



**MEDICARE-MEDICAID COORDINATION OFFICE**

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**DATE:** January 19, 2024

**TO:** Medicare-Medicaid Plans in South Carolina

**FROM:** Lindsay P. Barnette  
Director, Models, Demonstrations and Analysis Group

**SUBJECT:** South Carolina Quality Withhold Measure Technical Notes for Demonstration Years 2 through 10

The purpose of this memorandum is to announce the release of updated Demonstration Years (DY) 2 through 10 state-specific quality withhold technical notes for Healthy Connections Prime, the South Carolina capitated model demonstration under the Medicare-Medicaid Financial Alignment Initiative. The document provides additional details and benchmarks for the state-specific quality withhold measures that South Carolina Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs) are responsible for under the demonstration. These state-specific measures directly supplement the [Medicare-Medicaid Capitated Financial Alignment Model CMS Core Quality Withhold Technical Notes for DY 2 through 12](#).

As noted when the draft was released for public comment on November 30, 2023, CMS and the state revised the South Carolina Quality Withhold Measure Technical Notes to cover additional demonstration years, as well as to align with measure steward updates for measure SCCW1 – Diabetes Care: Blood Sugar Controlled, the additional CMS withhold measure. We also updated the alternative withhold measure (Colorectal Cancer Screening) to reflect that the measure is exclusively reported using Electronic Clinical Data Systems as of DY 9. As a reminder, the alternative measure will only be included in the quality withhold analysis if an MMP is unable to report the additional CMS measure.

We did not receive any feedback during the comment period. However, we finalized the South Carolina Quality Withhold Measure Technical Notes with two minor changes: 1) we revised the measure title for SCCW1 back to ‘Diabetes Care: Blood Sugar Controlled’ to affirm that the substance of the measure remains the same following the updates by the measure steward, and 2) we added a footnote for the alternative withhold measure to acknowledge a change in the specified age range as of DY 7.

Please contact the Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office at [mmcocapsmodel@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:mmcocapsmodel@cms.hhs.gov) if you have any questions.