

Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) and Medicare Promoting Interoperability Programs



Calendar Year (CY) 2026 Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Submission Overview			
Program Requirements	Submit data for five eCQMs selected by CMS <u>and</u> three self-selected eCQMs for all four quarters of CY 2026. The eCQMs must be the same eCQMs across quarters in the reporting year. Each quarter must contain the same eight eCQMs. 5 CMS-Selected eCQMs 1. Safe Use of Opioids-Concurrent Prescribing 2. Cesarean Birth (Perinatal Care [PC]-02) 3. Severe Obstetric Complications (PC-07) 4. Hospital Harm-Severe Hypoglycemia (HH-HYPO) 5. Hospital Harm-Severe Hyperglycemia (HH-HYPER) 3 Self-Selected eCQMs Three self-selected eCQMs must come from the CY 2026 Available eCQMs Table .	Dual Program Acceptance	Hospitals that successfully submit eCQM data via the Hospital Quality Reporting (HQR) System will meet the eCQM reporting requirement for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospital IQR Program* Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program for eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAHs)**
		System Availability	The HQR System will be open for Test and Production file submissions in Fall 2026.
		Successful Submission	Data must be submitted through the <i>HQR Secure Portal</i> as any combination of these: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> QRDA Category I files with patients meeting the initial patient population of the applicable measure(s) Zero denominator declarations Case threshold exemptions
Submission Deadline	Monday, March 1, 2027, at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time		
Technical Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) Health Information Technology certification criteria to meet the certified electronic health record technology requirement. Use eCQM specifications published in the 2025 eCQM annual update for CY 2026 reporting and applicable addenda, available on the Eligible Hospital/Critical Access Hospital eCQMs page of the eCQI Resource Center. Use the 2026 CMS Implementation Guide for Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA) Category I, Schematron, and sample QRDA Category I files on the QRDA page of the eCQI Resource Center. 	File Validation Tool	Via the HQR System, hospitals and their vendors can validate QRDA Category I test and production file structure and contents and generate CSV files for feedback to correct QRDA Category I files prior to production re-submissions.
		Contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit questions about the HQR System (e.g., user roles, reports, data upload and troubleshooting file errors) to the Center for Clinical Standards and Quality Service Center at (866) 288-8912 or QNetSupport@cms.hhs.gov. Submit questions about the Hospital IQR Program and Extraordinary Circumstances Exceptions process to Inpatient and Outpatient Healthcare Quality Development and Program Support at (844) 472-4477 or the Quality Question and Answer Tool. Submit questions about the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program and Hardship Exception Process to the Quality Question and Answer Tool or (844) 472-4477. Visit the ONC Project Tracking System. Select the applicable Issue Tracker to log, track, and discuss eCQM issues with subject-matter experts.
Who Can Submit Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitals with a Health Care Quality Information Systems Access Roles and Profile (HARP) account can submit. Electronic health record vendors can create a HARP account to submit data on the hospital's behalf. Hospitals can log in to the HQR Secure Portal and the Vendor Management System to assign, modify, and remove vendor access from one page. Users receive instant confirmation of changes. 		
<p>*The submission of CY 2026 eCQM data will affect the FY 2028 payment determination.</p> <p>**The submission of CY 2026 eCQM data will affect the FY 2028 payment determination for eligible hospitals and the FY 2026 payment determination for CAHs.</p>			