



Inpatient Psychiatric Facility Quality Reporting (IPFQR) Program

Support Contractor

Quality Measures at CMS: A Closer Look at the Measure Development Lifecycle and CMS' Meaningful Measures Initiative

Questions and Answers

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The following questions were researched and answered by subject-matter experts after the live webinar.

Question 1: Is this (measure development lifecycle) process documented somewhere that users and measure abstractors could access? Is it included somewhere in the specifications manual or maybe the Measure Information Form (MIF)?

The *Blueprint for the CMS Measures Management System* documents the core set of business processes and decision-making criteria for CMS measure development. While the document focuses on the process for CMS-contracted measure developers, the Blueprint is also a great resource for external measure developers seeking to develop measures for CMS programs. For more information and a copy of the Blueprint, go to the CMS Measures Management System Blueprint web page on the CMS.gov website: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/MMS/MMS-Blueprint.html>.

Question 2: Is the Meaningful Measures program specific to the IPFQR Program only or other CMS quality reporting programs?

The Meaningful Measures program is a CMS-wide initiative that is not specific to the IPFQR Program. For more information, go to <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/QualityInitiativesGenInfo/CMS-Quality-Strategy.html>.

Question 3: Does CMS have a timeline identified for when Meaningful Measures will be finalized? Is there a start date for when this is all going to be rolled out to the public?

The Meaningful Measures Initiative was started as a part of CMS' larger effort to put Patients over Paperwork. CMS Administrator, Seema Verma, first outlined the initiative at the Health Care Payment Learning and Action Network (HCP-LAN) summit in October 2017. Since then, ongoing efforts have been made to receive stakeholder input to further improve the Meaningful Measures Framework, work across CMS components to implement the Framework, and evaluate current measure sets and inform measure development. For more information about the Meaningful Measures Initiative, go to <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/QualityInitiativesGenInfo/CMS-Quality-Strategy.html>.