Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting Program

Help, I'm New: The Why, Who, What, Where, and When of the ASCQR Program

Questions and Answers

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Question:	I am a new center director and just today received access to QualityNet. My main question is: how do I find out where the previous center director left off in the quality reporting for our ASC? She left in August, and I am worried that we are behind, but I have no idea if we are or not.
Answer:	The submission deadline for measures entered via CMS online is August 15th. The ASC-8 (flu vaccination) is due May 15th. If your facility failed the program requirements for last year (Payment Year 2017), then you would have received notification of this by December of 2016. If after viewing this webinar, you still have questions, please feel free to call our Help Desk at 866.800.8756.
Question:	I went through that process today, but it didn't have me change my initial password.
Answer:	If you are referring to changing your password for your QualityNet log-in, please call the QualityNet Help Desk at 1-866-288-8912 for assistance with log-in issues.
Question:	Does the Safe Surgery Checklist Use measure need to be entered every year?
Answer:	Yes, this measure is reported annually.

Question: If a new administrator takes over at a center, do they have to complete a new SAMS registration, or can the person currently assigned as administrator assign privileges over to them?

Answer: Yes, the new administrator has to complete a new SAMS registration. Each user has to be identity-proofed. A SAMS grid card cannot be handed over or used by another individual.

Question: If our surgery center doesn't have data to report for ASC-9, -10, and -11 because we don't perform those types of procedures, what do we report through QualityNet?

Answer: If you have no data to submit for ASC-9 and -10, then you would report "0" in the online submission tool through QualityNet. If you leave ASC-9 and ASC-10 blank, CMS will view this as not reporting. ASC-11 is a voluntary measure and will not affect your payment if you report or choose not to report. You can also choose to just to report "0" as well; either option for ASC-11 is acceptable. But note that if you do report ASC-11, it will be publicly reported.

Question: When I view the QualityNet site, only the PY 2017 is available for submission. When will the reporting year for 2016 PY 2018 be available for submission?

Answer: You are correct that the data entry screens for 2018 are not yet available. The tool is not functioning due to a technical issue, and it is anticipated that it will be made available sometime in late March. A notification will be sent via ListServe when this function is corrected.

Question: Our ASC manager left to take another position, and I am resuming her responsibilities for ASCQR. I'm already registered with QualityNet. For NHSN, do I just fax our letterhead to that number given and supply all our information, and then I will be designated as the Facility Administrator?

Answer: Yes. Since the previously designated NHSN Facility Administrator has left the facility, you will need to reach out to the NHSN Help Desk to have that role manually reassigned to the new NHSN Facility Administrator. To complete this process, a letter must be faxed to the NHSN Help Desk at: 404-929-0131. The letter should be from an official at your facility, requesting that you be assigned as the new NHSN Facility Administrator since the previous Facility Administrator is no longer with your facility. In addition to the name and email address of the new Facility Administrator, the letter should include the name and email address of the old Facility Administrator, as well as the facility name and five-digit NHSN ID number. After the NHSN Help Desk receives the fax and completes the re-assignment, the

newly designated Facility Administrator will receive the "Welcome to NHSN" email to start the new NHSN user onboarding process.

Question: If I have a log-in with QualityNet for PQRS, will that be the same for ASC?

Answer: No, the PQRS is going to have different privileges than ASC. Please register with QualityNet as a Security Administrator for your ASC.

Question: You mentioned Medicare as a secondary payer. Does Medicare as a secondary insurance count in our 240 case counts?

Answer: Yes, the 240 case count threshold includes Medicare as primary and secondary payer.

Question: Where do I find my CMS Certification Number (CCN)?

Answer: You can find your CCN using our Lookup tool on our website at: http://www.qualityreportingcenter.com/asc/ccn/. Simply enter your National Provider Identifier (NPI) number in the tool, and your facility's CCN should display. If you have difficulty, please call our Help Desk at 866.800.8756.

Question: I struggle every year to determine exact CPT codes for measure ASC-7, especially with the frequent updates released. Is there an easier way to find this information?

Answer: The CPT codes to be included in ASC-7 are published every November in an addendum to the Specifications Manual. Notification is always sent when this update is available.

Question: Our facility is opening in the spring and does not yet have a Medicare provider number. Can I register with QualityNet, or should we wait for a Medicare number?

Answer: The registration with QualityNet requires you to supply your facility's NPI, so please wait until you receive this information from CMS to register.

Question: Is the password for your QualityNet the same as for the qualityreportingcenter.com website?

Answer: The password for your QualityNet account is unique. These two websites are separate and maintained by different contractors. There is no password required for the qualityreportingcenter.com website, unless you are a QIN/QIO.

Question: Will this session be rescheduled?

Answer: No. You will be able to view this recorded webinar within 24 hours at: http://www.qualityreportingcenter.com/asc/events/.

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Question: How is the ASC-12 measure submitted?

Answer: ASC-12 is a claims-based measure, and the data is taken directly from paid Medicare claims that meet the measure criteria. The facility does not have to manually report data for this measure.

Question: As it relates to ASC -8, do we need to submit information for temporary agency staff? This staff might only come once or twice through a contracted temporary agency.

Answer: Yes. All staff that work, even for a single day, must be reported in the ASC-8 data.

Question: Is this program scheduled to continue in the future? I heard it might be shelved.

Answer: Yes, this program will continue.

Question: Do all seven-day hospital admission/visits need to be reported, as per ASC-12, or only those that would pertain directly to the colonoscopy? For example, what if a patient fell and broke his leg the day after his colonoscopy?

Answer: The data for the ASC-12 measure is obtained from Medicare claims. This data will be collected for all admissions which meet measure criteria. The patient can be admitted to any facility. As this information is abstracted from Medicare claims, no active abstraction or reporting is necessary by the facility.

Question: Where can I find the HCPC codes for ASC-7 on the QualityNet website?

Answer: The CPT codes to be included in ASC-7 can be found in version 5.1 of the Specifications Manual on the QualityNet website.

Question: If my facility has less than 240 Medicare claims per year, do we have to report for this program?

Answer: ASCs that have fewer than 240 Medicare claims (primary plus secondary payer) per year during a reporting period for a payment determination year would not be required to participate in the ASCQR Program for the subsequent reporting period for that subsequent payment determination year.