



**PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital Quality Reporting (PCHQR) Program**  
**Inpatient Value, Incentives, and Quality Reporting (VIQR)**  
**Outreach and Education Support Contractor**

**PCHQR Program:**  
**End-of-Year Review and Look Ahead**

**Presentation Transcript**

**Speaker**

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## **PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital Quality Reporting (PCHQR) Program**

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**Lisa Vinson:**

Welcome and thank you for joining today's webinar entitled: *PCHQR Program: End-of-Year Review and Look Ahead*. My name is Lisa Vinson, and I serve as the Program Lead for the PCHQR Program with the Inpatient, Value, Incentives, and Quality Reporting, or VIQR, Outreach and Education Support Contractor. I will be the speaker for today's event. As the title suggests, I will be reviewing the PCHQR Program events, updates, and changes that have occurred this year, calendar year 2022. Then, we will look ahead to what's in store for next year, calendar year 2023. The slides, transcript, questions, and answers from today's webinar will be posted to the [QualityNet](#) website, as well as the [Quality Reporting Center](#) website.

If you have questions while viewing today's presentation, please send an email to [webinarquestions@hsag.com](mailto:webinarquestions@hsag.com), and be sure to include in the subject line the full title of today's event, which is *PCHQR Program: End-of-Year Review and Look Ahead*. In the body of the email, place your question along with the slide number, if applicable. If you have questions unrelated to the webinar topic, please submit them using the [QualityNet Question and Answer Tool](#). If you are unfamiliar with this tool, I will discuss the steps to successfully submit an inquiry later in this presentation.

Acronyms and abbreviations you will hear today include C-Y, for calendar year; F-S-R, for Facility-Specific Report; F-Y, for fiscal year; E-O-L, for End of Life; M-F-T, for Managed File Transfer; and P-D-C, for Provider Data Catalog. Please keep this slide available, as it can be used as a great reference tool throughout this presentation, particularly if you are not very familiar with our program's frequently used terms.

The purpose of today's event is to provide a recap of this year's PCHQR Program key events and updates and provide insight into upcoming key events and changes for calendar year 2023.

At the end of today's presentation, we hope that you will be able to recall this year's significant program events and changes and summarize upcoming events and changes.

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Now, we will begin our discussion with a recap of this year, 2022, starting with key events. We will start with the final rule publication.

One of the program's major key events is the publication of the final rule. This year's final rule was published in the *Federal Register* on August 10, 2022. Each year, when the proposed rule is published, CMS encourages the public to submit comments for those topics CMS is seeking input, which they highly value. In the Fiscal Year 2023 IPPS/LTCH PPS Final Rule, the finalized changes, outlined on this slide, were made impacting the PCHQR Program. We will take a closer look at each of these changes on the next series slides.

As denoted on this slide by the red box, public reporting for the 30-Day Unplanned Readmissions for Cancer Patients and four End of Life, or EOL, measures was specified in the FY 2023 IPPS/LTCH PPS Final Rule. Public reporting of PCH-36 is anticipated to begin in October 2023, and public reporting for the four EOL measures was delayed until July 2024. We will look at these measures and the public reporting timeline closer later in this presentation.

The next series of slides display a complete list of the finalized FY 2024 PCHQR Program measure set, organized by category. As displayed on this and the subsequent slides, the short name, PCH number, and full measure name are included. The first category is the Safety and Healthcare-Associated Infection, or HAI, which includes a total of seven measures: CAUTI, CLABSI, Influenza HCP, SSI for colon and abdominal hysterectomy, MRSA, CDI, and COVID-19 HCP.

The next category is Clinical Process/Oncology Care Measures, or OCMs, which includes two EOL measures: Proportion of Patients Who Died from Cancer Receiving Chemotherapy in the Last 14 Days of Life, or PCH-32, and PCH-34, which is Proportion of Patients Who Died from Cancer Not Admitted to Hospice. Next is the Intermediate Clinical Outcome measures category, which include the remaining two EOL measures:

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PCH-33, Proportion of Patients Who Died from Cancer Admitted to the Intensive Care Unit , or ICU, in the Last 30 Days of Life, and PCH-35, Proportion of Patients Who Died from Cancer Admitted to Hospice for Less Than Three Days.

The Patient Engagement/Experience of Care category includes the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems, or HCAHPS, Survey. Lastly, the Claims-Based Outcome measures include three measures: the Admissions and Emergency Department, or ED, Visits for Patients Receiving Outpatient Chemotherapy; 30-Day Unplanned Readmissions for Cancer Patients; and the Surgical Treatment Complications for Localized Prostate Cancer.

Another key event this year was the distribution of confidential national reports for the program's claims-based measures. As outlined on this slide, the PCHs received confidential Facility-Specific Reports, or FSRs, for the EOL, Cancer Readmissions, and Prostate Cancer measures. Listserve communications were distributed, as this is the process, notifying you, the PCHs, of the availability of these reports. Instructions were also provided on how submit inquiries regarding these reports via the QualityNet Question and Answer Tool.

For the OP Chemotherapy measure. the Facility-Specific Report, or FSR, was distributed on May 16, 2022. These reports contained measure results based on chemotherapy treatments performed between July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. This is an outcome measure, with the overall goal of reducing the number of hospital admissions and ED visits following the patient receiving chemotherapy at a PCH in the outpatient setting. The aim of this measure is to assess the care provided to cancer patients and encourage quality improvement efforts that will ultimately decrease admissions and ED visits. Also, provided on this slide is information on resources pertaining to this measure, which are located on QualityNet. On the Chemotherapy measure page, you will find the data dictionary, mock reports and user guides, a fact sheet, and frequently asked questions. Please note that there are additional resources on this page, as well.

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Of note, the PCHQR Program had three measures publicly displayed for the first time on the Provider Data Catalog, or PDC. CAUTI, CLABSI, and COVID-19 HCP measures were refreshed October 26, 2022. Moving forward, these measures will be refreshed on a quarterly basis. Please keep in mind, that the COVID-19 HCP data will be displayed one quarter per refresh; whereas, the HAI measure are on a rolling quarter schedule, which includes four quarters of data per refresh.

On [October 7, 2022](#), and [November 1, 2022](#), CMS announced that, effective November 8, 2022, the claims-based measure FSRs moved from the Managed File Transfer, or MFT, system to the Hospital Quality Reporting, or HQR, System. This meant that the FSRs will be accessible via logging in and downloading the FSRs from the Claims-Based Measure page of the HQR System. If you wish to receive an FSR via MFT, you will have to make a request via the CCSQ Service Center at [QNetSupport@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:QNetSupport@cms.hhs.gov). Provided on this slide are links to the Listserve communications and a video for additional guidance.

As it relates to the PCH facility report, on [November 10, 2022](#), CMS announced that COVID-19 HCP vaccination data are now available to view on the PCH facility report in the HQR System. This report is in a Comma-Separated Value file format and displays fiscal year 2023, or calendar year 2021, COVID-19 HCP data submitted to the CMS Warehouse. We are currently working to ensure all HAI data are available on this report. Please stay tuned for additional communications related to the availability of complete data information on the PCH facility report.

Here is a list of the QualityNet and Quality Reporting Center pages that have been updated this year. On QualityNet, the Overview page now has the quick link to the 2022 Program Manual, the fall update, which is now accessible. The PCHQR Measures page now has the finalized measures for inclusion in the PCHQR Program through fiscal year 2025. The Participation page houses an updated resource, the PCHQR Program Measure Submission Deadline by Due Date table.

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The Resources page houses several program tools and resources, such as the fall 2022 program manual, measure crosswalk, and relationship matrix. There also several other resources which include links to various web resources or pages that provide additional information about the PCHQR Program's measure specifications and sampling methodology, PCHQR Program forms, such as the Hospital Contact Change Form and the Extraordinary Circumstances Exceptions, or ECE, Request Form, along with a full list of the final rule publications with links to the *Federal Register* version and summary of the finalized program changes for that particular publication. The Quality Reporting Center page also underwent updates, many of which are the same as the updates made to the QualityNet pages I highlighted just now.

As your Support Contractor, we always want to ensure that the resources and tools made available to you on both QualityNet and Quality Reporting Center are maintained and up to date. I would like to provide some additional details regarding the resources listed here. Starting with the program manual, which was recently updated and released on November 8, 2022, the updates are in alignment with the Fiscal Year 2023 IPPS/LTCH PPS Final Rule, which we discussed earlier. The Measure Submission Deadlines by Due Date table now reflects due dates through November 2023. Then, there is the PCHQR Program Relationship Matrix of the program measures by years and quarters. The updates to this tool included extending the fiscal years through Program Year 2025 and updating the reporting periods, quarterly data submission deadlines, and PDC release columns. Again, these tools and resources are all available on QualityNet and Quality Reporting Center websites.

As with each new calendar year, program changes are to be expected. With 2023 upon us, let's take a look at what's ahead.

What's next for the PCHQR Program measures? Quarterly submissions will continue as follows: HAI measure data and COVID-19 HCP Vaccination measure data will be submitted in February, May, August, and November. HCAHPS Survey data will be submitted in January, April, July and October.

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Annual submissions include Influenza HCP measure data submitted in May and the Data Accuracy and Completeness Acknowledgement, or DACA, submitted in August. We, the Support Contractor, will continue providing Listserve and targeted communications, along with phone outreach during these submission periods.

What's next for the PCHQR Program claims-based measures? In spring of 2023, the PCHs should expect to receive FSRs for the OP Chemotherapy, Prostate Cancer, and EOL measures for the fiscal year 2024 program year. Please note that confidential results are for the prostate cancer and EOL measures, since these measures are not publicly reported yet. The PCH-36 FSR is planned to be distributed in fall 2023. The exact dates for the distribution of these reports will be communicated via Listserve. Please remember that you will need access these reports via the HQR System. Also, please make sure you are signed up to receive PCHQR Program-related communications, so that you do not miss out on important information, such as this.

What's next for Public Reporting? For the claims-based measures, the Admissions and ED Visits for Patients Receiving Outpatient Chemotherapy measure, or PCH-30 and PCH-31, fiscal year 2024 measure results, which is for the data collection period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2021, will be publicly reported on the PDC in July 2023. For the 30-Day Unplanned Readmissions measure, or PCH-36, the fiscal year 2024 measure results will be publicly reported in October 2023. Again, the exact FSR distribution and PDC release dates will be communicated via Listserve.

The other program measures will continue on the same public reporting schedule that you are familiar with. The HCAHPS Survey data will continue to be publicly reported quarterly. HAI measures will continue to be publicly refreshed quarterly for CAUTI, CLABSI, SSI, MRSA, CDI, and COVID-19 HCP measure data in January, April, July and October and annually in October for Influenza HCP measure data.

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The Plan of Care for Moderate to Severe Pain, or PCH-15, measure data will be refreshed for the last time in January 2023. These data will no longer appear on the PDC effective January 2024.

Lastly, this slide simply displays the measures and associated quarters for the schedule of upcoming PDC releases for January and April 2023. This is a good reference tool to keep readily available so that you can stay on track with what data will be displayed for your facility on the PDC with the respective release in January and April. Also, keep in mind that, on the PCHQR Program page on [QualityReportingCenter.com](http://QualityReportingCenter.com), under the Resources and Tools link, there is a PDC Preview Document section that is updated with each release. There, you can find the PDC Preview Quick Reference Guide and Help Guide. You will also receive Listserve communications pertaining to Public Reporting information and updates.

We will conclude today's event by reviewing a few key dates and reminders for the PCHQR Program.

Provided on this slide are the next two upcoming data submission deadlines. January 4, 2023, Quarter 3 2022 HCAHPS Survey data will be submitted. On February 15, 2023, Quarter 3 2022 HAI data and COVID-19 HCP measure data will be submitted. You should have already received a 30-day data submission reminder for the January 4 HCAHPS deadline, and you can expect to receive a communication for the February 15 deadline early to mid-January.

Again, please be sure you are signed up to receive these important reminders and other communications via the [Subscribe to Email Updates](#) link on the [QualityNet](#) home page.

Displayed on this slide is how you can access the PCHQR Program Question and Answer Tool via the [QualityNet](#) home page. You will access this tool by selecting the Help drop-down link as indicated by the red box on this slide. Then, select the PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospitals link to start the process.

Now, you are at the [QualityNet](#) Question and Answer Tool landing page.



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After you select the Ask a Question link, as shown by the red box on this slide, you will be taken to a page where you will need to complete your personal information. Then, you will be asked to enter details regarding the inquiry you are submitting. On this page, you are also able to browse program articles and search to see if your question may have been previously addressed and posted for viewing.

Here is where you will submit your inquiry. Please be sure to complete the required fields. Once this is complete, you will need to select Submit Question, as denoted by the red box on this slide, to submit your inquiry. We encourage you to utilize this tool to ask any program-related questions you may have, and you may query the system to see if the topic you are inquiring about has already been addressed.

As always, thank you for your time and attention during today's event. As a reminder, we are open to hear from you, so please feel free to provide any feedback you have for educational topics or anything else program related you would find beneficial for next calendar year, 2023. We hope that each of you have a safe and enjoyable holiday season. Thank you. Enjoy the remainder of your day!