Reference #: 2022-117-IP
From: Hospital Inpatient Value, Incentives, and Quality Reporting Outreach and Education Support Contractor
Sent: August 31, 2022
To: IQR and EHR ListServe Recipient Lists
Subject: NOTICE: Voluntary Submission of 2023 Hybrid HWR Measure Data to the Hospital IQR Program Due September 30, 2022

For hospitals participating in the 2023 voluntary reporting of the Hybrid Hospital-Wide Readmission (HWR) measure for the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program, the deadline to <u>voluntarily</u> submit data is **Friday, September 30, 2022, at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time (PT)**. Data are for Medicare Fee-for-Service (FFS) patients aged 65 and older who were discharged between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022. The discharge quarters are listed below:

- Q3 2021 (July 1–September 30)
- Q4 2021 (October 1–December 31)
- Q1 2022 (January 1–March 31)
- Q2 2022 (April 1–June 30)

Subsection (d) hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAHs) in the Hospital IQR Program may <u>voluntarily</u> submit these data. There is no impact to the fiscal year (FY) 2024 payment determination of hospitals that do not submit these data. These data will not be publicly reported.

Note: Starting with the 2025 mandatory reporting period, CMS will require subsection (d) hospitals in the Hospital IQR Program to report Hybrid HWR and Hybrid Hospital-Wide All-Cause Risk Standardized Mortality (HWM) measure data for the July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, reporting period. These data will impact the FY 2026 payment determination and measure results will be publicly reported. CAHs are encouraged to submit data, but data submissions for the hybrid measures are not required.

Hospitals participating in the voluntary reporting process will:

- Use the most current guidance applicable to the 2021 reporting period.
- Use technology certified to the existing 2015 Edition criteria for Certified Electronic Health Record Technology (CEHRT), technology certified to the 2015 Edition Cures Update criteria, or a combination of both.
- Submit one Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA) Category I file per patient, per quarter, containing 13 Core Clinical Data Elements (CCDE) and six linking variables for each eligible hospital discharge. Please reference the electronic specifications on the eCQI Resource Center.
- Receive a confidential Hospital-Specific Report (HSR) in spring of 2023.

During the voluntary reporting period, hospitals should submit data according to the following Hospital IQR Program requirements:

- Submit linking variables on 95 percent or more of discharges with a Medicare FFS claim for the same hospitalization during the measurement period.
- Report vital signs for 90 percent or more of the hospital discharges for Medicare FFS patients, 65 years or older in the measurement period (as determined from the claims submitted to CMS for admissions that ended during the same reporting period).
- Submit the laboratory test results for 90 percent or more of discharges for non-surgical patients (those not included in the surgical specialty cohort of the Hybrid HWR measure).

Additional information is posted on the [Hybrid Measure page](#) on the QualityNet website.

Hybrid HWR Measure Data Submission in the Hospital Quality Reporting (HQR) System
All hospitals and vendors participating in the voluntary Hybrid HWR measure data submission process will need the necessary HQR System user role permissions and vendor access to view, upload, and edit their data.

Basic users with the electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM) permission will automatically receive the same level of access for the Hybrid HWR measure. New users will need to log into HQR and select Access Management to request the eCQM permission. A new vendor authorization is required when a vendor submits Hybrid HWR measure data on the hospital's behalf: Hospitals will select Vendor Management and eCQM to add/edit permissions for Hybrid HWR measure data. Visit the [eCQM Archived Events page](#) of QualityReportingCenter.com and the [HQR Support Video Playlist](#) for videos that provide assistance on the data submission process.

Contact Information
To ensure your hospital receives critical communications about the requirements of the Hospital IQR Program and other CMS quality reporting programs, including submission deadline reminders and program updates, it is important that we have the complete contact information for the key personnel at your hospital. Please submit updates to your contact information via the [Hospital Contact Change Form.](#)

More Information
- For answers to questions about the implementation of the Hybrid HWR measure or its claim-based specifications, please submit a ticket to the [Quality Question and Answers Tool](#) by selecting IQR – Inpatient Quality Reporting under *Program* and Hybrid Measures under *Topic*.
- For answers to questions regarding the electronic specifications and value sets of the Hybrid HWR measure, please submit a ticket to the JIRA tool: https://oncprojecttracking.healthit.gov/support/projects/CHM/summary
- For answers to questions regarding the HQR System, which includes user roles, reports, data upload, and troubleshooting file errors, please contact the CCSQ Service Center at (866) 288-8912 or QNetSupport@cms.hhs.gov.
- For further assistance regarding the Hospital IQR Program and policy information contained in this message, please contact the Inpatient Value, Incentives, and Quality Reporting Outreach and Education Support Contractor at https://cmsqualitysupport.servicenowservices.com/qnet_qa or (844) 472-4477.

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