



Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting Program

Support Contractor

CY 2020 OPPS/ASC Proposed Rule: Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting (ASCQR) Program

Questions & Answers

Speaker:

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- Question:** We usually bill out 1-3 days after surgeries are performed. If we are waiting to confirm there are no hospital visits 7-days post-op, are you suggesting we hold our Medicare claims for that period for the new measure ASC-19?
- Answer:** No. This is proposed to be a claims-based measure. If this measure is finalized, the data will be captured by paid Medicare claims. There will not be an obligation on the part of the ASC to confirm a hospital visit and there will be no need to withhold billing.
- Question:** I used to get reports on ASC-12, but I have not received one for a long time. How do we get these?
- Answer:** Facility-Specific Report (FSR) will be released in October 2019 (or shortly thereafter) and will be based on data from January 1, 2016-December 31, 2018.
- Question:** For ASC-19, how are the unplanned hospital admissions captured? Are they captured from hospital reporting?
- Answer:** No, if this measure is finalized, the data will be captured via paid Medicare claims.
- Question:** Please clarify payment determination (PD) year. For example, Calendar Year (CY) 2021 PD. This would be data from when, 2019?



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- Answer:** Yes. CY 2021 PD correlates with the 2019 patient encounters. This data is then submitted during the submission period in 2020, for payment in CY 2021.
- Question:** I'm unclear whether we're still to report on ASC 1-4. Is it not mandated but reporting is recommended?
- Answer:** No, reporting of ASC 1-4 is currently suspended. CMS is looking for comment on an alternate submission method. However, if your ASC is still applying Quality Data Codes (QDCs), it will not be collected by CMS, and there will be no negative consequence to your ASC.
- Question:** Which measure would pain management, such as stimulator implant, use for unplanned hospital stay?
- Answer:** The ASCQR program does not have a pain management measure. The proposed ASC-19 measure addresses unplanned hospital visits after general surgery procedures performed at ASCs.
- Question:** Do some of these measures have a 2-year data collection period?
- Answer:** Yes. Details for data collection timeframes for each measure can be located in the Specification's Manual, QualityNet, and our website www.qualityreportingcenter.com.
- Question:** Do you know how CMS started looking at hospitalizations of general surgery or urology? Why those procedures?
- Answer:** The measure assesses the patient outcome in the ASC setting as measures ASC-17, -18, and -19 address common procedures in this setting. You may wish to refer to the Proposed Rule for details on this information.
- Question:** Where may we access Medicare's list of covered ASC procedures?
- Answer:** You can refer to the Proposed Rule, the following link will provide additional information on this proposed measure.
<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/HospitalQualityInits/Measure-Methodology.html>.
- Question:** For the ASC-17 measure, are these unplanned hospital visits involving patients going from ASC post-surgery to a hospital or is this patient going home after surgery then going to the hospital from home?



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- Answer:** It would not matter if the patient went to the hospital from home or from the facility. The measure estimates a facility-level rate of risk-standardized, all-cause, unplanned hospital visits within 7-days of an Orthopedic surgery at an ASC among Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) patients aged 65 years and older.
- Question:** We are a strictly a Gastrointestinal (GI) facility. I just want to clarify, ASC-19 will not apply to GI procedures (colonoscopy & upper endoscopy). Is this correct?
- Answer:** The measure metric is all-cause, unplanned hospital visits within seven days of any general surgery procedure performed at an ASC. The data will be captured via paid Medicare claims meeting the measure criteria.
- Question:** We don't do orthopedic surgeries at our ASC so I'm unfamiliar with this process. What will the data format look like?
- Answer:** If your ASC does not perform the applicable procedures, it will not receive a report.
- Question:** Where can we find the measure criteria for ASC-9?
- Answer:** The Specification Manual which can be found on the QualityNet website, at: <https://qualitynet.org/asc>. For the 2019 patient encounters, you will use version 8.0b.