

Understand Your Role in the Health Outcomes Survey



What is the Health Outcomes Survey?

The Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS) is an annual survey distributed to a random sample of Medicare patients ages 65 and older from July to November. This survey evaluates a plan's effectiveness in enhancing and sustaining the functional status of patients. The same individuals are surveyed again two years later to evaluate changes in their health status. The survey aims to measure a patient's perception of their physical and mental well-being, as well as their overall quality of life.



Improving your HOS scores enhances patient care and satisfaction, while boosting your professional standing with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

The health outcomes survey measures



Improving or maintaining physical health



Improving or maintaining mental health



Physical activity in older adults



Management of urinary incontinence



Fall risk management

Ways you can support HOS measures with your patients

- Familiarize yourself with HOS measures. Contact your health plan representative for more resources.
- Discuss the HOS measures above at every visit with patients ages 65 and older.
- Advise on ways to improve health and physical functioning through appropriate activities or treatments.
- Encourage openness about health issues like bladder control and fall risks.
- Provide a pre-visit checklist for comprehensive discussions.
- Ensure timely appointments for patients.
- Refer patients to health Plan resources like their Welcome Kit or member portal.
- Provide a clear, written summary to help patients remember key HOS discussion points and next steps.

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