

Partnership Epidemiology Collaboration

Frequently Asked Questions

Partnership HealthPlan of California's epidemiologist works in collaboration with the public health departments in all 24 counties of our service area to help our members and communities be healthy. Below are frequently asked questions and answers with helpful resources as it relates to Partnership's collaboration with county public health department epidemiologists.



Does Partnership have accessible data records for the counties in their service area?

Partnership has annual data reports that capture a wide range of data points specific to each of the 24 counties we serve, in order to help assess the needs of our communities. These data reports can be found on the [Annual Data Reports webpage](#) on the Partnership website. [Partnership's Epidemiology Collaboration webpage](#) also has helpful resources, such as a list of [data mart, definitions](#), and more.

What is the turn-around time between member encounters and claims data to release to counties?

It usually takes six months for claims data to be released following encounters with members. Because of this, data is therefore reported annually. Between the date of the member encounter and up to a year after, data continues to be validated and updated and can change throughout the year.

For our county Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIP), how do we develop SMART goals, objectives, and strategies?

First, it's helpful to always keep the health status indicator measures simple and to make sure the statement includes the who, what, when, where, why, and how. Please ensure the measures are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART).

Where can I find appropriate examples of health status indicator measures for my community?

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You can find tested, validated, and tracked health status indicator measures to adopt and adapt to your community needs on the websites below:

- [The Department of Health and Human Services: Healthy People 2030's Webpage](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Local Data Webpage](#)
- [California Health and Human Services Data Portal](#)
- [Indian Health Services Webpage](#)

Where can I find a list of validated health care questions to adapt or adopt for our Community Health Assessment (CHA) or Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)?

Many federal and state agencies have validated health care questions you can borrow. You do not have to develop your own questions or pilot new questions. Feel free to test some of the already-validated questions and adopt or adapt as needed from the following sources:

- [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System \(BRFSS\)](#)
- [California Maternal and Infant Health Assessment \(CA MIHA\)](#)
- [Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System \(YRBSS\)](#)

Does Partnership have set health status indicator measures tracked each year?

Yes, Partnership has measures tracked each year. For example, we utilize the Healthcare Effectiveness Data & Information Set (HEDIS):

- HEDIS is a widely used set of performance measures in the managed health care industry. It was developed and is currently maintained by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS was designed with the ability to compare health plan performance to other plans and to national or regional benchmarks. Although not originally intended for trending, HEDIS results are increasingly used to track year-to-year performance.
- Partnership's annual HEDIS reports can be found on [Partnership's dedicated HEDIS webpage](#).

Where can I find details about county diabetes health care indicators?

More information can be found in the annual HEDIS reports on [Partnership's dedicated HEDIS webpage](#).

Where can I find details about county developmental screening for children aged 0-5, for First 5 California strategic planning?

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More information can be found in the annual HEDIS reports on [Partnership's dedicated HEDIS webpage](#).

Where can I find a list of providers that serve Partnership members in my county?

To browse a list of Partnership providers organized by county, visit the [Medi-Cal Provider Directory](#) on the Partnership website.

Does this list include doulas?

Yes, it does include the names of doula organizations and businesses by county.

What are taxonomy codes and why are they used on Partnership dashboards and/or annual reports?

Taxonomy codes are health care claims specialist lists from the [National Uniform Claim Committee \(NUCC\)](#) or the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) that do not always match clinical classifications. It is used to identify health care providers based on their specialty and includes details about provider group, classification and area of specialization.

Example:

- Taxonomy Code 207RC0000X: Internal medicine / cardiovascular disease
- Taxonomy Code 2080P0202X: Pediatric Cardiologist

What is Proposition 1: Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Integrated Plan (IP)?

Proposition 1 passed March of 2024, which approved \$6.4 billion in bonds specifically to support members living with mental health and substance use disorder needs.

- The passing of this proposition aims to:
 - Improve access to behavioral health services, with a focus on those with high needs.
 - Expand investment in early intervention services, with a focus on children and youth.
 - Enhance oversight and accountability at the state and community levels.
- For more information on Proposition 1, visit the [Department of Health Care Services' Proposition 1 webpage](#).

For any questions regarding behavioral health policies and services including Proposition 1, please contact Partnership's Sr. Director of Behavioral Health, Mark Bontrager at mbontrager@partnershiphp.org.



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Questions? Please contact Folorunso (Folo) Akintan, MD, MPH, MBA at epidemiology@partnershiphp.org.

For more information regarding Partnership's epidemiology collaboration efforts, visit [Partnership's Epidemiology Collaboration webpage](#).

If you have a data request, please complete the [Annual County Data Sharing Form](#) and email it to CHACHIP@partnershiphp.org.

