

PCHQR Program: COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Among Healthcare Personnel (PCH-38) Measure Updates

April 23, 2024

Speakers

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Purpose

This presentation will provide updates on the COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Among Healthcare Personnel (COVID-19 HCP Vaccination) measure, show the steps to enter COVID-19 HCP Vaccination measure data into the CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) for the upcoming data submission deadline, and address frequently asked questions.

Objectives

PCHQR Program participants will:

- Understand the COVID-19 HCP Vaccination measure specifications and updates.
- Apply the COVID-19 HCP Vaccination measure requirements for the PCHQR Program.
- Enter COVID-19 HCP Vaccination measure data into NHSN.
- Answer common questions regarding the COVID-19 HCP Vaccination measure.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

CAUTI	catheter-associated urinary tract infection	HPS	Healthcare Personnel Safety
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	MRSA	Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus
CDI	Clostridioides difficile Infection	NHSN	National Healthcare Safety Network
CLABSI	central line-associated bloodstream infection	РСН	PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital
CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services	PCHQR	PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital Quality Reporting
DACA	Data Accuracy and Completeness Acknowledgement	PPS	Prospective Payment System
HAI	Healthcare-Associated Infection	Q	quarter
HCAHPS	Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems Survey	SAMS	Secure Access Management Services
НСР	Health Care Personnel	SSI	surgical site infection

04/23/2024

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COVID-19 HCP Vaccination Measure in NHSN

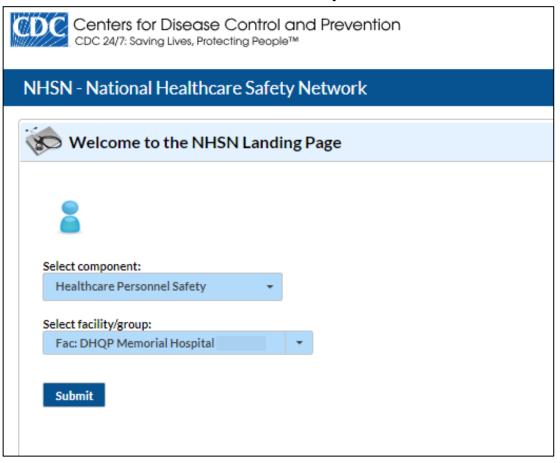
Getting Started in NHSN

Enrolling in NHSN

- Facilities that are currently not participating in NHSN and wish to participate must <u>enroll</u> their facility in NHSN. Please visit http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/enrollment/index.html for more information regarding the enrollment process.
- If you are unsure of your facility's status in NHSN, please submit a ticket through <u>Service Now</u>.
- Activating the Healthcare Personnel Safety (HPS) Component
 - Facilities that are <u>already enrolled</u> in NHSN and wish to participate in the HPS Component must <u>activate</u> the component within NHSN.
 - For information about the HPS Component, please visit <u>https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/hps/index.html</u>.

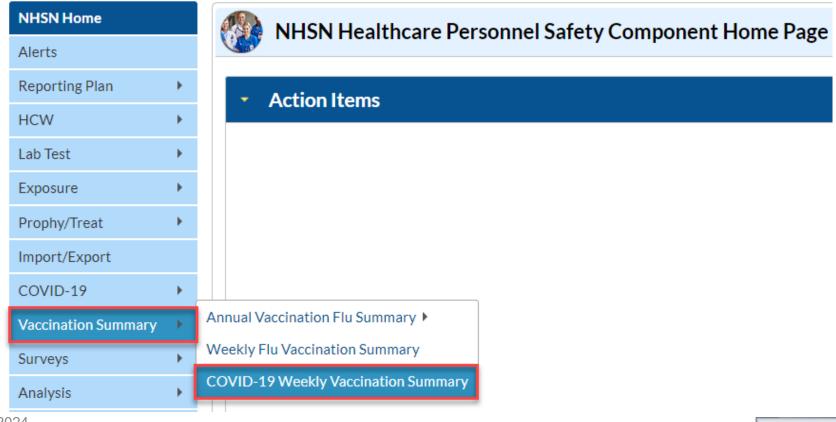
NHSN Landing Page

Select the component.



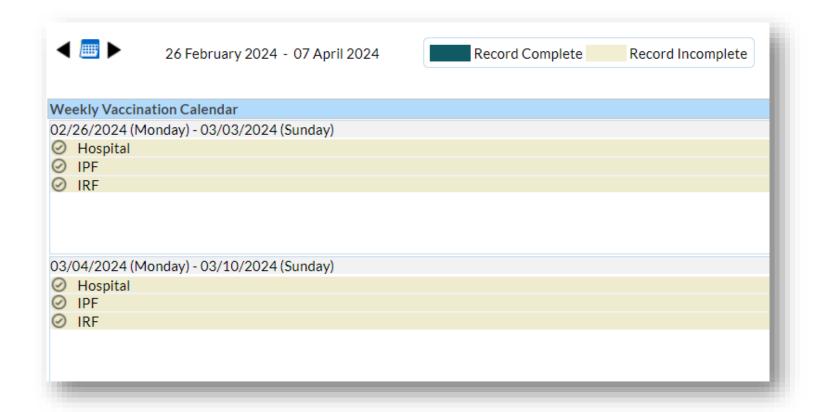
HPS Home Page

- Select Vaccination Summary on the left-hand navigation bar.
- Select COVID-19 Weekly Vaccination Summary.



Calendar Week

Click on the week you wish to enter data.

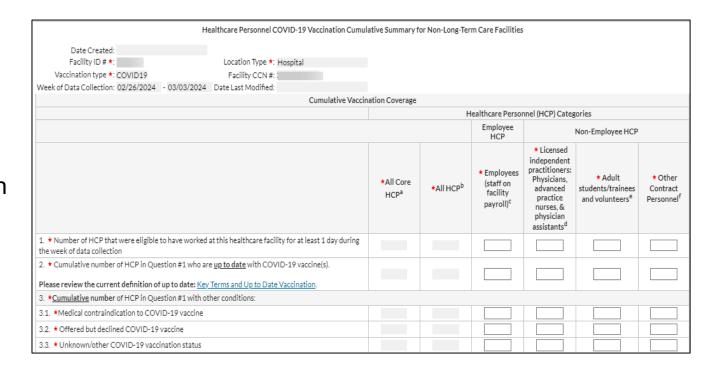


Three Key Required Questions for Weekly Vaccination Reporting

- 1. What is the number of HCP eligible to work at the facility?
- 2. What cumulative number of these HCP are <u>up to date</u> with COVID-19 vaccine(s)?
- 3. What cumulative number of these HCP have other conditions?
 - 3.1 Medical contraindication to COVID-19 Vaccine
 - 3.2 Offered but declined COVID-19 Vaccine
 - 3.3 Unknown/other COVID-19 Vaccine

Vaccination Summary Data

- Complete the required fields.
- Red asterisks indicate questions that must be completed.
- Use the tab key on a computer keyboard to move across columns.
- Enter 0 if no HCP are reported for a required field.



Saving HCP COVID-19 Vaccination Measure Data

Click on the Save button at the bottom of the screen after entering data.

Reminder for reporting to Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)

Please note that clinically significant adverse events following COVID-19 vaccination should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) at https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html. To help identify reports from NHSN sites, please enter your NHSN orgID in Box 26 of the VAERS form.

Clinically significant adverse events include vaccine administration errors and serious adverse events (such as death, life-threatening conditions, or inpatient hospitalization) that occur after vaccination, even if it is not certain that vaccination caused the event.

Other clinically significant adverse events may be described in the provider emergency use authorization (EUA) fact sheets or prescribing information for the COVID-19 vaccine(s). Healthcare providers should comply with VAERS reporting requirements described in EUAs or prescribing information.



Completing Data Collection Form

Review the Table of Instructions before collecting and entering data:

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/hps/weekly-covid-vac/index.html

Data Fields	Instructions for Completion			
	This number is the sum of employees (staff on facility payroll),			
All Core HCP	licensed independent practitioners (physicians, advanced practice			
All cole licr	nurses, & physician assistants) and adult students/trainees &			
	volunteers. This field is auto-populated by NHSN.			
	This number is the sum of employees (staff on facility payroll),			
All HCP	licensed independent practitioners (physicians, advanced practice			
All HCP	nurses, & physician assistants), adult students/trainees & volunteers,			
	and other contract personnel. This field is auto-populated by NHSN.			
Employee HCP	Required. Defined as all persons receiving a direct paycheck from the			
(Staff on facility payroll)	healthcare facility (i.e., on the facility's payroll), regardless of clinical			
(Stair on facility payroll)	responsibility or patient contact.			
	Required. Defined as physicians (MD, DO); advanced practice nurses;			
Non-Employee HCP (Licensed	and physician assistants only who are affiliated with the healthcare			
independent practitioners:	facility, but are not directly employed by it (i.e., they do not receive a			
Physicians, advanced practice	paycheck from the facility), regardless of clinical responsibility or			
nurses, & physician assistants)	patient contact. Post-residency fellows are also included in this			

Lori Haas, Health Scientist, CDC Elizabeth Kalayil, Public Health Analyst, Lantana Consulting Group, Inc.

Key Updates to the COVID-19 HCP Measure

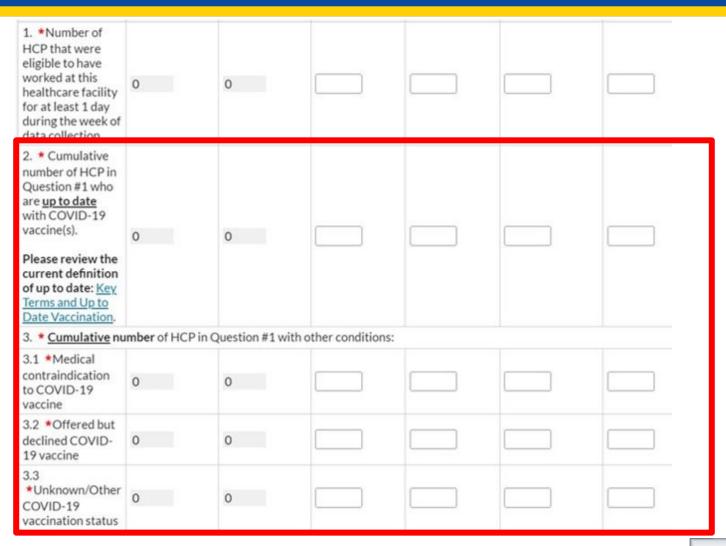
Summary Level Reporting – Up to Date Vaccination Status

- Definition of "up to date" for NHSN surveillance may change over time!
- Facilities should use the definitions outlined in the following document for each quarter:
 - Understanding Key Terms and Up to Date Vaccination
- Reporting periods for COVID-19 vaccination data:
 - Quarter 4 of 2023 (September 25–December 31, 2023)
 - Quarter 1 of 2024 (January 1–March 31, 2024)
 - Quarter 2 of 2024 (April 1–June 30, 2024)
 - Quarter 3 of 2024 (July 1–September 30, 2024)

Up to Date Status (Quarter 1 2024)

- Beginning January 1, 2024, Up to Date vaccination for healthcare personnel is now captured in Question #2 (formerly Question #4).
- Data on primary series vaccination are no longer collected.
- HCP should NOT be counted as up to date with COVID-19 vaccines until they receive the 2023–2024 updated COVID-19 vaccine.
 - Be careful not to incorrectly over-report the number of HCP who are not up to date.
- Questions 3.1–3.3 will now refer to HCP who are not up to date in Question #2.

Quarter 1 2024 Form (January 1, 2024)



Up to Date Status Beginning Quarter 2 2024 (April 1, 2024)

 The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and the CDC provided new recommendations of COVID-19 vaccines for individuals 65 and older.

Individuals aged <u>65 years and older</u> are up to date when they have: Received 2 doses of the updated 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccine **or**

Received 1 dose of the updated 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccine in the past four months.

 There is no change to the "up to date" definition for individuals younger than 65 years.

Individuals aged <u>less than 65 years</u> are up to date when they have: Received 1 dose of the updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine.

Person-Level Reporting

- The Person-Level COVID-19 Vaccination Form is an optional tool that you can use to report data to the NHSN HCP COVID-19 Vaccination module
- Data on individual HCP are directly entered line by line in the optional Person-Level COVID-19 Vaccination Form or you can upload the data via a .CSV file
- This makes reporting vaccination data easier and more efficient!

Person-Level Reporting

- Definition of up to date for NHSN surveillance may change over time!
- Reporting per definitions applies

 Understanding Keyel for your auon

 Reporting per definitions for auon data

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 - - - - 3 of 2024 (July 1-September 30, 2024)

Report Resources

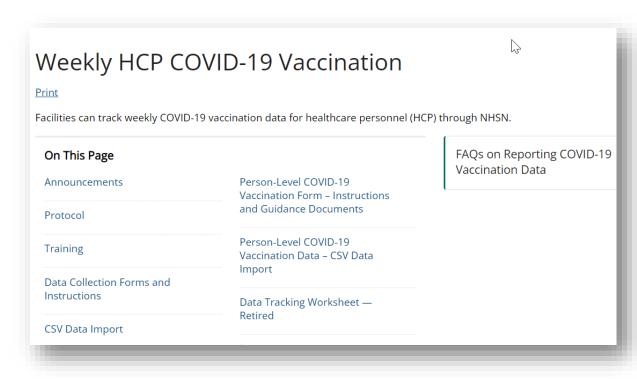
- A Line Listing Report is one type of report that is particularly useful for facilities.
- For more information on that report and other reports on NHSN, please see the following resources:
 - Line List of COVID-19 Vaccination Data:
 Quick Reference Guide, How to Run Reports for Healthcare Personnel Safety (HPS) Component (cdc.gov)
 - Bar Charts of COVID-19 Vaccination Data:
 Quick Reference Guide, How to Create bar charts for COVID-19 vaccination data (cdc.gov)

NHSN Resources

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/hps/weekly-covid-vac/index.html

Training materials include the following:

- Data collection forms
- Tables of instructions
- Person-level resources
- Training slides
- Analysis and reporting guides
- .CSV file resources



NHSN Questions

- Use NHSN-ServiceNow to submit questions to the NHSN Help Desk. You can access the new portal here in place of nhsndua@cdc.gov, and nhsndua@cdc.gov.
- ServiceNow will help the NHSN team respond to your questions faster. Users will be authenticated using CDC's Secure Access Management Services (SAMS), the same way you access NHSN. If you do not have a SAMS login, or you are unable to access ServiceNow, you can still email the NHSN Help Desk at nhsn@cdc.gov.

Lisa Vinson, Program Lead, PCHQR Program

PCHQR Program Requirements for the COVID-19 HCP Vaccination Measure

Reporting Requirements

- PCHs will collect the numerator and denominator for the COVID-19 HCP Vaccination measure for at least one self-selected week during the month of the reporting quarter and submit to NHSN before the quarterly deadline.
 - Each quarter, the CDC will calculate a single quarterly COVID-19 HCP Vaccination coverage rate for each PCH by taking the average of the data from the three weekly rates.
 - CMS will publicly report each quarterly COVID-19 HCP Vaccination coverage rate as calculated by the CDC.
- Data will be submitted quarterly following reporting deadlines for the PCHQR Program.

Data Submission

- CMS and the CDC encourage weekly reporting of the data.
- Hospitals will only be required to submit by the quarterly submission deadline.
 - For example, for the Quarter (Q) 4 2023 reporting period, hospitals will be required to submit all three months of data by the May 15, 2024, submission deadline.
 - The hospital meets submission requirements if the CDC can calculate a quarterly rate.
- CMS typically allows 4.5 months for hospitals to add new data and submit, resubmit, change, and delete existing data up until the submission deadline.
 - Data should be submitted well before the deadline to allow time to review the data for accuracy and make necessary corrections.
- Data can be modified in NHSN at any time; if modified in NHSN after the submission deadline, data are <u>not</u> sent to CMS nor used in CMS programs.

Check Data for Compliance with CMS PCHQR Program

Submit data for at least one week for each month, per quarter.

- Facilities can select any week within the month to report data.
- If the week starts in one month and ends in another, NHSN uses the last day of the week to determine the month of data you are submitting.
- COVID-19 vaccination data should be submitted by the end of the quarter, as defined by CMS.

Nove	mber 20	023			^	~
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26		28	29	30		2
3		5	6		8	9

Example: Reporting data for the week of November 27, 2023, through December 3, 2023, counts for a week in December (not November).

Submission Deadlines for PCHQR Program

Calendar Years 2023 and 2024

Event Dates	Reporting Period	Submission Deadline	
Q4 2023	October 1-December 31, 2023	May 15, 2024	
Q1 2024	January 1–March 31, 2024	August 15, 2024	
Q2 2024	April 1–June 30, 2024	November 18, 2024	
Q3 2024	July 1-September 30, 2024	February 18, 2025	
Q4 2024	October 1-December 31, 2024	May 15, 2025	

PCHQR Measure Submission Deadlines by Due Date

<u>QualityNet – PCHQR Program Resources Page</u>

Due Date	CLABSI/CAUTI/ SSI/MRSA/CDI*	Flu HCP Vac*	COVID-19 HCP Vac*	HCAHPS	DACA
10/04/2023	N/A	N/A	N/A	Q2 2023 (4/1–6/30)	N/A
11/15/2023	Q2 2023 (4/1–6/30)	N/A	Q2 2023 (4/1–6/30)	N/A	N/A
01/03/2024	N/A	N/A	N/A	Q3 2023 (7/1–9/30)	N/A
02/15/2024	Q3 2023 (7/1–9/30)	N/A	Q3 2023 (7/1–9/30)	N/A	N/A
04/03/2024	N/A	N/A	N/A	Q4 2023 (10/1-12/31)	N/A
05/15/2024	Q4 2023 (10/1–12/31)	Q4 2023-Q1 2024 (10/1/23-3/31/24)	Q4 2023 (10/1–12/31)	N/A	N/A
07/03/2024	N/A	N/A	N/A	Q1 2024 (1/1–3/31)	N/A
08/15/2024	Q1 2024 (1/1–03/31)	N/A	Q1 2024 (1/1–03/31)	N/A	N/A
09/03/2024	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	For FY 2025
10/02/2024	N/A	N/A	N/A	Q2 2024 (4/1–6/30)	N/A
11/18/2024	Q2 2024 (4/1–6/30)	N/A	Q2 2024 (4/1–6/30)	N/A	N/A

^{*} Data are submitted to the CDC via NHSN.

Public Reporting

COVID-19 HCP data are publicly reported on the data catalog on data.cms.gov every quarter in January, April, July, and October.

Upcoming Release	Quarters Displayed
April 2024	Q2 2023
July 2024	Q3 2023
October 2024	Q4 2023
January 2025	Q1 2024

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Frequently Asked Questions

Vaccination Status

Question: For HCP who have a religious exemption for the vaccine, will hospitals be penalized since it is entered as declined?

Answer: Facilities should report COVID-19 vaccination summary data through NHSN per CDC guidance. For CMS, if the CDC can calculate a quarterly rate and submit it to CMS, then the facility will meet the reporting requirements and would not be subject to any penalties.

HCP Categories

Question: Is there any guidance for who qualifies as "HCP" versus "Non-HCP"?

Answer: HCP are included regardless of clinical responsibility or patient contact. Refer to the <u>Table of Instructions for Completion of the Weekly HCP COVID-19 Vaccination Cumulative Summary</u> for further guidance.

Reporting Requirements

Question: How long will weekly reporting continue?

Answer: For CMS, the requirement to report at least one week per month of the HCP COVID-19 Vaccination measure will continue until further notice. Any substantive changes to the measure or removal of the measure would be proposed in future rule making.

Reporting Requirements

Question: Is it a federal requirement to report HCP COVID-19 Vaccination measure data via NHSN to pass the reporting of the measure?

Answer: Yes, in the fiscal year 2022 Inpatient Prospective Payment System/Long-Term Care Hospital PPS final rule, CMS finalized that hospitals would collect the numerator and denominator for the HCP COVID-19 Vaccination measure for at least one self-selected week during each month of the reporting quarter and submit the data to the NHSN HPS Component before the CMS quarterly deadline to meet quality reporting program requirements.

Data Submission

Question: What is the submission deadline? Are we required to report one week a month?

Answer: The submission of the COVID-19 HCP Vaccination measure follows the same submission timeline as the other healthcare-associated infection (HAI) measures. The next deadline for submitting Q4 2023 data is May 15, 2024.

Yes, PCHs are required report one week of COVID-19 HCP measure data per month.

CMS Reporting

Question: Will CMS pull data out of NHSN, or will hospitals enter denominator and numerator data manually into the *Hospital Quality* Reporting Secure Portal?

Answer: The CDC transmits data to CMS periodically during the submission period and immediately following the CMS quarterly submission deadline. Hospitals will not enter data manually into the Hospital Quality Reporting Secure Portal.

CMS Reports and Public Reporting

Question: Will the COVID-19 vaccination metrics be publicly reported?

Answer: With the adoption of this measure, public reporting began in October 2022 using data collected from Q4 2021 (October 1, 2021–December 31, 2021). Since this time, the most recent quarter of data has been reported in each refresh. Additional quarters of data during each advancing refresh (i.e., each refresh will not display four rolling quarters of data).

Calendar Week, Monthly Reporting Plan, and Reporting

Question: Why does the CDC request weekly data if they are only going to use the most recent week submitted/reported?

Answer: Facilities are encouraged to report HCP COVID-19 vaccination summary counts on a weekly basis so data can be used to inform COVID-19 vaccination activities at the facility and to monitor national trends for public health surveillance purposes.

NHSN Data Entry

Question: Will NHSN have a CMS report that reflects data sent to CMS for the HCP COVID-19 Vaccination measure?

Answer: Facilities can generate data reports using the NHSN analysis and reporting functions.

 For example, facilities can run the CMS COVID-19 Rate Table Reports: <u>February 2024 –</u>
 <u>Quick Reference Guide CMS Rate Table (cdc.gov)</u>

It is recommended to allow ample time before the submission deadline to review and, if necessary, correct your HCP data. Data that are modified in NHSN after the CMS submission deadline are not sent to CMS and will not be publicly reported.

Lisa Vinson, Program Lead, PCHQR Program

Key Reminders and Resources

Key Program Reminders

- Upcoming Data Submission Deadlines
 - o May 15, 2024
 - Q4 2023 HAI measure data
 - Q4 2023 COVID-19 HCP Vaccination measure data
 - Q4 2023–Q1 2024 Influenza HCP Vaccination measure data
- Public Reporting
 - April 2024 Release
 - Q3 2022–Q2 2023 Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) Survey data
 - Q3 2022–Q2 2023 HAI measure data
 - Q2 2023 COVID-19 HCP Vaccination measure data

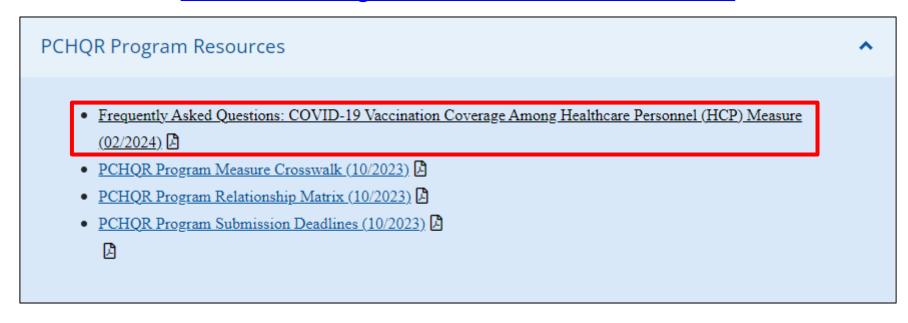
QualityNet Resources

PCHQR Program Resources

Program Resources Web Resources	PCHQR Program Resources			
	File Name	File Type	File Size	
Forms	Frequently Asked Questions: COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Among	PDF	414 KB	Download
Final Rules	Healthcare Personnel (HCP) Measure (February 2024)			
	Fall 2023 PCHQR Program Manual (11/2023)	PDF	2.7 MB	Download
	PCHQR Program Data Submission Deadlines (10/2023)	PDF	191 KB	Download
	PCHQR Program Measure Crosswalk (10/2023)	PDF	268 KB	Download
	PCHQR Program Measure to Public Reporting Period Relationship Matrix (10/2023)	PDF	257 KB	Download

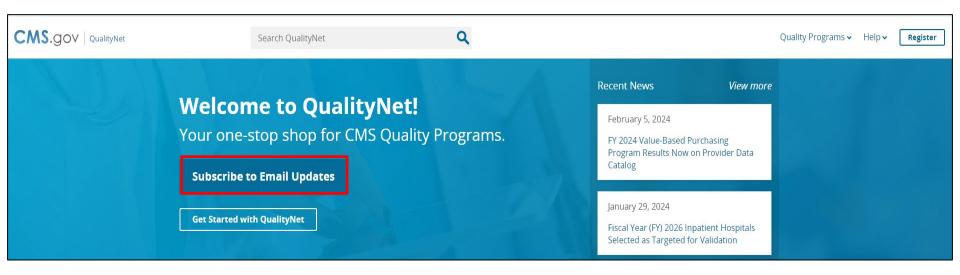
Quality Reporting Center Resources

PCHQR Program Resources and Tools

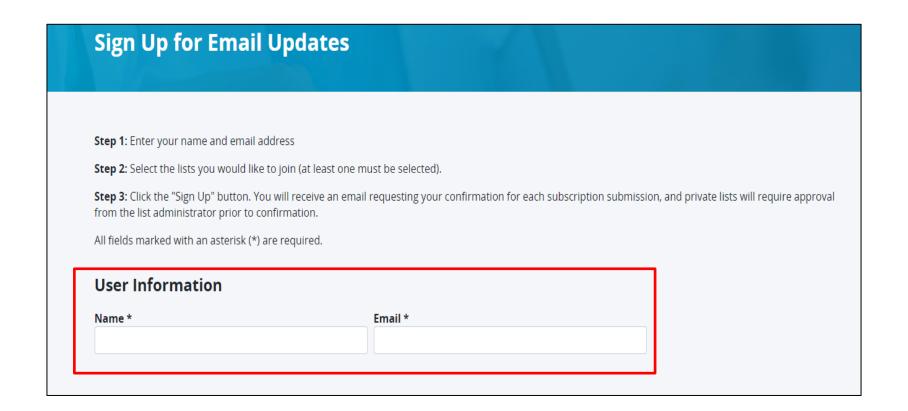


Getting Started: Receiving Program Notifications

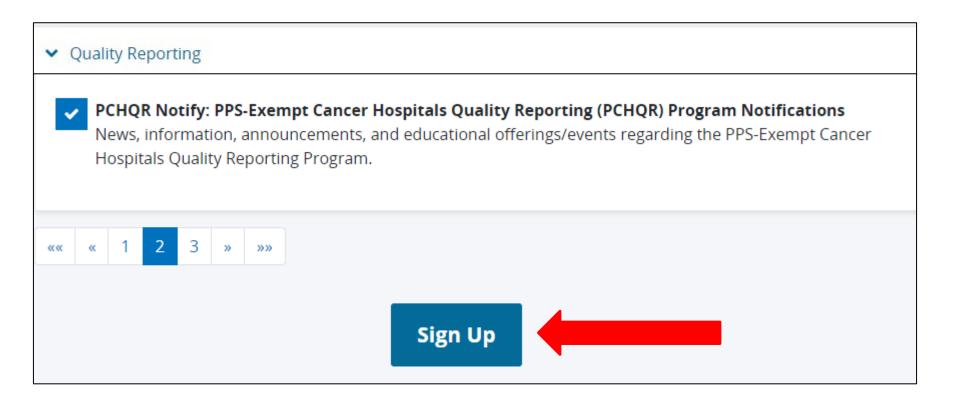
QualityNet Home Page



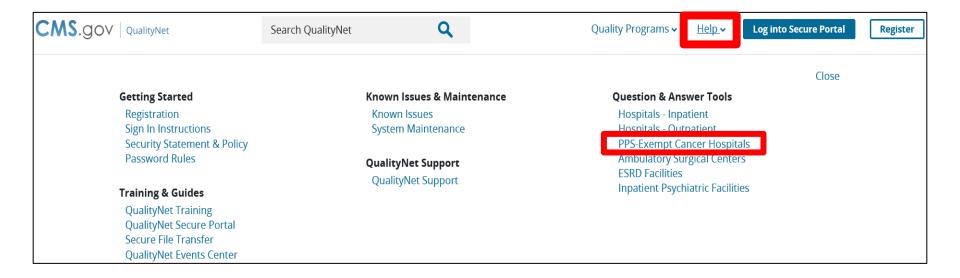
User Information



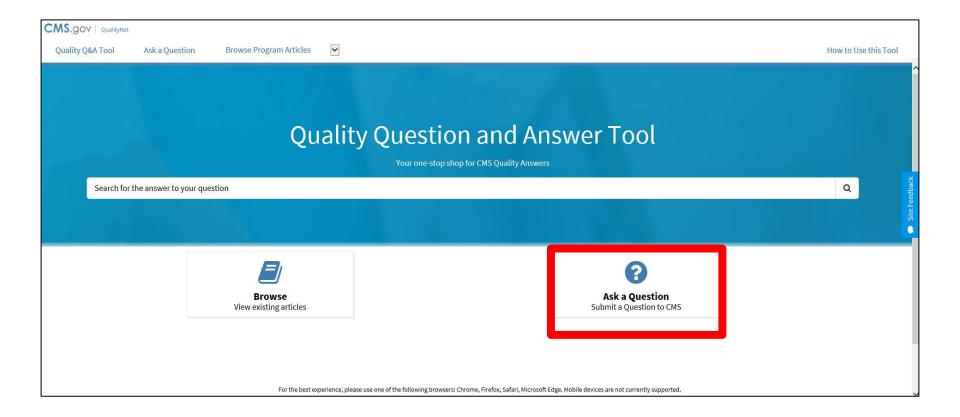
Program Selection and Sign Up



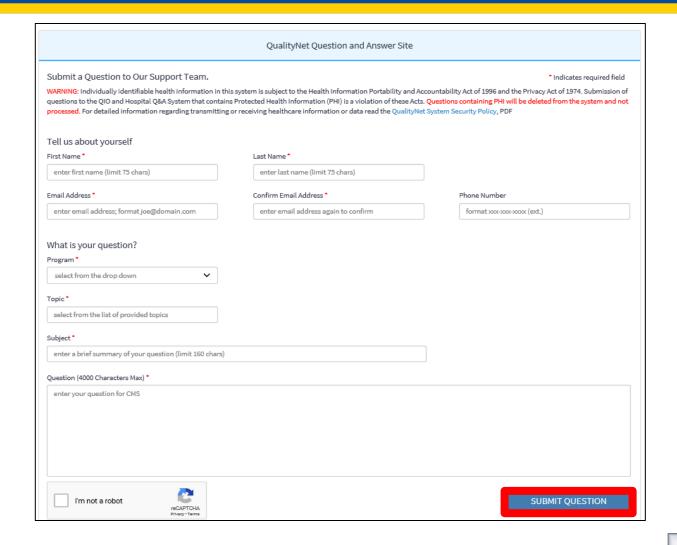
Accessing the QualityNet Questions and Answers Tool



Ask a Question



Submit a Question



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Closing Remarks

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