

Measurement Framework

SHADAC Member-Centered Measurement Framework for Advancing Equity in Medicaid

SHADAC developed an organizing framework for measuring advances in health equity in Medicaid to engage in discussions with the project Advisory Committee during Meetings 1 and 2 about populations of interest and measurement concepts that could be elevated in a Medicaid Equity Monitoring Tool. A key finding from discussions with the Advisory Committee is that an initial iteration of the Medicaid Equity Monitoring Tool should include measures within each of the four key categories included in the SHADAC Member-Centered Measurement Framework for Advancing Equity in Medicaid: demographics, program structure and coverage, access, and outcomes.

To develop our framework, we reviewed multiple frameworks in the literature and discussed it with committee members. The image of the SHADAC framework included below draws from a four-tiered health system focused framework adapted from [Sivashanker, Duong, Resnick and Eappen](#) and a structural racism framework by [Yearby](#). We center the Medicaid system and the Medicaid member and ordered four measurement categories around them, starting with member demographic data, followed by program structure and coverage, access, and outcomes.

The Medicaid system and member are situated in the context of underlying factors, including discrimination (e.g., racism, ableism, classism), as well as the enacted laws, regulations, and policies which create the vital community conditions in which we live. Vital community conditions refers to the places and institutions that people need to reach their full potential, including social determinants of health such as access to food, housing, and meaningful work. Through our discussions to date, we have learned that we may not have the tools we need to measure progress and hold Medicaid accountable to structural changes. We recommend that a first iteration tool is designed to address these underlying factors of health inequities in the Medicaid program through narrative context rather than a measurement concept. But future versions of the tool would build out measurement for the underlying factors represented in the circles (see framework image below).

Following the SHADAC framework, we've provided additional detail about the measurement concepts that could be considered in an equity monitoring tool within each of the four measurement categories. The measurement concepts included are those most frequently mentioned during our convenings with the Advisory Committee and throughout our key informant interviews. Several of these measurement concepts could show up in multiple categories. While some concepts have more detail, others are still high-level. Future project phases will involve identifying and selecting measures and indicating how measures can or should be stratified to shed light on the experiences of specific populations of interest.

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A Member-Centered Measurement Framework for Advancing Equity in Medicaid

This framework includes four distinct categories, each representing measurement concepts for different parts of the Medicaid program. The categories are arranged in a specific sequence, representing both how a member interacts with Medicaid and a starting point for health equity related measurement activities. Measurement activities must also acknowledge and facilitate dismantling of the underlying factors of health inequities in the Medicaid system, including discriminatory laws, policies and regulations and their effect on vital community conditions, including social determinants of health.

Framework adapted from: "A Pragmatic 4-Tiered Measurement Framework for Advancing Health Care Equity" in Sivashanker, K., Duong, T., Resnick, A., & Eappen, S. (2020, September 1). Health care equity: From fragmentation to transformation. *NEJM Catalyst*. doi: [10.1056/CAT.20.0414](https://doi.org/10.1056/CAT.20.0414) and Yearby, R. (2020, September 22). [Structural Racism: The Root Cause of Social Determinants of Health](#). Bill of Health blog.

