Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program

Support Contractor

Measure Collaboration Workspace Webinar Series – Session 1: eCQI Resource Center, Hybrid Measure, Measure Collaboration Workspace, and the CMS Measures Inventory Tool

Questions and Answers

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Any references or links to statutes, regulations, and/or other policy materials included are provided as summary information. No material contained therein is intended to take the place of either written laws or regulations. In the event of any conflict between the information provided by the question-and-answer session and any information included in any Medicare rules and/or regulations, the rules and regulations shall govern. The specific statutes, regulations, and other interpretive materials should be reviewed independently for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

Subject-matter experts researched and answered the following questions after the live webinar. The questions may have been edited for grammar.

Question 1:	**Would we have a separate login for the eCQI Resource Center than the Quality Payment Program (QPP) website?**
	That is correct. The eCQI Resource Center (https://ecqi.healthit.gov/) is a separate website from the QPP website (https://qpp.cms.gov/).
Question 2:	**Why are federal acute care hospitals excluded from the Hybrid Hospital-Wide Readmission (HWR) measure?**
	Federal acute care hospitals are not excluded; most are not in the Medicare fee-for-service payment program. The Hybrid HWR Measure is designed to extract the first captured set of vital signs and basic laboratory results obtained on Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) patients admitted to acute care short stay hospitals. Reporting of the Hybrid HWR Measure is applicable to subsection (d) hospitals.
Question 3:	**On the eCQI Resource Center, are the eCQM annual updates for the 2021 reporting period considered final at this point?**
	The 2021 eCQM specifications are considered final. The eCQMs for the 2021 submission/performance period for Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals are final. The eCQMs for the 2021 submission/performance period for Eligible Clinicians and Eligible Professionals will be final when the Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS)/Long-Term Care Hospital Prospective Payment System (LTCH PPS) final rule, Physician Fee Schedule final rule, QPP final rule, and Promoting Interoperability final rule are published.

Question 4:   **Can Ambulatory Surgical Centers use the eCQI Resource Center?**

CMS uses the CMS.gov website for Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting (ASCQR) Program educational materials for outpatient care in hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers: https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/ASC-Quality-Reporting.

Question 5:   **Instructions to register as a user for each of these sites would be helpful. Do you have to set up a new account to access each tool mentioned today?**

A user account is not needed to view information contained in the eCQI Resource Center and the CMS Measures Inventory Tool (CMIT). You will need a user account to submit content or comment, such as a Proposed eCQM Concept, in the Measure Collaboration Workspace. You can create that account from this link: https://ecqi.healthit.gov/user/register

Question 6:   **Does CMS automatically review National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) measure changes and update the measures here? For example, Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis has changed to Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in All Patients with Acute Bronchitis in 2020 (to expand the age range).**

CMS reviews and updates all eCQMs used in the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MBIPS) and Hospital IQR Program./ without regard for the measure owner.

Question 7:   **Do we need a username and password to use the CMS Measures Inventory Tool (CMIT)?**

Use of CMIT does not require a username or password.