



Outpatient Quality Reporting Program

Support Contractor

CY 2019 OPPS/ASC Proposed Rule: Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting (OQR) Program

Questions & Answers

Moderator:

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Question: Please clarify the data collection periods for the CY 2019, CY 2020, and CY 2021 Payment Determination Years.

Answer: We will begin with the Calendar Year (CY) 2020 Payment Determination.

- The quarterly data collection period includes patient encounters from Q2 2018, Q3 2018, Q4 2018, and Q1 2019 (April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019).
- The web-based measure data collection period, except for OP-27, includes patient encounters from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.
- The data collection period for OP-27 follows the flu season of October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019.

You would then back these dates up one year for the CY 2019 Payment Determination or go forward one year for the CY 2021 Payment Determination. There is a very helpful document on our website that provides this information: <https://www.qualityreportingcenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Hospital-OQR-Important-Dates-2020-payment-determination-1.pdf>.



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- Question:** When do we expect the Final Rule to be released?
- Answer:** On or around November 1, 2018.
- Question:** Is there a change from Q2–Q1 patient encounters currently in place from January through December 2019 patient encounters?
- Answer:** It is not clear what you are asking. Quarterly reporting and annual reporting are required on the part of the facility. There has been no change in the quarterly reporting dates. Please call our Help Desk at 866.800.8756 so we can better understand your question.
- Question:** Isn't the Final Rule already published?
- Answer:** CMS reviews the Hospital OQR Program requirements each year. Currently, we are discussing the Proposed Rule for CY 2019. Once all the comments about the proposals are collected, the proposals, finalized or not, are discussed in the Final Rule. This will be published in November 2018.
- Question:** The OP-27 measure removal begins with the CY 2020 payment determination. What date would we be able to stop abstracting?
- Answer:** If the removal of OP-27 is finalized in November, the last time hospitals were required to report data for this measure was May 2018 for the Hospital OQR Program. IQR Program requirements may differ; please contact them at 844-472-4477 or 866-800-8765.
- Question:** What are the reporting periods for CY 2021 payment?
- Answer:** The quarterly data collection period includes patient encounters from Q2 2019, Q3 2019, Q4 2019, and Q1 2020 (April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020). The web-based measure data collection period, except for OP-27, includes patient encounters from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. The data collection period for OP-27 follows the flu season of October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020.
- Question:** What performance period (data collection timeframe) represents CY 2020 Payment determination for OP-27?
- Answer:** The data collection period would follow the flu season of October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019. However, if OP-27 is finalized for removal for the CY 2020 Payment Determination, you would not report data for this measure again for this program.



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- Question:** If OP-29 and OP-30 are removed for CY 2021 Payment determination, what date would chart abstraction stop?
- Answer:** If the removal of OP-29 and OP-30 is finalized in November, the last time hospitals would be required to report data for these measures would be May 15, 2019, using encounters from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.
- Question:** Can you provide actual dates of removal rather than payment determination or provide a table showing what actual abstraction date the measures would retire?
- Answer:** If the removal of OP-27 is finalized in November, the last time hospitals were required to report data for this measure was May 2018 for the Hospital OQR Program. IQR Program requirements may differ; please contact them at 844-472-4477 or 866-800-8765.
- If the removal of OP-5 is finalized in November, the last time hospitals would be required to report data for this measure would be August 1, 2019 for Q1 2019 encounters.
- If the removal of OP-12, -17, -29, -30, and -31 is finalized in November, the last time hospitals would be required to report data for these measures would be May 15, 2019 for calendar year 2018 encounters.
- Question:** How may I download slides?
- Answer:** You can find the slides for today's event on our website at: <https://www.qualityreportingcenter.com/hospitaloqr/events/>.
- Question:** Does the CY 2020 Payment Determination apply to CY 2019 discharges?
- Answer:** The quarterly data collection period includes patient encounters from Q2 2018, Q3 2018, Q4 2018, and Q1 2019 (April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019). The web-based measure data collection period, except for OP-27, includes patient encounters from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. The data collection period for OP-27 follows the flu season of October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019.
- Question:** So, is OP-32 remaining active?
- Answer:** Yes, there are no proposed changes for OP-32.



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- Question:** What does it mean that the removal of the measure is being "proposed"? What determines if the removal will be finalized or not?
- Answer:** CMS proposes these changes and then opens a comment period for 60 days. During this time, they gather feedback and comments from providers and stakeholders. CMS utilizes all this information to determine finalizing these proposals which are put forth in the Final Rule, usually published in November.
- Question:** Why are you waiting until CY2021 to remove most of the measures that don't result in better patient outcomes? Why can't they be removed in CY2020?
- Answer:** This is to help alleviate any technical and/or logistical issues that a hospital may have to address to accommodate changes for the reporting for this program.
- Question:** If OP-27 removal is approved, does that mean it will be removed from the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program APU requirements?
- Answer:** The IQR Program requirements may differ; please contact them at 844-472-4477 or 866-800-8765.
- Question:** When will abstraction stop for CY 2021 Payment Determination? Where is this information located?
- Answer:** If the removal of OP-5 is finalized in November, the last time hospitals would be required to report data for this measure would be August 1, 2019 for Q1 2019 encounters. If the removal of OP-12, -17, -29, -30, and -31 is finalized in November, the last time hospitals would be required to report data for these measures would be May 15, 2019 for calendar year 2018 encounters.
- Once the Final Rule is published, documents on Quality Reporting Center will be updated. The current document addressing this issue can be found at: <https://www.qualityreportingcenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Hospital-OQR-Important-Dates-2020-payment-determination-1.pdf>.
- Question:** Within our facility, we report data for OP-29 and OP-30. If they are removed, would we be required to start reporting on OP-32?



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- Answer:** The OP-32 measure is a claims-based measure currently part of the program. These data are collected via paid Medicare claims and do not require manual abstraction on the part of the facility.
- Question:** On slides 43 and 44, does the Yes mean that it has been finalized?
- Answer:** The “Yes” means for that measure and that payment year, you will report data. For the measures with “Yes,” there are no proposal changes.
- Question:** When do we stop reporting Median Time to ECG, OP-5?
- Answer:** If the removal of OP-5 is finalized in November, the last time hospitals would be required to report data for this measure would be August 1, 2019 for Q1 2019 encounters.
- Question:** Do the measures OP-29 and OP-30 still get abstracted the first quarter of 2019, similar to OP-5?
- Answer:** OP-29 and OP-30 are web-based measures entered annually. OP-5 is a clinical measure and is reported quarterly. If the removal of OP-29 and OP-30 is finalized in November, the last time hospitals would be required to report data for these measures would be May 15, 2019 for calendar year 2018 encounters. If the removal of OP-5 is finalized in November, the last time hospitals would be required to report data for this measure would August 1, 2019 for Q1 2019 encounters.
- Question:** When will the Final Rule be made about these measures?
- Answer:** On or around November 1, 2018.
- Question:** Will any of the measures that are removed still be available "voluntarily" for submission to the data warehouse, and if so, for how long?
- Answer:** There are no proposals for the measures to be voluntary.
- Question:** I need clarification of CY payment determination vs. reporting period on all these measures, please.



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Answer:

In summary, payment determination refers to the year the facility receives the payment update. The reporting period is when you are submitting your data. There is a very helpful document on our website that summarizes this. You can use this direct link:

<https://www.qualityreportingcenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Hospital-OQR-Important-Dates-2020-payment-determination-1.pdf>.