



## HEALTH PLAN EMPLOYER DATA & INFORMATION SET (HEDIS)

Health Plan Employer Data & Information Set (HEDIS) is the most extensively used set of standardized performance measures in the managed care industry. HEDIS is used by over ninety percent of the country's managed care organizations, including Freedom Health, Inc. The National Committee Quality Assurance (NCQA) created HEDIS to assist employers' and consumers needs as purchasers of health care. HEDIS is designed to accommodate comparative reporting; it allows reliable comparison of managed health care plans based on the documented care given by providers.

### Scope:

Areas of care addressed by HEDIS are related to significant public health issues such as cancer, depression, breast cancer, heart disease, glaucoma, hypertension and diabetes. HEDIS contains over 60 measures in 8 domains of care. Each Health plan in Florida must undergo an audit of their HEDIS process, by an NCQA-certified audit firm, in order to report and publish their rates both nationally and in the State of Florida. Annually, both state and regulatory entities publish summary and plan-specific data pertinent to HEDIS reporting.

### HEDIS is required by:

- **NCQA** (The National Committee for Quality Assurance) for Accreditation.
- **CMS** (The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services,) to monitor health care quality and services provided by Medicare managed care plans.
- **AHCA** (The Agency for Healthcare Administration)

### In-Office HEDIS Chart Reviews:

Freedom Health, Inc will collect HEDIS 2007 data for Medicare populations and the care they received in 2006. Beginning in early 2007,

Freedom Health will be contacting provider offices to review medical records. This component is pivotal in the HEDIS process; and this data is used to augment the claims data maintained in our transaction system. Certain data is unavailable or not contained in the claims information submitted, e.g. blood pressure readings and the chart information from our network providers is an integral part of the success of HEDIS. HEDIS rates assist Freedom Health in assessing and improving the health care of all enrolled members. According to NCQA, improvements in data collection proficiency are as important as clinical improvements.

Effectiveness of provider medical care, evaluated for HEDIS, ranges from mammograms to micro-albuminuria testing, including cholesterol screening and hypertension management, to name a few. The calculated results are presented in terms of a rate for each measure by line of business; namely Medicare for Freedom Health. The data collected during the in-office chart review supplements claims data to determine accurate and comprehensive HEDIS rates.

### Performance Indicators:

Freedom Health will be undergoing measurement of our baseline HEDIS report; for care rendered in 2006. Once available, audited information relevant to Freedom Health's baseline HEDIS project will be published through the following sources, including but not limited to; Freedom Health newsletters, the Freedom Health website, state reports; **Choosing A Quality Health Plan: Florida HMO Report**; published annually by the Agency For Healthcare Administration and the [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) website.