whenever possible and call to reschedule if you cannot make it so the appointment can be used by someone else.
- Take care of yourself! Ask your providers for tips on healthy eating and healthy habits.



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## **GPR/GPRAMA 101 For Patients**

### **Government Performance and Results Act (GPR)/ GPR Modernization Act (GPRAMA)**

How does GPR/GPRAMA affect me,  
my family, and my community?

