CYE 2017 Electronic Prescribing Performance Improvement Project (PIP) Summary

January 1, 2014 through September 30, 2017

Background:

The development of health information technology, including electronic prescribing (e-prescribing) was meant to improve the quality of healthcare for patients as well as efficiency for providers. E-Prescribing is a clinicians’ ability to electronically send an accurate, error-free and understandable prescription directly to a pharmacy from the point-of-care. Thus, clinicians can safely and efficiently manage patients’ medications while reducing the risk for errors. Additional benefits include reducing phone calls between clinicians and pharmacies and providing patient convenience by avoiding additional trips to pharmacies to drop off prescriptions.

Purpose

The purpose of this Performance Improvement Project (PIP) is to increase the number of prescribers electronically sending prescriptions and to increase the percentage of prescriptions which are submitted electronically in order to improve patient safety.

Population

The population included:¹

- Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS) Elderly and Physically Disabled (E/PD) members, ages 0-64 and 65+
- ALTCS Developmentally Disabled (DD) members, ages 0-64 and 65+
- Acute Care members, ages 0-64 and 65+
- Comprehensive Medical and Dental Program (CMDP) members, ages 0-19
- Children’s Rehabilitative Services (CRS) members, ages 0-20 and 21+²
- Department of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS)/ Regional Behavioral Health Services (RHBA) General Mental Health/Substance Abuse (GMH/SA) members, ages 0-64 and 65+³
- DBHS/RHBA Serious Mental Illness (SMI) Integrated members, ages 18-64 and 65+⁴

¹ Acute Care Members – KidsCare, 0-18 years of age, removed from the population due to substantial decrease in program participation related to the enrollment freeze.
² CRS Members 21+ years of age included within the population for comparative analysis
³ Revised to reflect the transition of DBHS members to the RHBA Contractors
⁴ Revised to reflect the transition of DBHS members to the RHBA Contractors
The population will exclude:
- Members with no medications prescribed
- Prescriptions designated as refills of an existing prescription

**Indicator Criteria**

Indicator 1: The percent (overall and by Contractor) of AHCCCS contracted providers who prescribed at least one electronic prescription

Indicator 2: The percent (overall and by Contractor) of prescriptions prescribed by an AHCCCS contracted provider sent electronically

**Numerator**

Indicator 1: The number of providers in the denominator who sent at least one prescription electronically to a pharmacy during the measurement period

Indicator 2: The number of prescriptions in the denominator which were sent electronically to a pharmacy during the measurement period

**Denominator**

Indicator 1: The total number of providers contracted with AHCCCS who prescribed at least one prescription using any method during the measurement period

Indicator 2: The total number of prescriptions sent to a pharmacy using any method during the measurement period

**Data Sources**

AHCCCS administrative data will be used to identify indicator data. AHCCCS will collect prescription origination information from its encounter system. It is important to note, only approved adjudicated encounters are included in this study.

For the purposes of defining an e-prescribed prescription, AHCCCS will be looking at those prescriptions generated through a computer-to-computer electronic data interchange protocol, following a national industry standard and identified by Origin Code 3.

**Data Validation**

The Data Validation Studies examine pharmacy encounters. These studies compare approved adjudicated encounters sent to AHCCCS by the Contractors. The studies produce an overall accuracy rate based on receipt, accuracy and timeliness. These studies are prepared for Contractors under Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS), Acute Care and Behavioral Health contract types in accordance with Request for Proposals (RFP) specifications listed in the programmatic contract procurement process.

The sample frame will be validated to ensure that members meet criteria for inclusion in the study and that data collected from administrative sources (e.g., AHCCCS encounters) meet
numerator and denominator criteria. These data will be validated through review of a random sample of members included in the denominator as well as those not selected for the denominator and a random sample of numerator data.

Data Limitation

The following data limitations were noted as part of the AHCCCS E-Prescribing PIP:

- Initial reporting period for Contract Year Ending (CYE) 2014 based on limited time period of January 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014 versus a full Contract year (October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014) as seen in the subsequent remeasurement periods.
- CYE 2014 reporting based on retrospective review of encounter data captured June 2017 to address identified duplication of providers. This duplication was noted to occur as a result of an attempt to report provider prescribing data in relation to members age span within the initial data pull.
- Overrepresentation of “Unknown” race/ethnicity noted within the data. As a result, the disparity analysis included as part of this report, does not reflect this category.

Arizona Snapshot

E-Prescribing Providers (Indicator 1)

CYE 2014
There were a total of 20,824 providers who prescribed at least one medication using any method to members who met the population criteria, across all lines of business. Of those, 13,665 sent at least one prescription electronically, a rate of 65.6 percent. The highest rate of e-prescribing providers was reported for the Acute Care population at 65.1 percent. The lowest rate was reported for the Department of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) SMI Integrated population at 47.3 percent. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one line of business, thus being counted two or more times in the aggregate calculation.

CYE 2016
There were a total of 23,718 providers who prescribed at least one medication using any method to members who met the population criteria, across all lines of business. Of those, 16,592 sent at least one prescription electronically, a rate of 70.0 percent. This reflects a relative percent of change of 6.6 percent and represents a statistically significant increase from CYE 2014. The highest rate of e-prescribing providers was reported for the Acute Care population at 69.5 percent. The lowest rate was reported for the CMDP population at 55.3 percent. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one health plan or line of business; however, aggregate rates have been calculated and reported to address noted duplication, thus ensuring each provider is only counted once within the overall statewide aggregate rate provided.

CYE 2017
There were a total of 24,351 providers who prescribed at least one medication using any method to members who met the population criteria, across all lines of business. Of those, 17,878 sent at least one prescription electronically, a rate of 73.4 percent. This reflects a relative percent of change of 4.9 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant
increase and an overall relative percent of change of 11.9 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. The highest rate of e-prescribing providers was reported for the Acute Care population at 73.0 percent. The lowest rate was reported for the CMDP population at 60.5 percent. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one health plan or line of business; however, aggregate rates have been calculated and reported to address noted duplication, thus ensuring each provider is only counted once within the overall statewide aggregate rate provided.

![Percent of Providers Who Prescribed at Least One Prescription Electronically by Line of Business]

*Data range limited to Jan 1, 2014 to Sep 30, 2014

**Electronic Prescriptions (Indicator 2)**

**CYE 2014**
There were a total of 6,954,595 prescriptions written for members who met the population inclusion criteria, across all lines of business. Of those 2,847,179 prescriptions were sent electronically, a rate of 40.9 percent. The highest rate of electronic prescriptions was reported for the CMDP population at 46.7 percent. The lowest rate was reported for the ALTCS E/PD population at 24.6 percent. Stratified by age, 40.8 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 45.9 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

**CYE 2016**
There were a total of 10,979,267 prescriptions written for members who met the population inclusion criteria, across all lines of business. Of those 5,470,929 prescriptions were sent electronically, a rate of 49.8 percent. This reflects a relative percent of change of 21.7% and represents a statistically significant increase from CYE 2014. The highest rate of electronic prescriptions was reported for the ALTCS DD population at 57.9 percent. The lowest rate was reported for the ALTCS E/PD population at 28.5 percent.

**CYE 2017**
There were a total of 10,809,423 prescriptions written for members who met the population inclusion criteria, across all lines of business. Of those, 6,027,165 prescriptions were sent electronically, a rate of 55.8 percent. This reflects a relative percent of change of 11.9 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 36.2 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. The highest rate of electronic prescriptions was reported for the CRS population at 63.6 percent. The lowest rate was reported for the ALTCS E/PD population at 33.5 percent. Stratified by age, 55.7 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 56.7 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

*Data range limited to Jan 1, 2014 to Sep 30, 2014

**Disparities**

**County**
With regards to the number of prescribed medications that were sent electronically, the data was analyzed by county in order to determine if any disparities (significant variance) existed by region. At an aggregate level, CYE 2014 reporting showed disparities for the following counties: Apache, Coconino, Gila, La Paz, Mohave, and Navajo. In CYE 2017 reporting, disparities were no longer noted for Coconino, Gila, and Navajo Counties; however, continued disparities were noted for Apache, La Paz, and Mohave Counties.

**Race/Ethnicity**
The same data was analyzed by race/ethnicity in order to determine if any disparities existed. At an aggregate level, disparities were noted for Black and American Indian populations in both CYE 2014 and CYE 2017 reporting, when compared to all other ethnic and racial groups with regards to the number of prescribed medications that were sent electronically.
**Arizona Long Term Care Services (E/PD)**

**E-Prescribing Providers (Indicator 1)**

**CYE 2014**
For ALTCS E/PD health plans, a total of 7,596 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 3,778 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 49.7 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population.

**CYE 2016**
For ALTCS E/PD health plans, a total of 8,922 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 5,213 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 58.4 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 17.5 percent with a statistical significance value of P<.001. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one health plan; however, aggregate rates have been calculated and reported to address noted duplication, thus ensuring each provider is only counted once within the line of business aggregate rate provided.

**CYE 2017**
For ALTCS E/PD health plans, a total of 9,211 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 5,813 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 63.1 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 8.0 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 26.9 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one health plan; however, aggregate rates have been calculated and reported to address noted duplication, thus ensuring each provider is only counted once within the line of business aggregate rate provided.

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*Data range limited to Jan 1, 2014 to Sep 30, 2014*
Electronic Prescriptions (Indicator 2)

CYE 2014
For ALTCS E/PD health plans, a total of 174,793 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 42,952 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 24.6 percent of medications were prescribed electronically for this population. Stratified by age, 24.3 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 25.2 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

CYE 2016
For ALTCS E/PD health plans, a total of 235,802 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 67,194 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 28.5 percent of medications were prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 16.0 percent with a statistical significance value of P<.001. Stratified by age, 28.7 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 28.1 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

CYE 2017
For ALTCS E/PD health plans, a total of 229,687 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 76,866 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 33.5 percent of medications were prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 17.5 from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 36.2 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. Stratified by age, 34.1 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 32 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

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E-Prescribing Providers (Indicator 1)

CYE 2014

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ALTCS Developmental Disabilities (DD)

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For the Division of Developmental Disabilities, a total of 7,565 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 4,310 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 57.0 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population.

**CYE 2016**

For the Division of Developmental Disabilities, a total of 9,102 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 5,718 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 62.8 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 10.3 percent with a statistical significance value of $P<.001$.

**CYE 2017**

For the Division of Developmental Disabilities, a total of 9,429 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 6,355 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 67.4 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 7.3 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 18.3 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates.

*Data range limited to Jan 1, 2014 to Sep 30, 2014*

**Electronic Prescriptions (Indicator 2)**

**CYE 2014**

For the Division of Developmental Disabilities, a total of 116,879 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 52,020 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 44.5 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. Stratified by age, 44.6 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 37.8 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

**CYE 2016**

For the Division of Developmental Disabilities, a total of 170,972 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 98,984 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 57.9 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. This
reflects a relative percentage of change of 30.1 percent with a statistical significance value of P<.001. Stratified by age, 58.0 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 42.9 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

**CYE 2017**
For the Division of Developmental Disabilities, a total of 175,387 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 108,743 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 62.0 percent of medications were prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 7.1 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 39.3 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. Stratified by age, 62.2 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 48 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

![Percent of ALTCS DD Prescriptions Prescribed Electronically by Health Plan](image)

*Data range limited to Jan 1, 2014 to Sep 30, 2014

**Acute Care**

**E-Prescribing Providers (Indicator 1)**

**CYE 2014**
For Acute Care health plans, a total of 20,300 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 13,224 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 65.1 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population.

**CYE 2016**
For Acute Care health plans, a total of 23,072 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 16,025 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 69.5 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 6.6% with a statistical significance value of P<.001. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one health plan; however, aggregate rates have been calculated and reported to address noted duplication, thus ensuring each provider is only counted once within the line of business aggregate rate provided.
For Acute Care health plans, a total of 23,725 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 17,308 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 73.0 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 5.0 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase an overall relative percent of change of 12.0 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one health plan; however, aggregate rates have been calculated and reported to address noted duplication, thus ensuring each provider is only counted once within the line of business aggregate rate provided.

**Electronic Prescriptions (Indicator 2)**

**CYE 2014**
For Acute Care health plans, a total of 5,736,048 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 2,437,016 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 42.5 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. Stratified by age, 42.2 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 56.1 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

**CYE 2016**
For Acute Care health plans, a total of 8,881,683 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 4,394,177 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 49.5 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 16.4 percent with a statistical significance value of P<.001. Stratified by age, 49.3 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 60.8 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.
CYE 2017
For the Acute Care health plans, a total of 8,624,535 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 4,736,348 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 54.9 percent of medications were prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 11.0 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 29.3 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. Stratified by age, 54.7 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 63.5 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

*Data range limited to Jan 1, 2014 to Sep 30, 2014

Comprehensive Medical and Dental Program (CMMDP)

E-Prescribing Providers (Indicator 1)

CYE 2014
For the CMPD health plan, a total of 4,036 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 1,923 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 47.6 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population.

CYE 2016
For the CMPD health plan, a total of 4,938 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 2,731 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 55.3 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 16.1% with a statistical significance value of P<.001.
**CYE 2017**
For the CMDP health plan, a total of 4,446 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 2,691 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 60.5 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 9.4 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase an overall relative percent of change of 27.0 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates.

![Percent of CMDP Providers Who Prescribed at Least One Prescription Electronically by Health Plan](chart)

*Data range limited to Jan 1, 2014 to Sep 30, 2014*

**Electronic Prescriptions (Indicator 2)**

**CYE 2014**
For the CMDP health plan, a total of 49,879 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 23,290 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 46.7 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. (This population includes only members between the ages of 0 through 19 years.)

**CYE 2016**
For the CMDP health plan, a total of 75,740 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 42,842 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 56.6 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 21.1 percent with a statistical significance value of P<.001. (This population includes only members between the ages of 0 through 19 years.)

**CYE 2017**
For the CMDP health plans, a total of 56,456 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 34,239 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 60.6 percent of medications were prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 7.2 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 29.9 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. (This population includes only members between the ages of 0 through 19 years.)
**E-Prescribing Providers (Indicator 1)**

**CYE 2014**
For the CRS health plan, a total of 5,240 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 2,663 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 50.8 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population.

**CYE 2016**
For the CRS health plan, a total of 6,175 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 3,615 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 58.5 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 15.2% with a statistical significance value of P<.001.

**CYE 2017**
For the CRS health plan, a total of 6,212 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 3,843 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 61.9 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 5.7 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 21.7 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates.

*Data range limited to Jan 1, 2014 to Sep 30, 2014*
Electronic Prescriptions (Indicator 2)

CYE 2014
For the CRS health plan a total of 71,582 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 30,713 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 42.9 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. Stratification by age not reported due to insufficient sample size.

CYE 2016
For the CRS health plan a total of 101,027 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 57,893 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 57.3 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 33.6 percent with a statistical significance value of P<.001. Stratified by age, 57.4 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 20 years of age, 51.4 percent were sent for members ages 21 years and older.

CYE 2017
For the CRS health plan, a total of 94,494 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 60,096 those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 63.6 percent of medications were prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 11.0 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 48.2 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. Stratified by age, 63.9 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 20 years of age, 57.1 percent were sent for members ages 21 years and older.
Upon initiation of the E-Prescribing PIP, all behavioral health services were provided under the Department of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS), an AHCCCS Contractor. However, behavioral health services for the General Mental Health/Substance Abuse (GMH/SA) and Serious Mental Illness (SMI) populations within Maricopa County transitioned to Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care (MMIC) effective April 1, 2014. GMH/SA and SMI members outside of Maricopa County transitioned to either Cenpatico Integrated Care (CIC) or Health Choice Integrated Care (HCIC) effective October 1, 2015. Therefore, the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities’ (RBHAs’) PIP measurement periods differ from all other lines of business.

**E-Prescribing Providers (Indicator 1)**

**CYE 2014**
For the DBHS health plan, a total of 4,127 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 1,999 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 48.4 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population.

**CYE 2016**
For the DBHS/Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RHBAs) General Mental Health/Substance Abuse (GMH/SA) health plans, a total of 7,787 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 4,510 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 57.9 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 19.6 percent with a statistical significance value of $P<.001$. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one health plan; however, aggregate rates have been calculated and reported to address noted duplication, thus ensuring each provider is only counted once within the line of business aggregate rate provided.
**CYE 2017**
For the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RHBAs) General Mental Health/ Substance Abuse (GMH/SA) health plans, a total of 8,031 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 4,977 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 62.0 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 7.0 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 27.9 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one health plan; however, aggregate rates have been calculated and reported to address noted duplication, thus ensuring each provider is only counted once within the line of business aggregate rate provided.

**Electronic Prescriptions (Indicator 2)**

**CYE 2014**
For the DBHS health plan a total of 616,795 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 197,148 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 32.0 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. Stratified by age, 32.0 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years of age, 29.9 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

**CYE 2016**
For the DBHS/Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RHBAs) General Mental Health/ Substance Abuse (GMH/SA) health plans, a total of 711,865 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 374,055 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 52.5 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 64.4 percent with a statistical significance value of P<.001. Stratified by age, 52.2 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years of age, 65.7 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one health plan; however, aggregate rates have been calculated and reported to address noted duplication, thus ensuring each provider is only counted once within the line of business aggregate rate provided.
For the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RHBAs) General Mental Health/ Substance Abuse (GMH/SA) health plans, a total of 762,405 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 472,594 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 62.0 percent of medications were prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 18.0 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 94.0 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. Stratified by age, 61.7 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 0 through 64 years, 76.0 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

*Data range limited to Jan 1, 2014 to Sep 30, 2014

Department of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS)/ Regional Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA) Serious Mental Illness (SMI) Population

Upon initiation of the E-Prescribing PIP, all behavioral health services were provided under the Department of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS), an AHCCCS Contractor. However, behavioral health services for the General Mental Health/Substance Abuse (GMH/SA) and Serious Mental Illness (SMI) populations within Maricopa County transitioned to Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care (MMIC) effective April 1, 2014. GMH/SA and SMI members outside of Maricopa County transitioned to either Cenpatico Integrated Care (CIC) or Health Choice Integrated Care (HCIC) effective October 1, 2015. Therefore, the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities’ (RBHAs’) PIP measurement periods differ from all other lines of business.

E-Prescribing Providers (Indicator 1)

CYE 2014

For the DBHS Integrated health plan, a total of 5,853 providers were identified as prescribing at least on medication during the measurement period with 2,770 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 47.3 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population.
CYE 2016
For the DBHS/[Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RHBA)] Serious Mental Illness (SMI) health plans, a total of 11,886 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 7,002 sending at least on prescription electronically. This indicates 58.9 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 24.5 percent with a statistical significance value of P<.001. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one health plan; however, aggregate rates have been calculated and reported to address noted duplication, thus ensuring each provider is only counted once within the line of business aggregate rate provided.

CYE 2017
For the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RHBAs) Serious Mental Illness (SMI) health plans, a total of 12,424 providers were identified as prescribing at least one medication during the measurement period with 7,947 sending at least one prescription electronically. This indicates 64.0 percent of providers prescribing medications send prescriptions electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 8.6 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 35.1 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. It is important to note that providers may see members in more than one health plan; however, aggregate rates have been calculated and reported to address noted duplication, thus ensuring each provider is only counted once within the line of business aggregate rate provided.

Electronic Prescriptions (Indicator 2)

Electronic Prescriptions (Indicator 2)

CYE 2014
For the Integrated health plan a total of 188,619 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 64,040 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 34.0 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. Stratified by age, 33.8 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 18 through 64 years of age, 45.2 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.
CYE 2016
For the DBHS/Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RHBAs) Serious Mental Illness (SMI) health plans, a total of 802,181 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 435,787 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 54.3 percent of medications are prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percentage of change of 60.0 percent with a statistical significance value of P<.001. Stratified by age, 54.2 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 18 through 64 years of age, 66.6 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

CYE 2017
For the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RHBAs) Serious Mental Illness (SMI) health plans, a total of 866,459 medications were prescribed during the measurement period with 538,279 of those prescriptions sent electronically. This indicates 62.1 percent of medications were prescribed electronically for this population. This reflects a relative percent of change of 14.3 percent from CYE 2016, representing a statistically significant increase and an overall relative percent of change of 83.0 percent when compared to CYE 2014 rates. Stratified by age, 62.0 percent of prescriptions were sent electronically for members ages 18 through 64 years, 70.1 percent were sent for members ages 65 years and older.

Timeframes and Demonstrable Improvement

The baseline year for this PIP was Contract year Ending (CYE) 2014, which is reflective of January 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014. The subsequent year was an “Intervention” year in which each health plan implemented strategies and interventions to improve performance. AHCCCS conducted annual measurements to evaluate Contractor performance, with the first re-measurement reflective of CYE 2016 and the second reflective of CYE 2017.

Upon initiation of the E-Prescribing PIP, all behavioral health services were provided under the Department of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS), an AHCCCS Contractor. However, behavioral health services for the General Mental Health/Substance Abuse (GMH/SA) and Serious Mental Illness (SMI) populations within Maricopa County transitioned to Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care (MMIC) effective April 1, 2014. GMH/SA and SMI members outside of Maricopa County
transitioned to either Cenpatico Integrated Care (CIC) or Health Choice Integrated Care (HCIC) effective October 1, 2015. Therefore, the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities’ (RBHAs’) PIP measurement periods differ from all other lines of business.

A Contractor demonstrated improvement when it achieved one of the following:

- It meets or exceeds the AHCCCS overall average for the baseline measurement if its baseline rate was below the average and the increase is statistically significant.

- It shows a statistically significant increase if its baseline rate was at or above the AHCCCS overall average for the baseline measurement

- It is the highest performing (benchmark) plan in any re-measurement and maintains or improves its rate in a successive measurement.

A Contractor demonstrated sustained improvement when it achieved one of the following:

- The Contractor maintains or increases the improvements in performance for at least one year after the improvement in performance is first achieved.

- The Contractor must demonstrate how the improvement can be reasonably attributable to interventions undertaken by the organization (i.e., improvement occurred due to the project and its interventions, not another unrelated reason).

Of those Contractor’s included within the PIP from CYE 2014 to CYE 2017, all but one demonstrated improvement in Remeasurement Year 1, as well as sustained improvement in Remeasurement Year 2 for both Indicators. For the remaining Contractor, improvement/sustained improvement was noted for Indicator 2 - Percent of Prescriptions Prescribed Electronically; however, improvement for Indicator 1 - Providers Who Prescribed at Least One Prescription Electronically was not demonstrated until Remeasurement Year 2.

The RBHAs (GMH/SA and SMI Integrated) will continue participation in the E-Prescribing PIP until demonstration of improvement that is sustained for one year as referenced above. AHCCCS is considering this PIP closed for all other lines of business as of CYE 2017, with this report serving as the E-Prescribing PIP Final Report.