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*A participant in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's
Aligning Forces for Quality initiative to improve
health and health care in Oregon.*

REPORT SHOWS KEY METRICS IMPROVING THROUGH MEDICAID EXPANSION

First data from the period after Medicaid expansion in Oregon raises interest about transformation efforts providing benefit beyond Medicaid

PORTLAND, ORE. (September 29, 2015) – Oregon’s trend for improving quality of care has continued through the Medicaid expansion period, according to a new report released today from the nonprofit [Oregon Health Care Quality Corporation](#) (Q Corp). The report reveals that quality has improved on 11 measures tracked by Q Corp in the report’s annual “Statewide Snapshot.”

Released on September 17, the *Information for a Healthy Oregon* report shows that adolescent well-care visits, well-child visits, and diabetes blood sugar screening improved over the last report year; additionally, the rates on eight key measures are above the national mean as calculated by HEDIS.

Improvement in quality metrics across payer types could indicate that efforts to transform care for the Medicaid population are positively influencing quality of care for Oregonians covered under commercial health care plans or Medicare. “This report is our first to cover the period after Medicaid expansion in Oregon,” says Mylia Christensen, executive director of the Oregon Health Care Quality Corporation. “We know clinicians and Coordinated Care Organizations are spending significant resources on improving the quality of care, with a focus on specific incentive metrics; this early data may be an indicator that quality improvements have occurred beyond the initial target of the Medicaid population.”

The report also shows that Patient Centered Primary Care Home recognized clinics (PCPCHs) are achieving higher rates than unrecognized clinics on nine out of the eleven reported measures, lending support to the assumption that PCPCHs provide relatively higher quality of care.

Information for a Healthy Oregon examines pediatric care, chronic disease care and the use of health care services, such as emergency department visits. This year’s report also includes information on Q Corp’s emerging work using Total Cost of Care methodology, and offers a preview of reporting to come from the Oregon Maternal Data Center, which Q Corp operates on behalf of the Oregon Perinatal Collaborative.

The report continues Q Corp’s work using Medicare data to provide reporting that offers comparisons among commercial, Medicaid, and Medicare data. In addition to the data from CMS, 13 of Oregon’s largest health plans and the Oregon Health Authority’s Division of Medical Assistance Programs also contributed claims data for this report. Combined, this data represents care given to more two-thirds of Oregonians, and provides more comprehensive information than any contributing organization can provide on its own.

Information for a Healthy Oregon was supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's [Aligning Forces for Quality](#) (AF4Q) initiative through 2015. The program operated in 16 communities across the United States.

For more information about *Information for a Healthy Oregon*, including a copy of the report, visit www.Q-Corp.org.

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The Oregon Health Care Quality Corporation is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality and affordability of health care in Oregon by leading community collaborations and producing unbiased information. We work with the members of our community – including consumers, providers, employers, policymakers and health insurers – to improve the health of all Oregonians. For more information, visit www.Q-Corp.org or follow us at [@OR QualityCare](#).