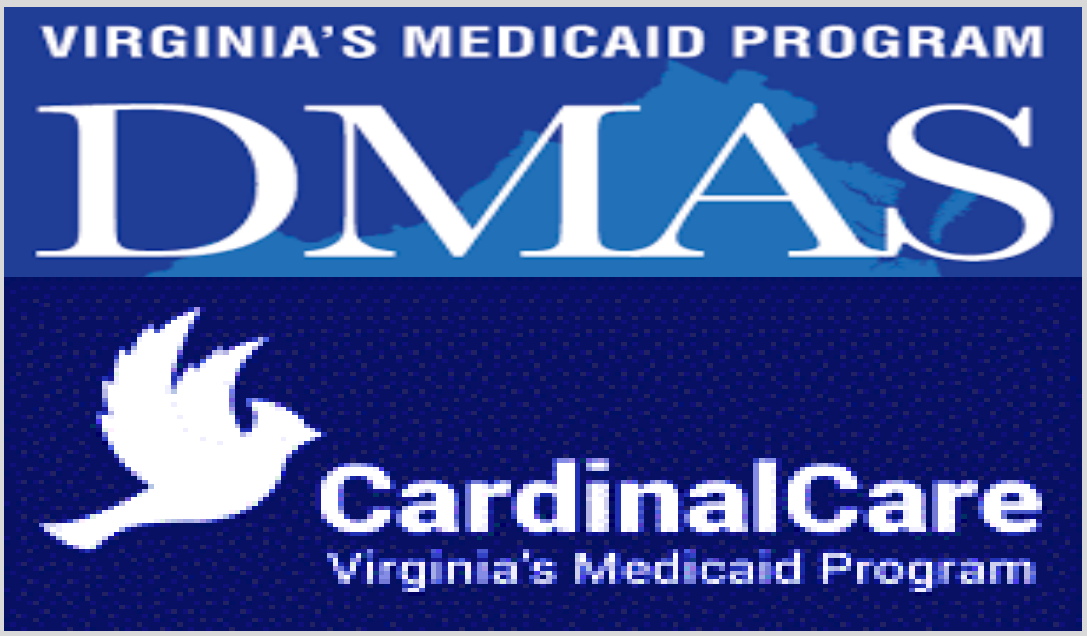


Virginia’s Medicaid Core Set Development and Reporting

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DMAS Overview

The Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) plays an essential role in the Commonwealth’s healthcare system by offering lifesaving coverage to one in five Virginians.

In 2023, CMS passed federal regulations ([42 CFR 433](#), [42 CFR 437](#) and [42 CFR 457](#)) as a Final Rule that implements mandatory annual reporting of the Child Core Set and the behavioral health measures on the Adult Core Set using a standardized format.

DMAS’ Division of Quality and Population Health (QPH) and the Healthcare Analytics Division (HAD) collaborated with the focus of improving the quality of care for members through data.

As a result, QPH with the help of HAD developed data reports focused on the Adult and Child Core Set measures by utilizing the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) data stewards. Additional data stewards; included the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) American Dental Association (ADA), the Dental Quality Alliance (DQA) and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also contributed to Core Set measure development.

Core Set Reporting Background

Prior to reporting for the 2023 Core Set reporting cycle, DMAS voluntarily reported the HEDIS results that were received from NCQA to provide reporting data to CMS. QPH collaborated with HAD to develop the data-reporting infrastructure to yield the following outcomes.

- Meet the upcoming CMS deadline and reporting requirements of December 31, 2024, to include population and age
- Allow for review of measure progress on a more frequent basis than annually
- Allow for stratification measure analysis
- Include the fee-for-service population

Core Set Measures

The Core Sets include 27 Child measures and 33 Adult measures, which help to strengthen the quality of care & health outcomes while encompassing physical & mental health.

All 27 Child measures and 11 behavioral health Adult Core Set measures are required to satisfy 2024 mandatory reporting.

Team Composition

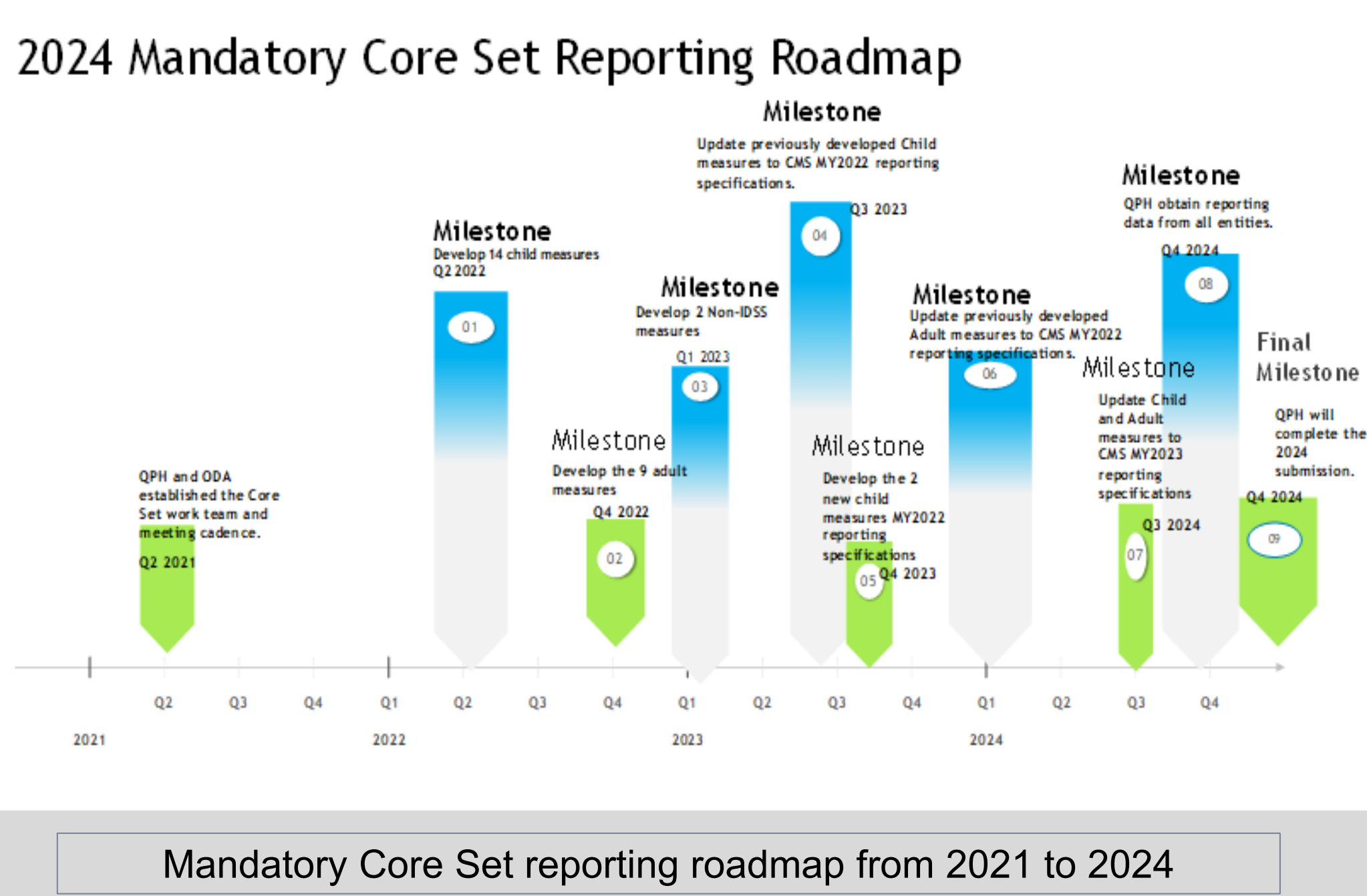
An initial team was established with minimal HAD and QPH members to work on this project. Following a needs assessment, the team was expanded to include a second composition; which included additional support staff from HAD and Optum.

Below are the titles of each member on the team:

- Project Team Composition – 1**
- QPH
 - Population Health Project Manager
 - Population Health Data Analyst
 - HAD
 - Enterprise Data Warehouse Solution (EDWS)/ Data Analytics Manager
 - Data Warehouse Specialist
- Project Team Composition – 2**
- HAD
 - Senior Data Analyst
 - Senior Data Analyst
 - Optum
 - Extract Transform & Load (ETL) Engineer
 - ETL Engineer
 - Population Health Specialist

Project Timeline/ Milestones

- The overall project timeline was set to meet CMS’ reporting requirements in 2024 and identify key performance indicator benchmarks throughout the process.
- QPH determined this by collaborating with the project team and drafting a work plan

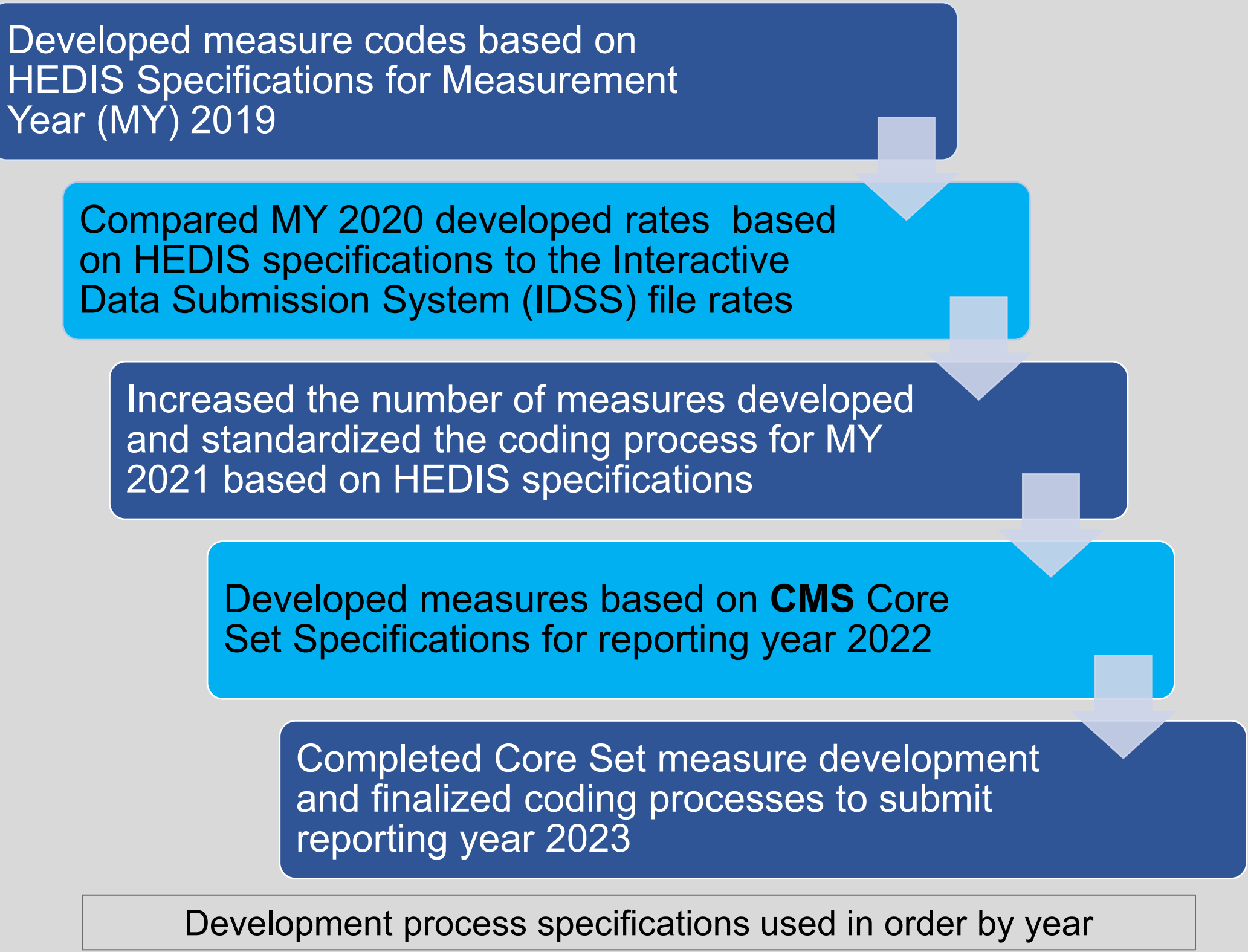


Mandatory Core Set reporting roadmap from 2021 to 2024

Development Process

QPH started the initial process for this project in 2021. The chart below represents the chronologic order of the measure development.

Development Process Continued



Development process specifications used in order by year

Data Warehouse

The DMAS data warehouse is a hub where information from various places within the organization is combined and stored. The newly created data warehouse is used to consolidate and query data to create Core Set reports. It was initially created to assist reporting, analysis, and decision-making.

Past Limitations

DMAS experienced limitations during the initial stages of Core Set development, which included:

- Limited metric development experience
- Missing and/or incomplete data for dental measures, immunization registry data, and laboratory data. Additionally, the data did not include member level details
- Missing infrastructure to include the basic framework of developing measures
- Not collecting and/or calculating measures that would be required for 2024 mandatory reporting.
- High complexity in measure specifications
- Limited resource availability
- A multi-year large scale project

How Limitations Were Addressed

DMAS addressed most of the past limitations by allocating resources to this project as well as leveraging partners including DentaQuest, Optum and Health Services Advisory Group teams for technical assistance and to assist in developing certain measures. DMAS was able to:

- Incorporate feedback from CMS and Mathematica from previous voluntary Core Set measures reporting

How Limitations Were Addressed Cont.

- Work on enhancing project oversight to overcome limited development experience
- Break down the project into smaller units that were tackled progressively
- Develop a data mart infrastructure to create data summaries, store data, increase technical expertise and iterative development in the EDWS
- Collaborate internally as well as request technical assistance from External Quality Review Organization (EQRO) and other vendors to interpret the highly complex specifications
- Standardized the process to exclude members with limited benefits and members with hospice care.
- Developed the procedures to identify member level details for further stratifications for internal use; such as member region, health plan subscription, eligibility category etc.

Future Goals

DMAS continues to innovate and fine tune Core Set measure reports. More reports are slated to be developed with the inclusion of development from our EQRO. Virginia will next focus on the development of stratified Child Core Set and Adult Core Set behavioral health measures for 2025.

- DMAS currently has 33 of the required measures in place for reporting in preparation for reporting due December of 2024
- DMAS reported 33 measures for the December 2023 CMS Core Set reporting cycle and will work with CMS on any feedback from the 2023 reporting cycle to address any questions or concerns prior to the 2024 Mandatory Core Set reporting deadline.

References

• [Department of Medical Assistance Services. \(2023\). DMAS - Department of Medical Assistance Services Website.](#)

• [Child and Adult Health Care Quality Measures. \(2023\). Medicaid website.](#)

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Thank You

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