

**Reference #:** 2021-140-IP  
**From:** Quality Reporting Notifications  
**Sent:** December 22, 2021  
**To:** ListServe Recipients  
**Subject:** The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will update the Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings in April 2022.

CMS will update the Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings (Overall Star Ratings) in conjunction with the April 2022 Care Compare refresh. Measure data from the July 2021 Care Compare release will be used to calculate the Overall Star Ratings.

Overall Star Ratings are meant to capture a hospital's performance as a snapshot in time. Shifts in hospital's Overall Star Ratings are expected as measures are added, removed, and/or updated on Care Compare, and as data periods for various measures are refreshed. Summary score ranges will change from release to release due to the underlying distribution of hospital data.

Additionally, the Overall Star Rating is based on a hospital's performance compared to across all hospitals in the nation.

In response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), CMS announced their support for clinicians on the front lines by reducing burden on the healthcare delivery system by granting exceptions from reporting requirements and extensions for providers participating in Medicare quality reporting programs with respect to measure reporting and data submissions for programs. CMS provided further relief and clarified that they will not publicly report data collected during 1st and 2nd quarter 2020.

Due to CMS excluding 1st and 2nd quarter 2020 data from being used for performance, quality reporting, value-based payment programs or being publicly reported, the reporting collection periods for the July 2021 refresh were updated to not include data from those quarters. Therefore, the data from those quarters are not included in Overall Star Ratings calculations.

For more information, please refer to this [Listserve](#).

Although the July 2021 measure reporting periods were impacted by measurement reporting exceptions announced by CMS, a comparison to other quarter release data concluded the July refresh was the least heavily impacted by the exceptions.

A National Provider Call for Overall Star Ratings will be held in early 2022, The purpose of the event is to provide a presentation and interactive session to the public focused on a brief overview of the Overall Star Ratings methodology as well as the impact of CMS' data waiver for the first and second quarters of 2020 data on the underlying measures used to calculate 2022 Star Ratings. More information will be announced at a later date.