

# How to Submit the CMS Health Equity and SDOH Structural Measure



**Monthly HQIC Health Equity Office Hours**

Rosa Abraha, MPH

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# Rosa Abraha – Health Equity Lead

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Rosa Abraha, MPH

[rosa.abraha@allianthealth.org](mailto:rosa.abraha@allianthealth.org)

Rosa leads Alliant Health Solution's health equity strategic portfolio and embeds health equity in the core of Alliant's work. Rosa has 10+ years of experience in public health advisory for premier agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). She holds a master's of public health in health policy and management from Emory University.

# Polling Question #1:

Have you already submitted your attestation in HQR for the Hospital Commitment to Health Equity (HCHE) structural measure?

1. Yes, our hospital has completed the attestation for the HCHE measure.
2. No, we have not completed the attestation for the HCHE measure, but we plan to do so.
3. No, we have not completed the attestation for the HCHE measure and we do NOT plan to do so.
4. Not sure/don't know if my hospital has attested for the HCHE measure.
5. No, because we don't know how to complete this.

## Polling Question #2:

Have you already submitted your attestation in HQR for the SDOH-1 and SDOH-2 structural measure?

1. Yes, our hospital has completed the attestation for the SDOH-1 & 2 measure.
2. No, we have not completed the attestation for the SDOH-1 & 2 measure, but we plan to do so.
3. No, we have not completed the attestation for the SDOH-1 & 2 measure and we do NOT plan to do so.
4. Not sure/don't know if my hospital has attested for the SDOH-1 & 2 measure.
5. No, because we don't know how to complete this.

# Hospital Commitment to Health Equity (HCHE) Measure

## Part 1: Hospital Commitment to Health Equity (HCHE) Measure

Hospitals will attest to the Hospital Commitment to Health Equity measure via the Hospital Quality Reporting (HQR) system.

Figure 1: Hospital Commitment to Health Equity Measure Attestation Domains



- This HCHE measure applies to all hospitals participating in the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting System.
- There are five domains in this measure. Each domain is worth one point, for a total of five possible points.
- Hospitals **must attest to ALL elements of a domain to receive the one point**, so attest “YES” if you’re doing any of this work.
- **Reporting on HCHE is MANDATORY for CY23, and the submission period is April 1, 2024, - May 15, 2024.**
- To report on these, click on this link: <https://hqr.cms.gov/hqrng/login> . On the dashboard on the left-hand side of the screen, click “data submissions” and then “structural measures.”
- CMS will publicly report the scores.
- Payment determination will be decided in FY25.



# SDOH-1 and SDOH-2 Structural Measure

## Part 2: Screening for Social Drivers of Health (SDOH-1 in blue and SDOH-2 in green)

Screening for Social Drivers of Health Measure		Screen Positive Rate for Social Drivers of Health Measure	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food insecurity</li> <li>Housing instability</li> <li>Transportation needs</li> <li>Utilities difficulties</li> <li>Interpersonal safety</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food insecurity</li> <li>Housing instability</li> <li>Transportation needs</li> <li>Utility difficulties</li> <li>Interpersonal safety</li> </ul>	
Numerator	Number of patients who were screened for <b>one or all</b> social drivers	Numerator	Number of patients who screened positive for each driver
Denominator	Number of patients 18 or older admitted as an inpatient	Denominator	Number of patients 18 or older admitted as an inpatient and screened for social drivers

- Reporting for this also occurs in the <https://hqr.cms.gov/hqrng/login> and it's listed under the HCHE measure.
- Reporting on the screening for SDOH is voluntary for CY23 and the submission period is April 1, 2024, - May 15, 2024.
- Exclusion Criteria:*
  - Patients who opt out of screening
  - Patients unable to complete the screening and have no legal guardian or caregiver to do the screening on their behalf or patients who died during admission.
- Screening is mandatory in CY24 with reporting in CY25.
- Payment will be determined for this measure in FY25.

# Attesting to SDOH-1

## SDOH-1 Numerator & SDOH-2 Denominator

The number of patients admitted for an inpatient hospital stay who are 18 years or older on the date of admission and are screened for all of the following five HRSNs (food insecurity, housing instability, transportation needs, utility difficulties and interpersonal safety) during their hospital inpatient stay. \*

Ex. 0,1,2,3,...,99999999

## SDOH-1 Denominator

The number of patients who are admitted to a hospital inpatient stay and who are 18 years or older on the date of admission. \*

Ex. 0,1,2,3,...,99999999

Note: For this part, you will only submit one (1) value for the numerator and one (1) value for the denominator for the entire year.

# Attesting to SDOH-2

## SDOH-2 Numerators - Health related social needs

### Food insecurity

The number of patients admitted for an inpatient hospital stay who are 18 years or older on the date of admission, who were screened for all five HRSN, and who screen positive for food insecurity. \*

This field is required \*

Ex. 0,1,2,3,...,99999999

### Housing instability

The number of patients admitted for an inpatient hospital stay who are 18 years or older on the date of admission, who were screened for all five HRSN, and who screen positive for housing instability. \*

This field is required \*

Ex. 0,1,2,3,...,99999999

### Transportation needs

The number of patients admitted for an inpatient hospital stay who are 18 years or older on the date of admission, who were screened for all five HRSN, and who screen positive for transportation needs. \*

This field is required \*

Ex. 0,1,2,3,...,99999999

### Utility difficulties

The number of patients admitted for an inpatient hospital stay who are 18 years or older on the date of admission, who were screened for all five HRSN, and who screen positive for utility difficulties. \*

This field is required \*

Ex. 0,1,2,3,...,99999999

### Interpersonal safety

The number of patients admitted for an inpatient hospital stay who are 18 years or older on the date of admission, who were screened for all five HRSN, and who screen positive for Interpersonal safety. \*

This field is required \*

Ex. 0,1,2,3,...,99999999

### Notes:

- You will submit five (5) unique numerator values (i.e., a value for food insecurity, a value for transportation etc.).
- You will NOT need to submit a denominator value because that is pulled directly from your SDOH-1 numerator submission on the last slide.



# Quick Tutorial on How to Submit the CMS HCHE and SDOH Data

Will Qualify for more information on this measure.

**Domain 1: Equity is a strategic priority**

Hospital commitment to reducing healthcare disparities is strengthened when equity is a key organizational priority. Please attest that your hospital has a strategic plan for advancing healthcare equity and that it includes all of the following elements.

Our hospital strategic plan:

Identifies priority populations who currently experience health disparities. \*

Yes  
 No

Identifies healthcare equity goals and discrete action steps to achieving these goals. \*

Yes  
 No

Defines specific resources which have been dedicated to achieving our equity goals. \*

Yes  
 No

Describes our approach for engaging key stakeholders, such as community-based organizations. \*

Yes  
 No

Last Updated:

# Questions?

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Email us at [HospitalQuality@allianthealth.org](mailto:HospitalQuality@allianthealth.org)

or call us at 678-527-3681.

# Join Us for Monthly Hospital Health Equity Office Hours




February - August 2024 Registration:

[https://bit.ly/AHS\\_HealthEquityOfficeHour\\_Registration](https://bit.ly/AHS_HealthEquityOfficeHour_Registration)



SCAN ME




## JOIN OUR UPCOMING WEBINAR EVENT

**ALLIANT HQIC**  
**Health Equity Office Hours**

**Tues, Jan. 16 from 3-4:00 p.m. ET & Every 3rd Thursday from 3-4:00 p.m. ET from February through August 2024 via ZOOM**

[01.16.24\\_TO3\\_HQIC Health Equity Office Hours](#)

[02.15.24\\_TO3\\_HQIC Health Equity Office Hours](#)

[03.21.24\\_TO3\\_HQIC Health Equity Office Hours](#)

[04.18.24\\_TO3\\_HQIC Health Equity Office Hours](#)


[05.16.24\\_TO3\\_HQIC Health Equity Office Hours](#)

[06.20.24\\_TO3\\_HQIC Health Equity Office Hours](#)

[07.18.24\\_TO3\\_HQIC Health Equity Office Hours](#)

[08.15.24\\_TO3\\_HQIC Health Equity Office Hours](#)

**CLICK ON TITLES TO REGISTER**



**OVERVIEW:**  
Interested in networking with peers and learning about the health equity regulatory requirements and best ways to implement at your hospital? Join our subject matter experts from Alliant Health Solutions and TIF Regional Medical Center (GA) for monthly interactive office hours.

Office hours are participant driven and with minimum slide presentations. Discussions will focus on the six health equity planning and action steps as well as other questions from the hospitals, e.g., CEO engagement.

Office Hours will be held the 3rd Thursday of the month from 3-4:00 p.m. ET. Please register to attend.


Jan. 16, 2024 • Feb. 15, 2024 • Mar. 21, 2024 • Apr. 18, 2024  
May 16, 2024 • Jun. 20, 2024 • Jul. 18, 2024 • Aug. 15, 2024

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**FEATURED SPEAKERS:**



**ROSA ABRAHA, MPH**  
Health Equity Lead  
Alliant Health Solutions



**LEANN PRITCHETT, MSN, RN, CPHQ**  
System Director of Quality and Safety  
Tift Regional Medical Center

**AUDIENCE:**  
Health equity team leaders, quality and patient safety professionals, clinical social workers, community and population health professionals, clinical team members, leadership



# Alliant Health Solutions HQIC Health Equity Office Hour Materials

What can we help you find?

## Upcoming Events

Presentation  
Materials  
Found Here

### HQIC Office Hours

Health Equity Office Hours | 1.16.24



Office Hours - Infection Prevention Chats |  
1.24.24



Health Equity Office Hours | 2.15.24



Health Equity Office Hours | 3.21.24



Health Equity Office Hours | 4.18.24



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### HQIC LAN Events

HQIC LAN - Workplace Violence Prevention:  
Best Practices for Safer Care | 1.23.24



[SHOW MORE](#)

### HQIC Community of Practice Calls (COP) Events

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Georgia Hospital Association  
KFMC Health Improvement Partners  
Konza

## Hospital Quality Improvement



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Thank you for joining us!  
How did we do today?

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