



## Outpatient Quality Reporting Program

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### Support Contractor

# Getting Your Ducks in a Row: Addressing Common Issues in Quality Reporting

## Questions & Answers

### Moderator:

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### Speaker:

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**March 21, 2018**

**2:00 pm ET**

**Question:** Is there a way to confirm that the Reconsent Form has been signed and accepted into NHSN?

**Answer:** Yes. You may send an email to NHSN directly at [NHSN@cdc.gov](mailto:NHSN@cdc.gov).

**Question:** I keep hearing "to get paid for 2019" or "encounters are two years prior to payment year." Does this mean an encounter doesn't get paid from CMS for two years?

**Answer:** No. Encounters are reimbursed on an ongoing basis as submitted. The two year time lag refers to the payment year affected; e.g., claims from 2017 are analyzed in 2018 for payment determinations that will affect payment beginning in 2019.

**Question:** I have already submitted data for Q4 2017. My Electronic Health Record (EHR) vendor hasn't finished programming to generate the case report that I use for the CART abstractions. They told me "it is ok that I don't submit Q1 2018 because I only have to submit "90 days worth." Is that that true?

**Answer:** Q1 2018 (January 1- March 31, 2018 encounters) is a required quarter for the 2019 Payment Determination and should be reported by the submission deadline of August 1, 2018. Each quarter has to be submitted by the respective deadline.



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- Question:** Please confirm that web-based measures are not mandated for Critical Access Hospitals.
- Answer:** For the Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting Program, data submissions for Critical Access Hospitals are voluntary.
- Question:** If the sample size requirement is 63 but we do not have 63 patients that meet the measure requirements, do we submit 100%?
- Answer:** Depending on the measure, you are correct. For example, for OP-29, OP-30, and OP-31, if you have 20 or fewer cases annually, you are not required to submit any data, but can voluntarily submit these data. If you have more than 20 cases but less than 63, you would submit all cases. For OP-18 and OP-20, any data less than 63 cases per quarter, you would submit 100%. You can find this information in the Outpatient Specifications Manual.  
<http://www.qualitynet.org/dcs/ContentServer?c=Page&pagename=QnetPublic%2FPage%2FSpecsManualTemplate&cid=1228775748170>
- Question:** To clarify – OP-31 can be left blank and incomplete?
- Answer:** Yes. OP-31, Cataracts: Improvement in Patient's Visual Function within 90 Days Following Cataract Surgery, remains a voluntary measure and can be left incomplete should your facility choose not to report or do not have data to report for this measure.
- Question:** When does the next validation window open?
- Answer:** In March 2018, the CMS Data Abstraction Center (CDAC) will request Q3 2017, and sometime in June 2018, the CDAC will request Q4 2017 (October 1–December 31 2017) encounter abstractions.
- Question:** How early prior to the deadline will you reach out to a facility that has not submitted the data?
- Answer:** Outreach will begin in April and continue as the May 15th deadline approaches. Additionally, we reach out prior to quarterly submissions.
- Question:** When you are selected for validation, are all 4 quarters of that calendar year validated?
- Answer:** Yes. The random and targeted selection for Calendar Year (CY) 2019 occurred in September of 2017. The quarters included are First Quarter



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2017 (1Q17), Second Quarter 2017 (2Q17), Third Quarter 2017 (3Q17),  
and Fourth Quarter 2017 (4Q17).