

Reference #: 2025-28-IP
From: Inpatient and Outpatient Healthcare Quality Systems Development and Program Support
Sent: March 25, 2025
To: IQR, EHR, OQR and OQR-EHR Recipient Lists
Subject: Now Available: Revised eCQM Annual Update Pre-Publication Document

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has amended the [Electronic Clinical Quality Measures \(eQMs\) Annual Update Pre-Publication Document](#), which provides the versions of the standards and code systems used within the updated eQMs for potential use in CMS quality reporting programs for the 2026 reporting/performance period. CMS has updated the Pre-Publication Document to remove references to two code systems that will no longer be used in updated eQMs for the 2026 reporting/performance period.

The Pre-Publication Document is designed to prepare health information technology (IT)/electronic health record (EHR) developers, eligible clinicians, and hospitals for 2026 reporting/performance through the transparent pre-release of the expected standards and code system versions.

The updated eQMs will be available on the [Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement \(eCQI\) Resource Center](#) in Spring 2025. The measures will be expressed using Clinical Quality Language (CQL) logic and will continue to use the Quality Data Model (QDM) as the conceptual model to express clinical concepts contained within eQMs. Refer to the [QDM v5.6](#) and the [CQL standard v1.5](#) to better understand how they work together to provide eQMs that are human readable, yet structured for electronic processing. Measures will not be eligible for the 2026 reporting/performance period unless and until they are proposed and finalized through notice-and-comment rulemaking for each applicable program.

To find out more about eQMs and CQL, visit the [eCQI Resource Center](#). Please sign up for and follow the [eCQI Resource Center](#), [CMS](#), and the [Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy and Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology \(ASTP/ONC\)](#) listservs to receive updates and announcements on the eCQM specifications' publication and related content.

Please submit questions or comments regarding the standards being used or the upcoming eCQM annual update to the [eCQM Issue Tracker](#).