

Reference #: 2021-06-PCH

From: Inpatient VIQR Support Contractor
Sent: February 9, 2021
To: IQR, PCH, HVBP, eCQM Listserv
Subject: Q3 2020 HCAHPS and CY 2020 eCQM Submission Deadline Extensions

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is modifying the previously extended deadline for Q3 2020 submission of Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) data and extending the submission deadline for electronic clinical quality measures (eCQM).

This extension is for acute care hospitals and PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospitals, and affects the following programs and deadlines:

Program	Affected Measure/Requirement	Original Deadline Date	Extended Deadline Date
Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program	Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS)	January 6, 2021*	March 17, 2021
	eQMs: Reporting ED-2, PC-05, STK-2, STK-3, STK-5, STK-6, VTE-1, VTE-2	March 1, 2021	April 1, 2021
PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital Quality Reporting (PCHQR) Program	HCAHPS	January 6, 2021*	March 17, 2021
Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program for Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals	Clinical Quality Measures ED-2, PC-05, STK-2, STK-3, STK-5, STK-6, VTE-1, VTE-2 (electronically or attestation) and report on four objectives: Electronic prescribing, Health Information Exchange, Provider to Patient Exchange, Public Health and Clinical Data Exchange	March 1, 2021	April 1, 2021

* This deadline was previously extended from January 6 to February 8, 2021.

Although the data submission deadlines have been extended, the processes for collecting and submitting these data have not changed. These extensions do not affect any future deadlines. CMS will continue to monitor the situation for potential adjustments and will update submission deadlines accordingly as events occur.

Extraordinary Circumstances Exceptions (ECE)

In the event that your hospital is unable to submit data or meet requirements due to an extraordinary circumstance, you may request an individual exception. Please refer to the ECE request process and form specific to the individual programs below for additional information.

- ECE process (for both eCQM and non-eCQM ECEs): Forms are located on the program pages at <https://qualitynet.cms.gov/>.
- Questions: Please contact the Outreach and Education Support Team at https://cmsqualitysupport.servicenowservices.com/qnet_qa?id=ask_a_question or (844) 472-4477.

Medicare Promoting Interoperability Hardship Application

Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) are required to participate in the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program. Eligible Hospitals and CAHs may be exempted from the Medicare downward payment adjustment if they can show that compliance with the requirement for being a meaningful EHR user would result in significant hardship.

- Medicare Hardship Exception Information and application are located on the program pages: https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/PaymentAdj_Hardship
- Please contact the *QualityNet* Help Desk for assistance at qnet-support@hcqis.org or (866) 288-8912.

Please do not respond directly to this email.