Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting (ASCQR) Program Reconsideration Process: Calendar Year 2018

Anita Bhatia, PhD, MPH
Program Lead, ASCQR Program
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

Reneé Parks, RN, BSN
Project Director, ASCQR Program

November 16, 2017

Purpose

To provide information regarding:

- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS') ASCQR Program Reconsideration Process for the Calendar Year (CY) 2018 Payment Determination.

Objectives

At the end of today's presentation, participants will be able to:

- Identify the ASCQR Program requirements and the Reconsideration process.

- Submit a Reconsideration request with CMS.

- Describe the timing of CMS' response to these requests.

Participating ASCs

- There are 7,516 Medicare-certified Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASCs).

- Currently, 3,865 ASCs were required to participate in the CY 2018 ASCQR Program to receive their full Annual Payment Update (APU).

Measures for the CY 2018 ASCQR Payment Determination

Measures	Reference Period
Claims-based: ASC-1–ASC-5 and ASC-12	January 1–December 31, 2016
Web-based submitted via QualityNet: ASC-6, ASC-7, ASC-9–ASC-11*	January 1–December 31, 2016
Web-based submitted via National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN): ASC-8	October 1, 2016–March 31, 2017

*ASC-11 is a voluntary measure.

ASCQR Program Requirements

- Submit Quality Data Codes (QDCs) on a minimum of 50% of Medicare claims (ASC-1–ASC-5).

- Submit data for web-based measure ASC-8 through the NHSN online submission tool by May 15, 2017.

- Submit data for web-based measures ASC-6, 7, 9, 10, and 11(voluntary) through QualityNet's online submission tool by August 15, 2017.
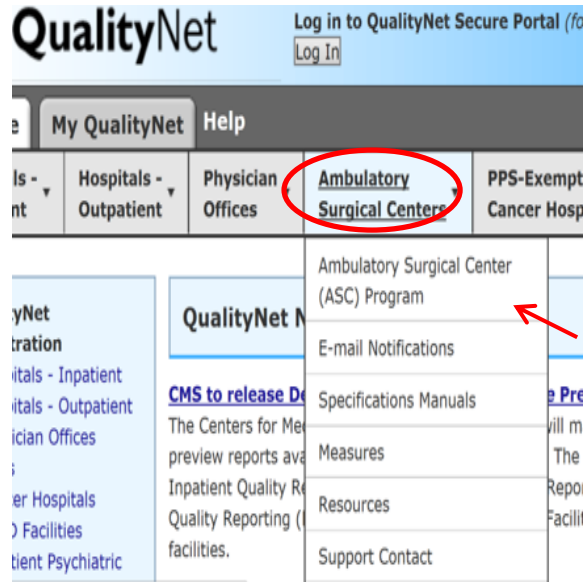
Notification

Notification letters were sent on November 2, 2017, to ASCs not meeting one or more of the requirements of the ASCQR Program.

Reconsideration Process: QualityNet Location

The Reconsideration Overview process for the ASCQR Program is available on the Reconsideration Overview page on QualityNet at https://www.qualitynet.org/dcs/ContentServer?c=Page&pagename=QnetPublic%2FPage%2FQnetTier3&cid=1228773653481.
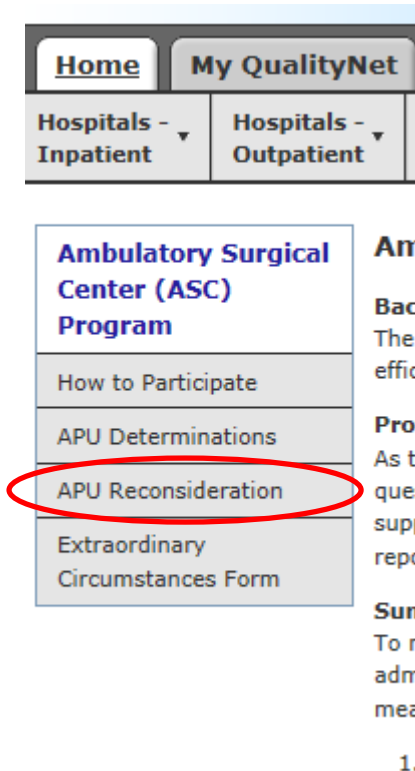
QualityNet:
Ambulatory Surgical Centers Location

- From the QualityNet home page, select the **Ambulatory Surgical Centers** drop-down menu.

- In the drop-down menu, select the **Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Program** link. This will direct you to the ASCQR Program Overview page.

QualityNet: Reconsideration Process Location

Access the ASC Program APU Reconsideration information on QualityNet by selecting the **APU Reconsideration** link from the left-side navigation pane. This will direct you to the Reconsideration Overview page.

Submitting Your Reconsideration Request (1 of 2)

- The Reconsideration Form is due on or before **March 19, 2018.**

- Fill out the form **completely** and **accurately**.

  - All fields with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.

- Provide the CMS-identified reason why your facility did not meet the APU requirement (from the CMS notification letter).

Submitting Your Reconsideration Request (2 of 2)

- Include the specific reason(s) for believing that your facility did meet the program requirement(s) and should receive the full APU.

- Submit the signed Reconsideration Request Form via the QualityNet Secure Portal to the Secure File Transfer "APU" group.

- Alternatively, the form may be submitted via secure fax to 877.789.4443 or by email to QRSupport@hcqis.org.

CMS Response

- Following receipt of a request for Reconsideration, CMS will:
  - Send an email acknowledgement to the designated contact.
  - Provide a formal response notifying the ASC of the outcome of the Reconsideration process.
- CMS expects the process to be completed within 90 days following the deadline for submitting Reconsiderations.

Decisions Are Final

- The Reconsideration process is the only appeals process in place for the ASCQR Program.

- CMS' Reconsideration decisions are final.

Questions

Please submit all questions regarding the Reconsideration process and the ASCQR Program by phone at 866.800.8756 or via email to https://cms-ocsq.custhelp.com/.

Access our website at www.qualityreportingcenter.com.