

Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting Program Newsletter



Issue: Summer 2025

Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting (OQR) Program

<div>In This Issue</div> <div>Data Deadlines<ul style="list-style-type: none">July 9, 2025: Q1 2025 OAS CAHPSAugust 1, 2025: Q1 2025 Clinical DataAugust 15, 2025: Q1 2025 COVID-19 HCP</div> <div>In Case You Missed It<p>CY 2025 Hospital OPPIs/ASC Payment System Final Rule Webinar</p></div> <div>Public Reporting News<p>July 2025 Refresh</p></div> <div>Chart-Abstracted Data Submissions<p>CART</p></div> <div>Measure Spotlight<p>Excessive Radiation Dose eCQM</p></div> <div>Program Support and Resources<p>The Outpatient Quality Reporting Support Team is available by calling 866-800-8756 weekdays from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time or online using the QualityNet Question and Answer Tool.</p></div>	<div>Reminder: Data Submission Deadlines</div> <div><p>The submission deadline for reporting Quarter (Q) 1 2025 (January 1–March 31, 2025) <i>Outpatient and Ambulatory Surgery Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (OAS CAHPS)</i> survey data in the Hospital Quality Reporting (HQR) system is July 9, 2025, 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time (PT). Hospitals can confirm OAS CAHPS submissions by contacting their Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)-approved survey vendor or by reviewing the quarterly Submission Requirements Report in HQR.</p><p>The submission deadline for reporting Q1 2025 (January 1–March 31, 2025) clinical data for <i>OP-18: Median Time from Emergency Department (ED) Arrival to ED Departure for Discharged ED Patients</i> and <i>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</i> in the HQR system is August 1, 2025, 11:59 p.m. PT. Submission of Hospital OQR Program Population and Sampling data is voluntary.</p><p>The submission deadline for reporting Q1 2025 (January 1–March 31, 2025) for <i>OP-38: COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Among Healthcare Personnel (HCP)</i> in the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) system is August 15, 2025, 11:59 p.m. PT.</p><p>For more information on data submission deadlines and requirements, visit the QualityNet website.</p></div> <div>In Case You Missed It</div> <div><p>If you missed the Calendar Year (CY) 2025 Outpatient Prospective System (OPPS)/Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Payment System Final Rule webinar, all program webinars are available on the Quality Reporting Center website. You can also access the final rule in the Federal Register.</p></div> <div>Public Reporting News</div> <div><p>The next release for publicly reported Hospital OQR Program measure data on the Compare Tool on Medicare.gov occurs in July 2025. The following data will refresh for this release:</p><ul style="list-style-type: none">Chart-abstracted measures: <i>OP-18: Median Time from ED Arrival to ED Departure for Discharged ED Patients</i> and <i>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</i> will display data for the Q4 2023–Q3 2024 reporting period (October 1, 2023–September 30, 2024).Outpatient Imaging Efficiency Claims-Based Measures: <i>OP-8: MRI Lumbar Spine for Low Back Pain</i>, <i>OP: 10 Abdomen CT – Use of Contrast Material</i>, <i>OP-13: Cardiac Imaging for Preoperative Risk Assessment for Non-Cardiac Low-Risk Surgery</i>, and <i>OP-39: Breast Cancer Screening Recall Rates</i> will display data for the CY 2024 reporting period (July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024).<p>For more information on public reporting, visit the QualityNet website.</p></div>
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Chart-Abstracted Data Submissions

Beginning with Q1 2025 chart-abstracted data submissions, there is a new, streamlined way to enter Hospital OQR Program chart-abstracted data directly in the [HQR](#) System. The CMS Abstraction & Reporting Tool (CART) desktop application has been phased out to bring everything you need into one convenient location.

What does this mean for you?

- **No CART download:** Submit data directly in HQR.
- **One simple login:** Submit all chart-abstracted Hospital OQR Program data in one place.
- **Improved efficiency:** Enjoy a more streamlined experience.
- **Time Savings:** Spend less time on data entry and more on what matters most.

Need help getting started? This [short video](#) walks you through the new process for entering chart-abstracted data for the Hospital OQR Program.

Measure Spotlight: Excessive Radiation Dose eCQM

In the CY 2024 OPPS/ASC Payment System final rule, CMS finalized the adoption of the *Excessive Radiation Dose or Inadequate Image Quality for Diagnostic Computed Tomography (CT) in Adults* electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM) for the Hospital OQR Program beginning with voluntary reporting in the CY 2025 reporting period followed by mandatory reporting beginning with the CY 2027 reporting period/CY 2029 payment determination.

Hospitals and clinicians who report this eCQM may use any vendor's software that meets the necessary requirements to generate the standardized data elements required to calculate the measure, consistent with the measure's specifications. Hospitals and clinicians are not required to use the Alara Imaging Software for CMS measure compliance. Any software vendor capable of calculating and reporting this eCQM in accordance with the measure's specifications, including transforming radiology data into a format compatible with eCQM reporting, may report this measure on behalf of hospitals and clinicians.

Hospitals and clinicians are not required to demonstrate to CMS that the software they or their vendors use can generate and transform the radiology data into the necessary format. However, nothing would prevent a hospital or clinician seeking assurance about the ability of specific software to perform these tasks from requesting that information from a vendor.

As with all eCQMs, CMS will monitor measure results to ensure that all reported data for the *Excessive Radiation Dose or Inadequate Image Quality for Diagnostic Computed Tomography in Adults* eCQM are both reliable and valid. This may include analyzing data to identify outliers and common characteristics of outlier submissions.

For more information on the Excessive Radiation Dose eCQM, including measure specifications, visit the [QualityNet](#) and [Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement](#) websites.

Program Support

To find additional information, tools, and resources to meet Hospital OQR Program deadlines, visit the Participation section of the Hospital OQR Program on the [QualityNet website](#). Additional tools and resources, including webinars, are also on the [Quality Reporting Center website](#).