

# Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: Management Bundle (Composite Measure) Severe Sepsis Present Data Element Version 5.14a Questions and Answers

December 5, 2023

#### **Speakers**

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#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this event is to:

- Review the Severe Sepsis Present data element.
- Respond to frequently asked questions.

#### **Objective**

Participants will be able to understand and interpret the guidance in Version 5.14a, effective for July 1, 2023, through December31, 2023 discharges, of the specifications manual, specific to the *Severe Sepsis Present* data element, to ensure successful reporting for the SEP-1 measure for the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting Program.

#### **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

A-fib	atrial fibrillation	ESRD QIP	End-Stage Renal Disease Quality Improvement Program
АМ	morning	ET	endotracheal tube
APN	advanced practice nurse	g	gram
ASC	Ambulatory surgical center	HAC	hospital-acquired condition
В	Not in Measure Population	HPI	history of present illness
BFCC- QIO	Beneficiary and Family Centered Care- Quality Improvement Organization	hr	Hour
BiPAP	bilevel positive airway pressure	HR	heart rate
ВР	blood pressure	HRRP	Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program
CCN	CMS Certification Number	HVBP	Hospital Value-Based Purchasing
CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services	Hx	history
c/o	complains of	ICU	Intensive care unit
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	INR	international normalized ratio
D	in measure population	Ю	intraosseous
DRA	Deficit Reduction Act	IPF	inpatient psychiatric facility
ED	emergency department	IQR	Inpatient Quality Reporting
EMS	emergency medical services	IV	intravenous

12/05/2023 Back 5

#### **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

MAR	Medication Administration Record	Pt	patient
MD	medical doctor	q	every
mg	milligram	Q&A	questions and answers
mL	milliliter	RN	Registered Nurse
O2	oxygen	r/t	related to
PA	physician assistant	RR	respiratory rate
PC	Perinatal Care	SEP	sepsis
РСН	Prospective Payment System-exempt Cancer Hospital	SIRS	systemic inflammatory response syndrome
PI	Promoting Interoperability	SNF	skilled nursing facility
PDF	Portable Data Format	Т	temperature
PHI	Protected Health Information	UTD	unable to determine
PICC	peripherally inserted central catheter	UTI	urinary tract infection
PNA	Pneumonia	Vanco	Vancomycin
РО	Oral	WBC	white blood count
POA	present on arrival/present on admission	X	data are missing
POC	point of contact		

12/05/2023 6

Noel Albritton, MSN, RN, and Jennifer Witt, RN

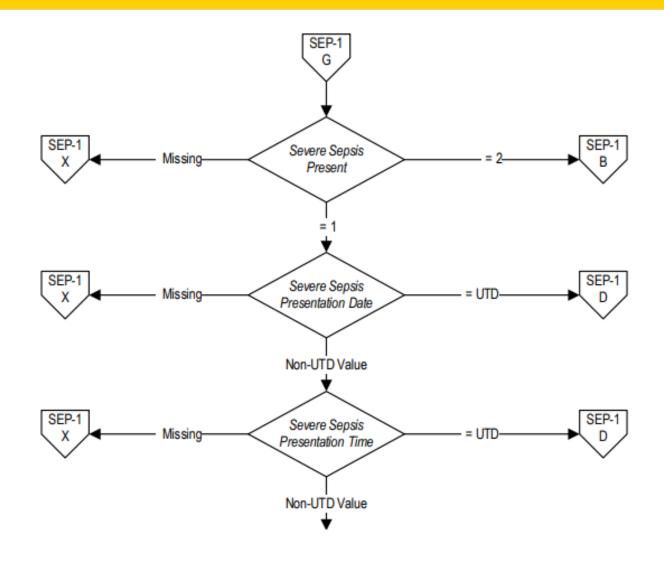
#### Severe Sepsis Present Data Element Version 5.14a

#### SEP-1 Appendix A.2 Version 5.14a Review

Table 4.01: Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock (SEP)

ICD-10-CM Code	Code Description
A021	Salmonella sepsis
A227	Anthrax sepsis
A267	Erysipelothrix sepsis
A327	Listerial sepsis
A400	Sepsis due to streptococcus, group A
A401	Sepsis due to streptococcus, group B
A403	Sepsis due to Streptococcus pneumoniae
A408	Other streptococcal sepsis
A409	Streptococcal sepsis, unspecified
A4101	Sepsis due to Methicillin susceptible Staphylococcus aureus
A4102	Sepsis due to Methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus
A411	Sepsis due to other specified staphylococcus
A412	Sepsis due to unspecified staphylococcus
A413	Sepsis due to Hemophilus influenzae
A414	Sepsis due to anaerobes
A4150	Gram-negative sepsis, unspecified
A4151	Sepsis due to Escherichia coli [E. coli]
A4152	Sepsis due to Pseudomonas
A4153	Sepsis due to Serratia
A4154	Sepsis due to Acinetobacter baumannii
A4159	Other Gram-negative sepsis
A4181	Sepsis due to Enterococcus
A4189	Other specified sepsis
A419	Sepsis, unspecified organism
A427	Actinomycotic sepsis
A5486	Gonococcal sepsis
R6520	Severe sepsis without septic shock
R6521	Severe sepsis with septic shock

#### SEP-1 Algorithm Version 5.14a Review



#### Severe Sepsis Present Clinical Criteria

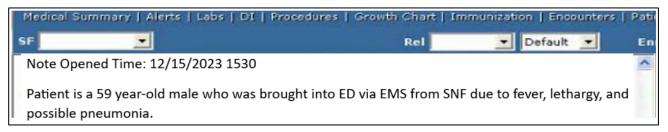
- Use clinical criteria or physician/APN/PA documentation of severe sepsis to identify the presence of severe sepsis.
- To establish the presence of severe sepsis by clinical criteria, all three clinical criteria (a, b, and c) must be met within six hours of each other. The three clinical criteria do not need to be documented in any particular order.
  - a. Documentation of an infection
  - b. Two or more manifestations of systemic infection according to the Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS) criteria
  - c. Organ dysfunction

# Severe Sepsis Present Criterion A, Infection

- If documentation of an infection within a physician/APN/PA, nursing, or pharmacist note does not have a specific date and time or is documented using the acronym POA, use the date and time the note was started or opened.
  - If a timestamp reflecting the note opened or started time is unavailable, use the following sources in priority order.
    - 1. Provider Patient Care Initiated Time (e.g., Seen Time, Contact Time, etc.)
    - 2. Scribe Time
    - 3. Earliest time at the beginning of the note reflecting when the note was opened or started

### Severe Sepsis Present Infection Question #1

- Q. Which time would you use for the infection documentation to meet Severe Sepsis Present criteria a (infection) based on the below documentation and meeting two SIRS criteria at 1600 (criteria b) and a sign of organ dysfunction at 1615 (criteria c)?
  - MD documentation:

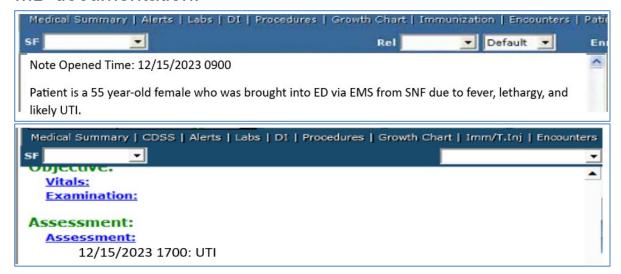




A. Use 1530 for the infection documentation time.

### Severe Sepsis Present Infection Question #2

- Q. Which time would you use for the infection documentation to meet Severe Sepsis Present criteria a (infection) based on the below documentation and meeting two SIRS criteria at 1600 (criteria b) and a sign of organ dysfunction at 1615 (criteria c)?
  - MD documentation:



A. Use 1700 for the infection documentation time.

# Severe Sepsis Present Criterion A, Infection

 An IV or IO antibiotic ordered for a condition that may be inflammation or a sign or symptom of an infection can be considered documentation of an infection (e.g., ceftriaxone ordered for colitis, Zosyn 3.375 g IV q6hr for cough).

### Severe Sepsis Present Infection Question #3

- Q. Which time would you use for the infection documentation to meet Severe Sepsis Present criteria a (infection) based on the below documentation?
  - PA note opened 09/10/2023 1145:



MAR:

#### Medication

Vancomycin 500 mg/100 mL

Vancomycin 500 mg/100 mL

Vancomycin 500 mg/100 mL

#### **Administration Date/Time**

09/09/2023 1800

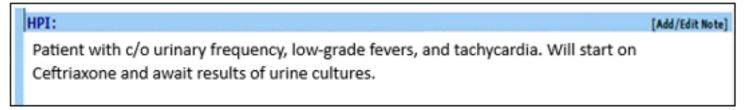
09/10/2023 0600

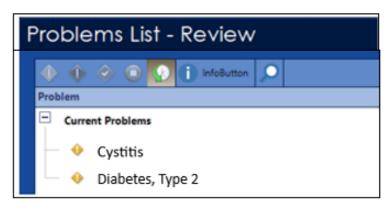
09/10/2023 1800

A. Use 1145 for the infection documentation time.

### Severe Sepsis Present Infection Question #4

- Q. Would you use this documentation to meet Severe Sepsis Present criteria a (infection) based on the information below?
  - Physician note opened 10/15/23 at 1500:





A. No.

#### Knowledge Check: Severe Sepsis Present – Infection

Would you use the PA's reason for ordering IV Vancomycin "cellulitis" to establish criteria a (infection) for the Severe Sepsis Present data element?

A. Yes

B. No

#### Knowledge Check: Severe Sepsis Present – Infection

Would you use the PA's reason for ordering IV Vancomycin "cellulitis" to establish criteria a (infection) for the Severe Sepsis Present data element?

A. Yes

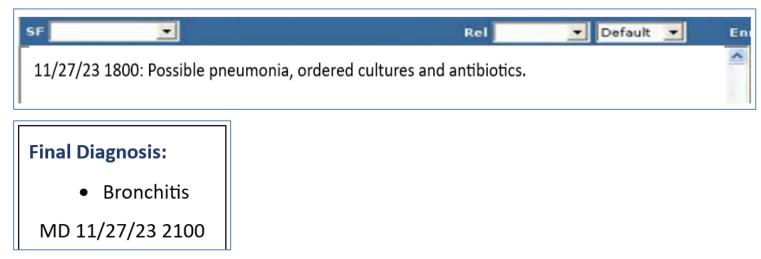
B. No

## Severe Sepsis Present Criterion A, Infection

 If physician/APN/PA documentation within six hours following the initial documentation of the infection indicates that the infection is not present, do not use documentation of that infection made prior to the documentation indicating the infection is not present.

### Severe Sepsis Present Infection Question #5

- Q. Would you disregard this infection documentation based on the information below?
  - MD note:



A. No.

20

# Severe Sepsis Present Criterion C, Organ Dysfunction

- For evidence of acute respiratory failure:
  - Use the time when mechanical ventilation was started or the time when the mechanical ventilation changed from intermittent to continuous.

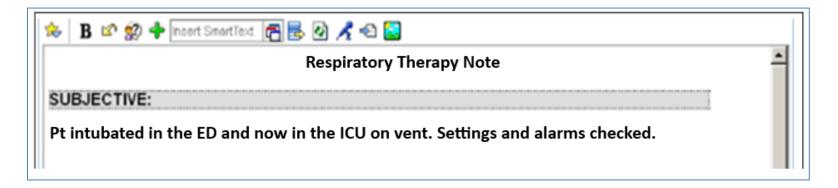
#### **Example:**

Intubation Flowsheet: ET placement at 0800. Respiratory Flowsheet: Parameters and vent settings/alarms documented at 0815. Respiratory Therapist note at 0840: "Patient intubated and placed on mechanical ventilation at 0830."

 Use 0830 as the time when mechanical ventilation was started. The intubation time or time of the vent settings would not be used as the time mechanical ventilation was started/initiated.

# Severe Sepsis Present Organ Dysfunction Question #6

Q. Would you use the mechanical ventilation as a sign of organ dysfunction based only on the documentation below?



A. No.

#### Knowledge Check: Severe Sepsis Present – Organ Dysfunction

Which time would you use for the mechanical ventilation to establish criteria c (organ dysfunction) for the *Severe Sepsis Present* data element?

- A. ET Placed 1730
- B. Bag valve mask 1740
- C. Ventilator placed 1815

#### Knowledge Check: Severe Sepsis Present – Organ Dysfunction

Which time would you use for the mechanical ventilation to establish criteria c (organ dysfunction) for the Severe Sepsis Present data element?

- A. ET Placed 1730
- B. Bag valve mask 1740
- C. Ventilator placed 1815

# Severe Sepsis Present Criterion C, Organ Dysfunction

- If the SIRS criteria or a sign of organ dysfunction is due to the following, do not use it. Do not make inferences. The abnormal value or reference to the abnormal value must be in the same documentation (i.e., same sentence or paragraph).
  - Normal for that patient
  - Is due to a chronic condition
  - Is due to a medication

# Severe Sepsis Present Organ Dysfunction Question #7

- Q. Would you use the abnormal bilirubin value to establish Severe Sepsis Present organ dysfunction based only on the documentation below?
  - Lab Report 0600: Bilirubin 2.4
  - PA Note at 0845: "Bilirubin normally runs high for patient"
- A. Yes, use the bilirubin value of 2.4 to establish organ dysfunction.

# Severe Sepsis Present Organ Dysfunction Question #8

- Q. Would you use the abnormal INR value to establish Severe Sepsis Present organ dysfunction based only on the documentation below?
  - Lab Report 1600: INR 1.9
  - APN Note at 1645: "INR 1.9, last dose of warfarin at home this AM."
- A. No, do not use the INR value of 1.9 to establish organ dysfunction.

# Severe Sepsis Present Criterion C, Organ Dysfunction

 If SIRS criteria or a sign of organ dysfunction is due to an acute condition that has a non-infectious source/process, do not use it (refer to Severe Sepsis Present criterion "a" to determine if the source of the acute condition is an infection).

# Severe Sepsis Present Organ Dysfunction Question #9

Q. Would you use the initiation of the BiPAP as a sign of organ dysfunction based only on the documentation below?

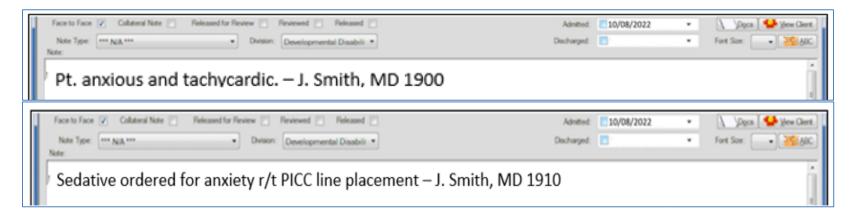
#### MD note:



A. Yes.

### Severe Sepsis Present SIRS Question #10

Q. Would you use the elevated heart rate as a SIRS criterion to establish Severe Sepsis Present if all three severe sepsis clinical criteria were met at 1800?



A. No.

### Severe Sepsis Present Documentation

- Select Value "2" if at the same time or within six hours after meeting clinical criteria or physician/APN/PA documentation of severe sepsis there is additional physician/APN/PA documentation indicating:
  - Patient is not septic
  - Patient does not have sepsis or severe sepsis
  - Patient does not have septic shock, and severe sepsis was met by physician/APN/PA documentation that septic shock was present.
  - Severe sepsis or septic shock is due to a viral, fungal, or parasitic infection.

### Severe Sepsis Present Documentation Question #11

Q. Would you select Value "2" (No) for the Severe Sepsis Present data element based only on the documentation below?

#### **MD Note:**

1300: "Appearing viral at this time rather than severely septic"

1430: "Influenza negative, possible severe sepsis"

A. No.

### Severe Sepsis Present Documentation Question #12

Q. Would you select Value "2" (No) for the Severe Sepsis Present data element based only on the documentation below?

2130: All three severe sepsis clinical criteria met.

**MD Note:** 

2200: "questionable severe sepsis"

A. No.

### Severe Sepsis Present Documentation Question #13

Q. Would you select Value "2" (No) for the Severe Sepsis Present data element based only on the documentation below?

1530: All three severe sepsis clinical criteria met.

**MD Note:** 

1800: "severe sepsis has been ruled out"

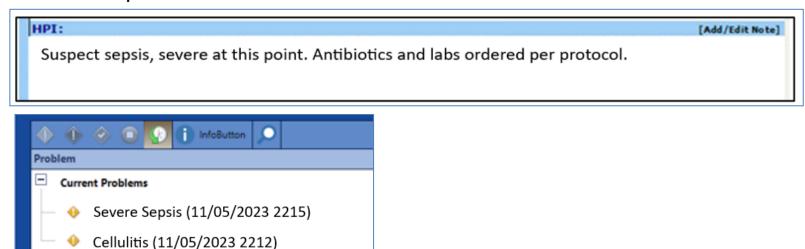
A. Yes.

# Severe Sepsis Presentation Time Multiple Documentation

 If severe sepsis or septic shock is documented multiple times within the same note, use the earliest specified time.

#### Severe Sepsis Presentation Time Clinician Documentation Question #1

- Q. Which date and time would you use for Severe Sepsis Presentation Date and Time based only on the documentation below?
  - MD note opened 11/05/23 at 0900:



A. Use 11/05/2023 at 2215 for Severe Sepsis Presentation Date and Time.

# Severe Sepsis Presentation Time Priority Order

- If severe sepsis or septic shock is documented in a physician/APN/PA note without a specific time or documented using the acronym POA, the following apply:
  - If it is the only documentation of severe sepsis or septic shock in the note, use the time the note was started or opened.
    - If a timestamp reflecting the note opened or started time is unavailable, use the following sources in priority order.
      - 1. Provider Patient Care Initiated time (e.g., Seen time, Contact time, etc.)
      - 2. Scribe time
      - 3. Earliest time at the beginning of the note reflecting when the note was opened or started.

### Knowledge Check: Severe Sepsis Presentation Time

Which date and time would you use for *Severe Sepsis Presentation Time* if the MD note opened at 1500 and stated "severe sepsis POA"?

- A. Arrival Time
- B. Note Opened at 1500

### Knowledge Check: Severe Sepsis Presentation Time

Which date and time would you use for *Severe Sepsis Presentation Time* if the MD note opened at 1500 and stated "severe sepsis POA"?

- A. Arrival Time
- B. Note Opened at 1500

#### Severe Sepsis Presentation Date and Time Present On Admission

- If physician/APN/PA documentation states severe sepsis or septic shock was present on admission or indicates the patient was admitted with severe sepsis or septic shock, use the earliest time of the following for the physician/APN/PA documentation of severe sepsis or septic shock:
  - Physician/APN/PA note
  - Admit order
  - Disposition to inpatient
  - Arrival to floor or unit

- Q. If the MD documented "Pt was admitted to the hospital three days ago with severe sepsis" which time would you choose for the Severe Sepsis Presentation Time?
  - Admit Order at 0800
  - Disposition changed to inpatient at 0840
  - Arrival time to the inpatient floor at 0930

A. Select 0800 for the Severe Sepsis Presentation Time.

Q. Which time would you use as the Severe Sepsis Presentation Time based only on the documentation below?

1800: Disposition changed to inpatient

1830: All three severe sepsis clinical criteria met

1845: Admit order

2230: MD note: "Pt admitted with septic shock"

A. Use 1800 as the Severe Sepsis Presentation Time.

Q. Which time would you use as the Severe Sepsis Presentation Time based only on the documentation below?

0445: Admit order

0500: Hospitalist note opened: "likely severe sepsis"

0520: Hospitalist states: "impending severe sepsis"

0530: All three severe sepsis clinical criteria met

0630: MD note: "Pt has a previous admission last year

due to severe sepsis."

A. Use 0500 as the Severe Sepsis Presentation Time.

Q. What time would you use for the Severe Sepsis

Presentation Date and Time based on this information?

Nurse note 12/10/2023 1500: "possible sepsis pt."

Vital Signs Flowsheet 12/10/2023 1600:

T: 101.5 RR: 25

HR: 112 BP: 84/51

A. Use 12/10/2023 at 1600 as the Severe Sepsis Presentation Date and Time.

Q. What time would you use for the Severe Sepsis Presentation Date and Time based on this information?

PA note 09/10/2023 0700: "rule out PNA"

Vital Signs Flowsheet 09/10/2023 0600:

T: 101.1 RR: 23 HR: 88 BP: 84/48

POC Lactate Result 09/10/2023 0730: 2.5

Hospitalist note 09/10/2023 2100: "hypotension related to dehydration due to poor PO intake."

A. Use 09/10/2023 at 0730 as the Severe Sepsis Presentation Date and Time.

Q. If the following POC lactate result times are documented, which time would you choose for the lactate result?

RN Note: POC lactate 2.5, 0645 Note Opened Time

**POC Lactate Collection Time: 0720** 

Physician Note: POC lactate 2.5 at 0730

Flowsheet: Lactate 2.5 at 0715

A. Use the time from the physician note (0730).

Q. What time would you use for the Severe Sepsis Presentation Date and Time based on this information?

ED MD note 11/20/2023 1800: "Hx COPD, A-fib."

RN note 11/20/2023 2030:

"likely infectious source causing symptoms"

EMS Flowsheet 11/20/2023 1745:

T: 99.5 RR: 26 HR: 111 BP: 109/70

Lab Results 11/20/2023 2130: WBC 15, Creatinine 2.5

Cardiologist note: 11/21/2023 0800: "A-fib with tachycardia"

A. Use 11/20/2023 at 2130 as the Severe Sepsis Presentation Date and Time.

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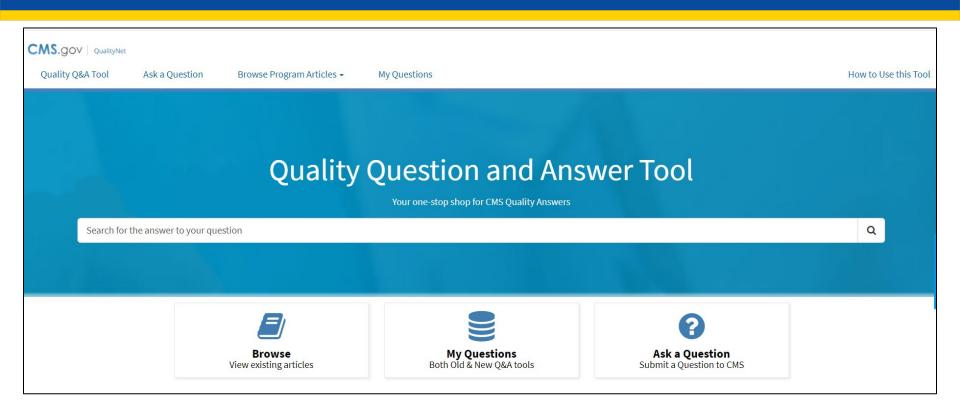
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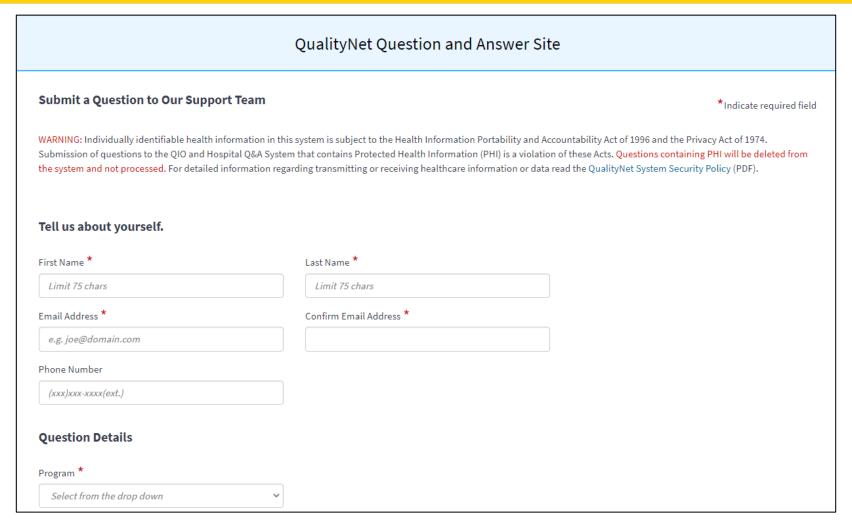
https://cmsqualitysupport.servicenowservices.com/qnet\_qa

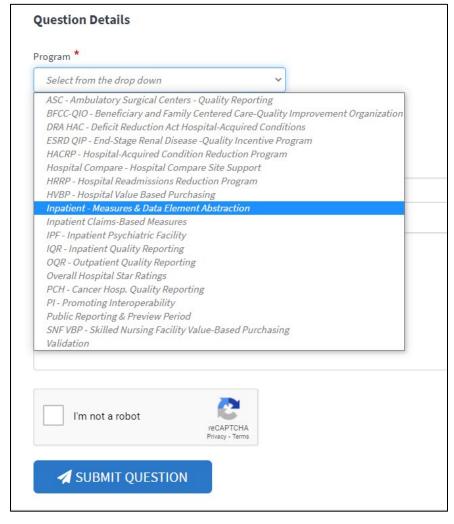
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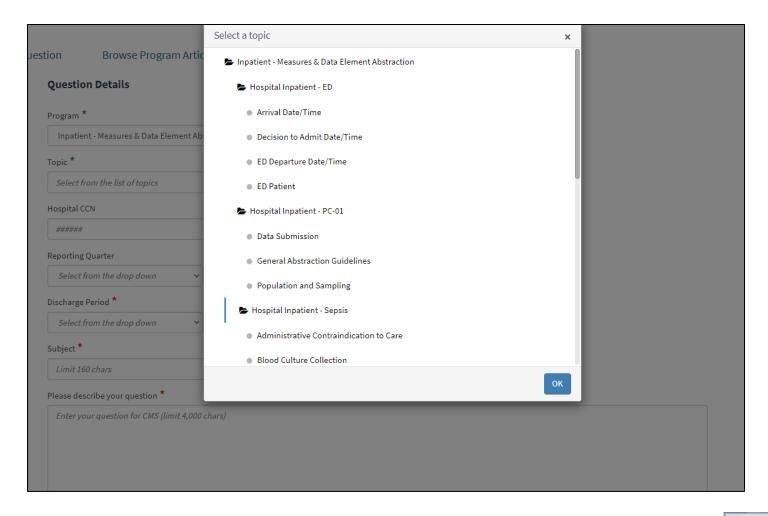


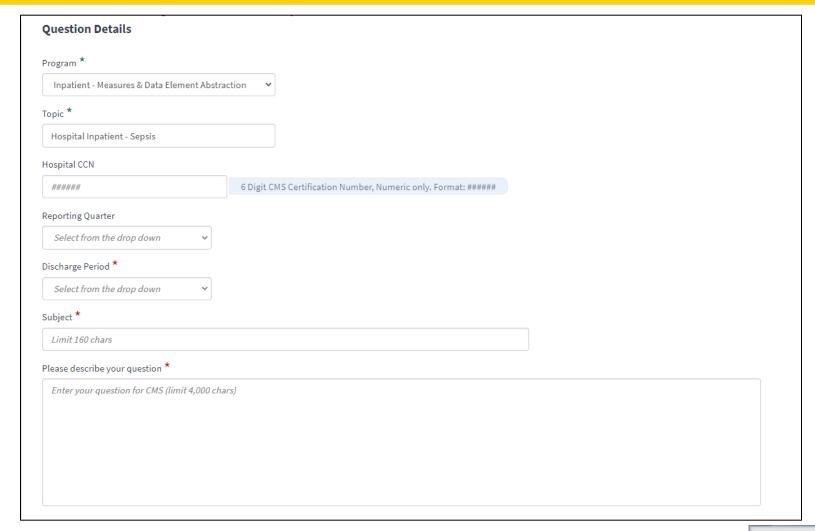
- Click Browse to search for existing questions and answers.
- Click Ask a Question to submit a new question.





Acronyms 52





Noel Albritton, MSN, RN, and Jennifer Witt, RN

#### **Questions and Answers**

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#### National credit

Board of Registered Nursing (Provider #16578)

#### Florida-only credit

- Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage & Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling
- Board of Registered Nursing
- Board of Nursing Home Administrators
- Board of Dietetics and Nutrition Practice Council
- Board of Pharmacy

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