

**Reference #:** 2024-135-IP

**From:** Inpatient and Outpatient Healthcare Quality Systems Development and Program Support Contractor

**Sent:** September 26, 2024

**To:** IQR and EHR Lists

**Subject:** Reminder: FY 2026 Hybrid HWR and Hybrid HWM Measure Data Due October 1, 2024

In the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 IPPS/LTCH PPS final rule and the FY 2022 IPPS/LTCH PPS final rule, we finalized that the Hybrid Hospital-Wide All-Cause Readmission (HWR) measure and Hybrid Hospital-Wide All-Cause Risk Standardized Mortality (HWM) measures would become mandatory beginning with the FY 2026 payment determination. We also previously finalized that the Hybrid HWR and Hybrid HWM measure submission deadline for the July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024 performance period would be October 1, 2024. The purpose of this email is to remind hospitals participating in the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program that the Hybrid HWR measure and Hybrid HWM measure data submission deadline is **Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time.**

Please note, if the Calendar Year (CY) Medicare Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System and Ambulatory Surgical Center (OPPS/ ASC) Prospective Payment System (PPS) final rule is finalized as proposed on or around November 1, 2024, then submission of the Hybrid HWR and Hybrid HWM measures **core clinical data elements (CCDEs) and linking variables information submitted for the July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 performance period would be treated as voluntary.**

Based on data from the previous voluntary data submission periods and feedback from providers about challenges related to submitting CCDEs and linking variables, in the CY 2025 OPSS/ASC PPS proposed rule we proposed to continue voluntary reporting of CCDEs and linking variables for the Hybrid HWR and Hybrid HWM measures for an additional year. If this proposal is finalized, a hospital's annual payment determination for FY 2026 would not be affected by voluntarily reported CCDEs and linking variables for the performance period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, and CCDE and linking variable data would not be represented in publicly reported data. If this proposal is finalized, we would still evaluate and assess the claims data portion of these measures and the Hybrid HWR and Hybrid HWM measures would be publicly reported based on claims data.

### **Extraordinary Circumstances Exceptions (ECE)**

For circumstances relating to the reporting of hybrid measures, a hospital participating in the Hospital IQR Program can request an exception by submitting its request to CMS within 90 calendar days from when you determined that the extraordinary event occurred. The event may occur during the measurement period through the submission or reporting deadline. Refer to the [ECE Policy page](#) on QualityNet.

### **Resources**

More information on the Hybrid HWR and Hybrid HWM measures is available on the [eCQI Resource Center](#) and [QualityNet](#) websites. Visit the [eCQM Archived Events page](#) of [QualityReportingCenter.com](#) and the [Hospital Quality Reporting \(HQR\) Support Video Playlist](#) for videos that provide assistance on the data submission process.

**Be sure to complete and submit the Hospital Contact Change Form to ensure we have the correct contact information for your facility in our system.**

### **Contact Information**

- For questions about the implementation of the hybrid measures and related claim-based specifications, please submit a ticket to the CMS [Quality Question and Answer Tool](#) by selecting IQR – Inpatient Quality Reporting under Program and Hybrid Measures under Topic.
- For questions regarding the measure logic, value sets and electronic specifications for the hybrid measures, please submit a ticket to the JIRA tool:  
<https://oncprojecttracking.healthit.gov/support/projects/CHM/summary>.
- For questions regarding the HQR System, including questions regarding user roles, reports, data upload, and troubleshooting file errors, please contact the Center for Clinical Standards and Quality Service Center at (866) 288-8912 or [QNetSupport@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:QNetSupport@cms.hhs.gov).
- For further assistance regarding the Hospital IQR Program and policy information contained in this message, please contact the Inpatient and Outpatient Healthcare Quality Systems Development and Program Support Contractor at [https://cmsqualitysupport.servicenow.com/qnet\\_qa](https://cmsqualitysupport.servicenow.com/qnet_qa) or (844) 472-4477.

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