



PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital Quality Reporting (PCHQR) Program

Support Contractor

NQF #0384 and #0383 Sampling, Assessment, and Lessons Learned

Questions & Answers

Moderator:

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Question 1: How do you address discordant assessments between nursing and physicians specifically when the physician documents no pain and the nurse documents pain?

Answer 1: There is no specific guidance on this issue in the support documentation for NQF #0384. In the webinar, one provider shared that when the patient sees multiple practitioners in one day, they utilize the pain assessment from the first encounter of the day. Another provider shared that they use the highest pain score documented for the day when multiple assessments are performed. The recommendation is to decide your policy in assessing this metric and be consistent over time.



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Question 2: Which facilities does this apply to? Does it include acute care hospitals with oncology units or is it just for Cancer stand-alone hospitals? Just want to be clear.

Answer 2: These two metrics, NQF #0384 and NQF #0383, are two Clinical Process/Oncology Care Measures specific to the PPS-exempt Cancer Hospital Reporting Program. The required reporting of these metrics to CMS only applies to hospitals reimbursed as PPS-exempt cancer hospitals. However, similar measures are used by the American Society of Clinical Oncology Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (ASCO QOPI), and NQF #0384 is one of the measures that may be selected for use in the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS). Lastly, these metrics certainly can be used for the purpose of quality measurement and improvement in any cancer patient population. However, note that this webinar and its contents are directed to participants in the PCHQR Program.

Question 3: [Do these measures apply to] all providers or just all Oncologists? If it [applies to] all providers how is this any different than PQRS reporting for pain?

Answer 3: These measures apply to all providers, not just oncologists. The patients are selected into the denominator population based upon a cancer diagnosis and being under active treatment with chemotherapy or radiation therapy. So, as an example, a post-surgical patient with a cancer diagnosis, who is currently receiving chemotherapy or radiation therapy and sees a surgeon for a post-operative visit while receiving this therapy, would be included in the denominator population. NQF #0384 is the same metric used in the PQRS program, measure #143 in 2015.