

Measure Specification: NHSN COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage among Healthcare Personnel Revised January 2023

Background

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) collects data that are reported on COVID-19 [vaccination](#) coverage among healthcare personnel (HCP) through the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

Data reported through NHSN are required per Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) final rule in the Federal Register on August 13, 2021, that includes weekly healthcare personnel (HCP) COVID-19 vaccination reporting from facilities via NHSN and CMS Quality Reporting Program (QRP) requirements beginning October 1, 2021 in accordance with National Quality Forum (NQF) endorsed quality measure for Quarterly Reporting of COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage among Healthcare Personnel (NQF# 3636).

The [NHSN Weekly Healthcare Personnel COVID-19 Vaccination Module](#) and Long-term Care (LTC) Facility [Weekly HCP COVID-19 Vaccination Module](#) were developed to help guide the public health emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CDC has aligned NHSN COVID-19 vaccination coverage surveillance with the NQF-endorsed quality measure for annual [influenza vaccination coverage among Healthcare Personnel \(NQF #0431\)](#), which is collected through the [NHSN Healthcare Personnel Influenza Vaccination Module](#)

Measure Title

COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage among Healthcare Personnel

Measure Description

Percentage of HCP who are considered [up to date](#) with recommended COVID-19 vaccines.

Measure Type

Process

Measure-specific Web Page

<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/hps/weekly-covid-vac/index.html>

Data Dictionary, Code Table, or Value Sets

The table of instructions for collecting data on HCP in LTC facilities: (<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/forms/instr/57.220-toi-508.pdf>) and for HCP in other facility types: (<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/forms/instr/57.219-toi-508.pdf>)

Numerator Statement

The numerator for this measure consists of the cumulative number of HCP in the denominator population who are considered up to date with recommended COVID-19 vaccines.

Numerator Details

The definition of up to date vaccination status may change over time. **Therefore, facilities should refer to the [definition of up to date](#) as of the first day of the reporting quarter.**

Facilities should refer to the document linked above for the numerator details defining who is up to date corresponding to the quarter they are reporting data for.

Vaccination coverage is defined as a measure of the estimated percentage of people in a sample or population who received a specific vaccine or vaccines.

To simplify reporting, LTC facilities may choose to submit data through NHSN's [Person-Level COVID-19 Vaccination Form](#). Data entered in the Person-Level COVID-19 Vaccination Form will be automatically summed to the appropriate numerator and denominators for the reporting period and saved in the NHSN LTC Healthcare Personnel COVID-19 Vaccination Cumulative Summary Module. For example, the form will automatically apply the correct up to date definition for each reporting week. Vaccinations may have been administered at the healthcare facility or documented to have been administered elsewhere.

Denominator Statement

Number of HCP eligible to work in the healthcare facility for at least one day during the reporting period, excluding persons with contraindications to COVID-19 vaccination.

Denominator Details

Denominator data are collected for four categories of HCP:

1. **Employees:** This includes all persons receiving a direct paycheck from the reporting facility (i.e., on the facility's payroll), regardless of clinical responsibility or patient contact.
2. **Licensed independent practitioners (LIPs):** This includes physicians (MD, DO), advanced practice nurses, and physician assistants who are affiliated with the reporting facility, but are not directly employed by it (i.e., they do not receive a paycheck from the facility), regardless of clinical responsibility or patient contact. Post-residency fellows are also included in this category if they are not on the facility's payroll.
3. **Adult students/trainees and volunteers:** This includes medical, nursing, or other health professional students, interns, medical residents, or volunteers aged 18 or older who are



affiliated with the healthcare facility, but are not directly employed by it (i.e., they do not receive a paycheck from the facility), regardless of clinical responsibility or patient contact.

4. Other contract personnel¹: Contract personnel are defined as persons providing care, treatment, or services at the facility through a contract who do not fall into any of the other denominator categories. This also includes vendors providing care, treatment, or services at the facility who may or may not be paid through a contract. Please see [FAQs](#) for a list of examples of HCP who may be included in this category.

¹Facilities are required to enter data on other contract personnel for submission in the NHSN application, but data for this category are not included in the COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage among Healthcare Personnel (HCP) Measure.

Denominator Exclusions

HCP in the denominator who were determined to have a medical contraindication specified by Food and Drug Administration (FDA) labeling or authorization, [CDC](#) or [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) recommendations.

HCP can provide verbal statements for medical contraindications to (and declination of) the vaccine. Therefore, written documentation is not required.

Denominator Exclusion Details

The denominator for this measure excludes HCP with medical contraindications to COVID-19 vaccine. CDC considers medical [contraindications](#) to vaccination with COVID-19 vaccines to be:

- Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a component of the COVID-19 vaccine
- Known diagnosed allergy to a component of the COVID-19 vaccine

Stratification Information

This measure is not stratified.

Risk Adjustment

No risk adjustment

Type of score

Rate/proportion

Interpretation of Score

Better quality = higher score

Calculation Algorithm/Measure Logic

The weekly coverage rate is the numerator divided by the denominator (less exclusions) for a particular week.

The measure is reported for a quarter (3-month period). The quarterly COVID-19 vaccination coverage is determined by selecting one weekly coverage rate per month, then averaging 3 weekly coverage rates (one week from each of the 3 months in the quarter)

For facilities that report more than one week per month, the latest week of data for the reporting month will be used.

A week is designated as belonging to the month of the week-end date. For example, submitting data for the week of December 26, 2022 through January 1, 2023 is considered submitting data for a week in January 2023 rather than December 2022.

Sampling

Measure is not based on a sample.

Data Source

Data sources for this measure may include:

- Claims
- Electronic Health Data
- Electronic Health Records
- Management Data (e.g., occupational health records)
- Paper Medical Records
- Instrument-Based Data
- Immunization tracking

Level of Analysis

Facility

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Care Setting

Inpatient Rehab Facility; Long-Term Care Hospital; Skilled Nursing Facility; Ambulatory Surgical Center; Outpatient Dialysis; Hospital Inpatient; Inpatient Psychiatric Facility; PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital; Hospital Outpatient

