

## Appendix – Measure Specification

### Reporting of CAHPS Data Regarding Availability of Specialist Care for Children on Medicaid

#### Description

This measure assesses the proportion of states that collect and report CAHPS data regarding whether parents easily get specialty care appointments for their Medicaid-enrolled children when needed.

Specifically, this measure assesses the proportion of states that sample their Medicaid populations and report the percentage of parents who responded “Usually” or “Always” to the specialist availability question from the CAHPS Health Plan Survey – Child Medicaid Survey or its equivalent question in future versions of the same CAHPS survey. In CAHPS version 5.0, the question is written as “In the last 6 months, how often did you get appointments for your child to see a specialist as soon as he or she needed?”

#### Calculation

This measure requires survey data on parent perceptions of specialist availability for Medicaid-enrolled children collected via an individual question from the CAHPS Health Plan Survey – Child Medicaid Survey. This measure is calculated as the numerator divided by the denominator.

#### Specification

**Denominator** The denominator is the individual State required to report the CAHPS Health Plan Survey- Child Medicaid version, and therefore will always be one (1).

**Numerator** A numerator of one (1) demonstrates that a particular State publicly reports the results of the individual question on specialist availability among their Medicaid-only (Chapter XIX) population. If the numerator is zero (0), the State does not publicly report the results.

#### Definitions

**CAHPS** Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems. CAHPS is a program of the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). As mandated by the Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) of 2009, the Federal Government requires that States administer CAHPS to their Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) populations (Chapter XXI) and report to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) that CAHPS was conducted.

**Reporting** Reporting of this CAHPS measure by a State program may take any form that clearly conveys the results of this question; it may be reported alone, or as one component of a broader array of parent-reported availability and access measures that include this specific specialist availability question.

The measure will not be satisfied if States include the results of this question as part of a weighted composite measure without also individually providing the percentage of people responding “Usually” or “Always.”

#### Eligible Population

The CAHPS Health Plan Survey – Child Medicaid Survey is administered to parents with children under 18 years of age who are enrolled in Medicaid during the measurement year.