Reference #: 2025-84-IP

From: Inpatient VIQR Support Contractor

Sent: August 19, 2025

To: IQR and HVBP Improve

Subject: Reminder for the FY 2026 Hospital-Acquired Condition Reduction Program

Hospital-Specific Reports

Review your Hospital-Specific Reports (HSRs) on the <u>Hospital Quality Reporting (HQR)</u> system for the Hospital-Acquired Condition (HAC) Reduction Program.

The Scoring Calculations Review and Correction period began August 5, 2025 and ends September 3, 2025.

CMS encourages hospitals to review their HSRs and submit questions about their calculations as soon as possible. Submit all requests for corrections using the <u>QualityNet Question and Answer Tool no later than 11:59 p.m. PT on September 3, 2025.</u>

This is a reminder that the HSR for the fiscal year (FY) 2026 HAC Reduction Program is available via the HQR system. The HAC Reduction Program HSR contains hospital-level payment reduction status and performance data on one claims-based composite measure of patient safety and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) healthcare-associated infection (HAI) measures displayed on the *Measure detail dashboard* of the HQR system, as well as a downloadable comma-separated values (CSV) file with your hospital's patient-level data. Hospital-level performance data is also available in downloadable portable document format (PDF) files. The report has an accompanying user guide with information about the contents of the HSR.

The following measures are included in the report:

Measure		
One claims-based composite measure of patient safety		
CMS Patient Safety and Adverse Events Composite (CMS PSI 90)		
Five chart-abstracted or laboratory-identified HAI measures submitted to CDC's NHSN		
Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infection (CLABSI)		
Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI)		
Colon and Abdominal Hysterectomy Surgical Site Infection (SSI)		
Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) bacteremia		
Clostridium difficile Infection (CDI)		

Performance periods

Your hospital's results for the FY 2026 program year are calculated using data from the following measure-specific performance periods:

Measure	Performance period
CMS PSI 90 measure	July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2024
CDC's NHSN HAI measures	January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2024

Scoring Calculations Review and Correction period

The Scoring Calculations Review and Correction period enables hospitals to review the results in their HSR and submit questions about their calculations. Hospitals <u>cannot</u> request corrections to the underlying claims data or add new claims to the data extract during this period. Hospitals can review the data in their HSR and replicate their payment reduction and component results using the information in their HSR and accompanying user guide.

CMS encourages hospitals to review their HSR and submit questions about their calculations as soon as possible. Submit all requests for corrections using the <u>QualityNet Question and Answer Tool</u> between August 5, 2025 and 11:59 p.m. PT on September 3, 2025.

To submit a question using the QualityNet Question and Answer Tool, select "HACRP – Hospital-Acquired Condition Reduction Program" from the program list and "HACRP Review & Correction requests" as the topic. Hospitals should describe each discrepancy and include the following:

- CMS Certification Number (CCN)
- Hospital name
- Hospital address
- Contact's name, phone number, and email address
- Measure or component in question

Hospitals should not include personally identifiable information (PII) or protected health information (PHI) in their inquiry. When referring to the contents of the HSR, use the ID Number.

Additional information

A recording of the educational webinar, *Overview of the FY 2026 HAC Reduction Program and Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program*, is available via this <u>link</u>.

More information about the HAC Reduction Program is available on the <u>QualityNet website</u> or the CMS website.