



## The American Lung Association's Comments on proposed NCQA Health Plan Rating changes for Measure Year 2027

*On December 5, 2025, the American Lung Association submitted the following comments in response to NCQA's invitation to comment on proposed updates to Health Plan Ratings 2026 and 2027.*

The American Lung Association **does not support** the proposed removal of the Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR) Measure:

The American Lung Association does not support the proposed removal of the Asthma Medication Ratio (AMR) Measure from the 2027 Health Plan Ratings as it currently is written. While the emergence of Single Maintenance and Reliever Therapy (SMART) has posed challenges to calculating the AMR, it is essential that health plan ratings include a measure that incentivizes quality asthma care. Earlier this year, NCQA proposed a new HEDIS measure, [Follow-Up After Acute Care Visits for Asthma](#). This measure, or a similar measure, should be finalized and included in Health Plan Ratings before NCQA retires the AMR.

Quality measures are important for tracking asthma management and understanding treatment effectiveness. Asthma affects more than 26 million people in the United States, including 4.5 million children. Poorly managed asthma leads to nearly 2 million emergency department visits each year in the U.S. and accounted for over 94,000 hospitalizations in 2020. The Lung Association [previously supported](#) *Follow-Up After Acute Care Visits for Asthma* as a new HEDIS measure. This measure will encourage a stronger role for primary care in asthma management and provide a greater incentive for health plans to ensure that patients are receiving follow-up care from a medical home.

The Lung Association appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the NCQA's Proposed Measure Updates.