

## Health Outcomes Survey Season is Approaching

The 2026 Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS) will be conducted from July 13 – November 2. This survey not only measures how well patients maintain or improve their health over time, it also directly impacts Medicare Star Ratings which can influence reputation and value-based reimbursement opportunities.

### The HOS and Why it Matters

The HOS is a standardized national survey sent to a random sample of Medicare Advantage patients. Patients are surveyed at baseline, and the same patients are surveyed again two years later to assess changes in their health status. The survey captures patients' self-reported physical and mental health status, as well as their experiences with care over the past 12 months, helping identify areas for improvement.

### How You Can Make a Difference

As clinicians, you play a pivotal role in driving patient engagement and supporting outcomes that are reflected in HOS results. Routine visits, including annual wellness visits, are key opportunities to engage patients in meaningful conversations around the topics covered in the survey:

- ✔ Improving or Maintaining Physical Health (responses are triple-weighted!)
- ✔ Improving or Maintaining Mental Health (responses are triple-weighted!)
- ✔ Monitoring Physical Activity
- ✔ Bladder Control
- ✔ Reducing Risk of Falling

### In Practice: Your Role as a Partner in Health

- ✔ Use visits to reinforce care plans and goal setting
- ✔ Screen for mobility, mood, and fall risk

- ✔ Encourage patient engagement in managing their health
- ✔ Address concerns proactively throughout the year, not just at annual visits

Focusing on these domains supports better patient outcomes and strengthens performance across the network. Consistent, proactive conversations help ensure patients can recall their care experience when completing the survey.

Let's work together to make every patient interaction count this HOS season!

For more information on the HOS survey, please contact the PHP Quality Department directly at [PHPQualityManagement@Providence.org](mailto:PHPQualityManagement@Providence.org).