Outpatient Quality Reporting Times Newsletter

Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting (OQR) Program

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The Outpatient Quality Reporting Support Team is available by calling **866-800-8756** weekdays from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET or online using the QualityNet Q&A Tool.

Data Submission Deadlines

Reminder!

The **submission deadline** for reporting **Quarter 1 (Q1) 2024** (January 1—March 31, 2024) clinical data for OP-18: *Median Time from ED Arrival to ED Departure for Discharged ED Patients* and OP-23: *Head CT or MRI Scan Results for Acute Ischemic Stroke or Hemorrhagic Stroke Patients who Received Head CT or MRI Scan Interpretation Within 45 Minutes of ED Arrival* in the Hospital Quality Reporting (HQR) system is **August 1, 2024, 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time (PT)**. Submission of Population and Sampling data is voluntary.

The **submission deadline** for reporting **Q1 2024** (January 1—March 31, 2024) data for OP-38: *COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Among Healthcare Personnel (HCP)* in the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) system is **August 15, 2024, 11:59 p.m. PT**.

To find more information on data submission, visit the Quality Reporting Center website.

Coming Soon: Outpatient THA/TKA PRO-PM

The Risk-Standardized Patient-Reported Outcome-Based Performance Measure (PRO–PM) Following Elective Primary Total Hip Arthroplasty (THA) and/or Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA) is the first PRO-PM in the Hospital OQR Program. Voluntary reporting begins with the calendar year (CY) 2025 reporting period and continues through the CY 2027 reporting period. Mandatory reporting begins with the CY 2028 reporting period for CY 2031 payment determination.

The measure reports the facility-level risk-standardized improvement rate in patient reported outcomes following elective primary THA/TKA for Medicare FFS beneficiaries aged 65 years and older who were enrolled in Medicare FFS Part A and B for the 12 months prior to the date of the procedure and in Medicare Part A and B during the procedure. The measure includes only elective primary outpatient THA/TKA performed in the hospital outpatient setting and does not include any inpatient procedures.

The measure uses four sources of data for the calculation: (1) PRO data; (2) claims data; (3) Medicare enrollment and beneficiary data; and (4) U.S. Census Bureau survey data. Hospitals or their contracted vendor will submit data via the HQR system in Comma-separated Values (CSV) or Extensible Markup Language (XML) file format.

Improvement is measured from the preoperative assessment (data collected 90 to 0 days before surgery) to the postoperative assessment (data collected 300 to 425 days following surgery). Improvement scores are risk-adjusted to account for differences in patient case mix.

To find more information on this measure, refer to the CY 2025 Hospital OQR Specifications Manual, Version 18.0, Appendix C on the QualityNet website.

	To find additional information, tools, and resources—such as the data submission checklist to meet Hospital OQR Program deadlines—visit the QualityNet website. Additional tools and resources, including webinars, are also on the Quality Reporting Center website.

Rural Emergency Hospital Quality Reporting (REHQR) Program

	Getting Ready to Report

	REHs will need to ensure that their existing or new Security Officials (SOs) can access the HQR system to report data under the REHQR Program. REHs may submit data for OP-18: *Median Time for ED Discharge Patients* **Q1 2024** (January 1-March 31, 2024) through the submission deadline of **August 1, 2024, 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time**.
	
	Before submitting data:
	
	1. Ensure your ACH or CAH's CMS Certification Number (CCN) is updated to the REH CCN in the HQR system.
	   a. If a hospital has a pre-existing HQR account, access must be requested for the new REH's CCN within the HQR system for REHQR Program use.
	
	2. Install the CMS Abstraction & Reporting Tool (CART) or, if applicable, authorize a vendor via the Vendor Management process.
	   a. Refer to the How to Add a Vendor video on the HQR Playlist for more information on setting up vendor permissions.
	
	3. Check your status:
	   a. SOs for the newly converted REH can acquire the **Data Submissions Upload/Edit and Program Results** permissions upon receiving SO approval.
	   b. Log into the HQR system well ahead of the August 1, 2024, submission deadline to verify these permissions.
	
	Note: Data submission confirmation is available by checking your Provider Participation Report in the HQR system.

	Program Support
	To find additional REHQR Program information, visit the QualityNet website.