

IPFQR Patient Experience of Care (PIX) Survey – XML File Layout & Instructions

Overview

This XML file specification describes how to structure and submit **PIX Survey** data to Hospital Quality Reporting (HQR).

- **Root element:** <PIX>
- **Scope:** One XML file contains the **facility CCN + reporting YEAR** and one or more patient **survey <RESPONSE>** records for that CCN and year.
- **Rejections:** Files may be rejected for root/structure issues, invalid CCN, invalid or closed YEAR/submission period, or invalid values for survey items (details below).
- **Schema (optional):** If validating against a schema, include XML Schema Instance attributes on the root element, e.g.:

XML

```
<PIX xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="PIX.xsd">
```

User Access & Submission Details

- In order to **submit and view PIX survey data** in HQR, submitters must have **Data Submissions > PIX > IPFQR** permissions. Vendors must also be **authorized on behalf of CCNs**. Unauthorized vendors will not be able to upload PIX survey data.
- In order to **review submission details**, users can navigate to the **PIX Survey index page** in HQR to view:
 - Total number of surveys submitted
 - Computed points for the overall PIX score
 - Computed points for each domain-specific score

File Structure (Hierarchy)

XML

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<PIX>
  <CCN>...</CCN>
  <YEAR>...</YEAR>
  <SURVEYRESPONSES>
    <RESPONSE>
      <!-- PIX item elements (0-5 or blank) -->
      <TTR_RESPECT>...</TTR_RESPECT>
      <TTR_OPINION>...</TTR_OPINION>
      <TTR_UNDERSTAND>...</TTR_UNDERSTAND>
      <TTR_DECISIONS>...</TTR_DECISIONS>
      <TTR_INCLUDE>...</TTR_INCLUDE>
      <ENV_CLEAN>...</ENV_CLEAN>
      <ENV_SAFE>...</ENV_SAFE>
      <ENV_QUIET>...</ENV_QUIET>
      <ENV_HEALTHY>...</ENV_HEALTHY>
      <ENV_LIGHT>...</ENV_LIGHT>
      <ENV_WEEKENDS>...</ENV_WEEKENDS>
      <ENV_ACTIVITIES>...</ENV_ACTIVITIES>
      <TE_IMPROVED>...</TE_IMPROVED>
      <TE_HELPFUL>...</TE_HELPFUL>
      <TE_MANAGE>...</TE_MANAGE>
      <TE_MEDICATIONS>...</TE_MEDICATIONS>
      <TE_RESOURCES>...</TE_RESOURCES>
      <NTP_NURSE_RESPECTFUL>...</NTP_NURSE_RESPECTFUL>
      <NTP_COUNSELOR_RESPECTFUL>...</NTP_COUNSELOR_RESPECTFUL>
      <NTP_NURSE_ATTENTIVE>...</NTP_NURSE_ATTENTIVE>
      <NTP_COUNSELOR_ATTENTIVE>...</NTP_COUNSELOR_ATTENTIVE>
      <NTP_ATTENTION_UNIT>...</NTP_ATTENTION_UNIT>
      <NTP_WORKED_TOGETHER>...</NTP_WORKED_TOGETHER>
    </RESPONSE>
    <!-- Repeat <RESPONSE> as needed -->
  </SURVEYRESPONSES>
</PIX>
```

Element Dictionary

Legend: *Data Type* = Numeric unless specified; *Min/Max* = character length where relevant.

Header Elements

- **<CCN>** — CMS Certification Number
 - **Description:** Facility CCN
 - **Valid Values:** 6-digit numeric (e.g., 123456)
 - **Data Type:** Alphanumeric (digits only expected)
 - **Min/Max:** 6/6
 - **Notes:** Must correspond to an active facility authorized to submit.
- **<YEAR>** — Reporting Year
 - **Description:** Calendar year of PIX Survey reporting period
 - **Valid Values:** YYYY (e.g., 2025)
 - **Data Type:** Numeric (4)
 - **Min/Max:** 4/4
 - **Notes:** Year must be **open and valid** for the current submission window.

Survey Response Elements (for each <RESPONSE>)

All items below accept **0–5** or **blank** (null) unless otherwise noted.

Response Coding (applies to all items):

- 5 = Strongly Agree
 - 4 = Somewhat Agree
 - 3 = Neutral
 - 2 = Somewhat Disagree
 - 1 = Strongly Disagree
 - 0 = Does Not Apply
- (Blank allowed when unanswered)*

Treatment Team Relationship (TTR)

- <TTR_RESPECT>, <TTR_OPINION>, <TTR_UNDERSTAND>, <TTR_DECISIONS>, <TTR_INCLUDE>

Environment (ENV)

- <ENV_CLEAN>, <ENV_SAFE>, <ENV_QUIET>, <ENV_HEALTHY>, <ENV_LIGHT>, <ENV_WEEKENDS>, <ENV_ACTIVITIES>

Treatment Effectiveness (TE)

- <TE_IMPROVED>, <TE_HELPFUL>, <TE_MANAGE>, <TE_MEDICATIONS>, <TE_RESOURCES>

New Team Perception (NTP)

- <NTP_NURSE_RESPECTFUL>, <NTP_COUNSELOR_RESPECTFUL>, <NTP_NURSE_ATTENTIVE>, <NTP_COUNSELOR_ATTENTIVE>, <NTP_ATTENTION_UNIT>, <NTP_WORKED_TOGETHER>

Data Type (all above): Numeric; *Valid:* integers **0–5** or blank; *Min/Max:* 1/1 when populated.

Validation & Edit Guidance

File-Level

- **Unreadable/Invalid File Type:** File is unreadable due to incorrect format or file type → **Reject**.
- **Submission Window Closed:** No open PIX submission periods for <YEAR> → **Reject**.

Header

- **CCN missing/invalid:** Not 6 digits, non-numeric, closed/inactive, or not found in HQR → **Reject**.
- **Authorization:** Submitting organization not authorized to submit for <CCN> → **Reject**.
- **YEAR missing/invalid:** Not YYYY or not valid/closed for submission period → **Reject**.

Record-Level (each <RESPONSE>)

- **Out-of-Range Value:** Any PIX item not in **0–5** (and not blank) → **Reject** row.
- **Blanks:** Only allowed where specified (PIX items may be blank if unanswered; CCN/YEAR may **not** be blank).

Example XML (Conforming)

```
XML
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<PIX>
  <CCN>123456</CCN>
  <YEAR>2025</YEAR>
  <SURVEYRESPONSES>
    <RESPONSE>
      <TTR_RESPECT>5</TTR_RESPECT>
```

```

<TTR_OPINION>4</TTR_OPINION>
<TTR_UNDERSTAND>3</TTR_UNDERSTAND>
<TTR_DECISIONS>2</TTR_DECISIONS>
<TTR_INCLUDE>1</TTR_INCLUDE>

<ENV_CLEAN>5</ENV_CLEAN>
<ENV_SAFE>4</ENV_SAFE>
<ENV_QUIET>3</ENV_QUIET>
<ENV_HEALTHY>2</ENV_HEALTHY>
<ENV_LIGHT>1</ENV_LIGHT>
<ENV_WEEKENDS>0</ENV_WEEKENDS>
<ENV_ACTIVITIES></ENV_ACTIVITIES> <!-- unanswered allowed
-->

<TE_IMPROVED>5</TE_IMPROVED>
<TE_HELPFUL>4</TE_HELPFUL>
<TE_MANAGE>3</TE_MANAGE>
<TE_MEDICATIONS>2</TE_MEDICATIONS>
<TE_RESOURCES>1</TE_RESOURCES>

<NTP_NURSE_RESPECTFUL>5</NTP_NURSE_RESPECTFUL>
<NTP_COUNSELOR_RESPECTFUL>4</NTP_COUNSELOR_RESPECTFUL>
<NTP_NURSE_ATTENTIVE>3</NTP_NURSE_ATTENTIVE>
<NTP_COUNSELOR_ATTENTIVE>2</NTP_COUNSELOR_ATTENTIVE>
<NTP_ATTENTION_UNIT>1</NTP_ATTENTION_UNIT>
<NTP_WORKED_TOGETHER>0</NTP_WORKED_TOGETHER>
</RESPONSE>

<!-- Additional <RESPONSE> blocks as needed -->
</SURVEYRESPONSES>
</PIX>

```

Authoring Tips (to reduce remediation)

- Use **consistent integer coding** (0–5) across all responses; avoid spaces/decimals.

- Keep <CCN> strictly **6 digits**; no separators.
- Ensure <YEAR> is **YYYY** and matches an **open** submission period.
- If you use a schema, validate locally before upload.