



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

JASON WEIDA
SECRETARY

June 29, 2023

Jason Weida, Secretary
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Secretary Weida:

Attached is Report #AHCA-2223-05-A, *Medicaid Performance Measures Review*. This audit was conducted as part of the Agency's annual audit plan. The objectives of the audit were to determine if AHCA's management and internal controls over performance measures were adequate to ensure the integrity of the results reported, and if the data collecting and reporting mechanisms in place were sufficient to ensure reliability and validity of the reported metrics. Our audit testing demonstrated that sufficient controls are in place and there are no findings to report.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this report, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Brian P. Langston
Inspector General

BPL/jw

Attachment

cc: Stefan Grow, Chief of Staff
Bailey Smith, Communications Director
Kristin Sokoloski, Deputy Chief of Staff
Melinda M. Miguel, Chief Inspector General
Sherrill F. Norman, Auditor General





Office of Inspector General
Internal Audit

AHCA 2223-05-A

June 2023

Medicaid Performance Measure Review

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), Office of Inspector General's Audit Plan, Internal Audit conducted an audit of two Deputy Chief of Staff's Division of Medicaid Operations and Contracts performance measures.

Our audit disclosed the following:

- The Agency for Health Care Administration's (AHCA) contracts have expired with the Maternal Child Health and Education Research and Data Center (Data Center) and the Lawton and Rhea Chiles Center for Healthy Mothers and Babies (Chiles Center). There is no replacement for this metric as the data is no longer available.

Based on our audit, no findings are reported.

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE, AND METHODOLOGY

The objectives of our engagement were to determine if AHCA's management and internal controls over performance measures were adequate to ensure the integrity of the results reported. Also, to determine if the data collecting and reporting mechanisms in place were sufficient to ensure reliability and validity of the reported metrics.

The scope of this audit included two performance measures which were the number of Title XXI-Eligible Children Enrolled in Florida Healthy Kids (FHK) and the Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births for fiscal year (FY) 2021-2022.

The methodology included a review of the data collection, calculation, and reporting processes to validate the reported metrics for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22. We interviewed the Bureau of Medicaid Operations to gain understanding of how the calculations were formulated and interpreted.

BACKGROUND

In 1994, the Florida Legislature passed the Government Performance and Accountability Act, Section 216.1827, Florida Statutes, to improve government accountability by incorporating performance information outcome measures. This Act requires state agencies to implement performance-based program budgeting, which includes establishing legislatively approved performance measures and standards. Additionally, state agencies are required to develop a Long-Range Performance Plan (LRPP) that is policy based, priority driven, accountable and developed through careful examination and justification of all agency programs.

AHCA administers Medicaid programs to low-income families and individuals to ensure Floridians are receiving healthcare regardless of their economic status. The Agency's mission is "Better Health Care for All Floridians." In reviewing the two performance measures selected, AHCA's Neonatal Mortality Rate was defined as the number of deaths of infants less than 28 days older per 1,000 deliveries. The purpose of this measure is to ensure the quality of care provided to beneficiaries minimizes the incidence of negative outcomes. The Title XXI-Eligible Children Enrolled in FHK measure is a count of the number of children enrolled in the program and eligible to receive services.

AUDIT RESULTS

Internal Audit determined that AHCA's management and internal controls for the data collection, calculation, and reporting process are in place to ensure the integrity of the results reported for the FHK measure. Further, data collecting and reporting mechanisms in place are sufficient to ensure reliability and validity of the FHK reported metrics. Specifically, the controls over the data received from the third-party provider and from the Florida Department of Health (DOH) were determined to be adequate. We interviewed the subject matter experts (SME) within the Division of Medicaid Operations and Contracts regarding the data received from third party provider and DOH which was compared to the performance metric identified in the LRPP.

The FHK performance measure is supported by enrollment data provided by FHK representing a count of children enrolled in the program who are eligible to receive services. Counts shown in the LRPP represent program enrollment at the end of the current fiscal year as of June 30, 2022. The minimum number of children who should have been enrolled and eligible to receive services is 115,293 per the LRPP's approved FY 2021-22 requirements based on the Social Services Estimating Conference (SSEC). We reviewed the performance measurement data for FY 2021-22, and determined the enrollment number was accurate.

The Neonatal Mortality Rate performance measure review identified the Medicaid Maternal and Child Health Status Indicators Report previously provided under contract annually for AHCA with data researched and compiled through a partnership. The

partnership was with the Data Center and the Chiles Center. Based on interviews with SME and the Division of Medicaid Operations and Contract senior management, it was determined that AHCA's contracts with the UF Center and the Chiles Center had ended, and AHCA no longer receives this data and there is no current replacement measure.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Office of Inspector General Internal Audit staff would like to thank the management and staff of the Agency's Office of Deputy Chief of Staff Division of Medicaid Operations and Contracts for their assistance and cooperation extended to our Office during this engagement.

PROJECT TEAM

Karine St. Jean, Senior Management Analyst II, conducted the audit under the supervision of Jeanie Walker, CIGA, MBA, Senior Management Analyst Supervisor; Karen Preacher, CIA, CFE, CIGA, Audit Director; and Brian Langston, CIG, CIGA, CIGI, Inspector General.

The Agency for Health Care Administration's mission is
Better Health Care for All Floridians.

The Inspector General's Office conducts audits and reviews of Agency programs to assist the Secretary and other agency management in fulfilling this mission.

This engagement was conducted pursuant to Section 20.055, Florida Statutes, and in accordance with the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing* as established by the Institute of Internal Auditors. Please address inquiries regarding this report to the AHCA Audit Director at (850) 412-3990.

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https://ahca.myflorida.com/Executive/Inspector_General/Internal_Audit/Reports.shtml

Copies may also be requested by telephone at (850) 412-3990, in person, or by mail at Agency for Health Care Administration, 2727 Mahan Drive, Mail Stop #5, Tallahassee, FL 32308.