



PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital Quality Reporting (PCHQR) Program

Support Contractor

PCHQR Program: A Year in Review and a Look Ahead

Questions and Answers

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Question 1: Did you say that all four new end-of-life (EOL) measures are claims-based? Just want to verify.

Yes, that is correct. The four new EOL measures are claims-based measures. CMS will calculate the measure results from the claims data submitted; therefore, there is no data submission necessary by the PCHQR Program providers. Thank you for your question.

Question 2: I am a vendor, seeking clarification. The Outpatient Quality Reporting (OQR) Program published release notes dated 6/29/17 that showed new exclusions for OP-33 (External Beam Radiotherapy for Bone Metastases [EBRT]). The exclusions are: patient declines treatment; economic, social, or religious reasons; and, most notably, patients with a primary diagnosis of multiple myeloma (ICD-10-CM codes C90.00–C90.02). While I see the patient declines treatment and the economic, social, or religious reasons as exclusions in the PCHQR manual, I do not see the multiple myeloma exclusion. Can you tell me if this will be an exclusion for NQF #1822 (EBRT) in the PCHQR manual for this measure, beginning Calendar Year 2018?

At this time, we have not received any communication or direction stating that multiple myeloma should be added to the *PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital Quality Reporting Program Manual*. If/when this information is received, a communication will be sent out to the PCH community. Thank you for your question.

Question 3: As the EOL measures are claims-based measures, has there been any announcement of plans to conduct a dry run of these measures, as is usually done with claims-based measures? Thank you!

Thank you for your inquiry. There has not been an announcement pertaining to plans to conduct a dry run for the EOL measures. We will communicate these details once they become available.



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Question 4: **The dry run for the measure, Admissions and Emergency Department (ED) Visits for Patients Receiving Outpatient Chemotherapy, was very instructive. Many PCHs submitted comments to the measure developer. Has a time frame for communicating the results of the dry run and any changes to the measure specifications been established? Appreciate any updated information that can be provided. Thanks!**

Presently, a time frame has not yet been established regarding communicating the results of the dry run or any changes to the measure specifications. We will relay this information once it becomes available. Thank you for your question.