

Home Health Spotlight Archive

2016

December 29, 2016

Home Health Quality of Patient Care Star Rating **MLN Connects® Call**

Thursday, January 19, 2017 **from 1:30-3 pm ET**

To register for an MLN Connects Call, please visit the [MLN Connects Event Registration](#) website.

Learn about proposed changes to the Home Health Quality of Patient Care star rating on [Home Health Compare](#) based on stakeholder and technical expert panel feedback, overview of the current calculation algorithm, proposed changes, and potential roll-out plans. A question and answer session follows the presentation.

December 22, 2016

IMPACT Act of 2014 Cross-Setting Quality Measures: Risk adjustment reports for Discharge to Community and Potentially Preventable Rehospitalization Available

CMS has contracted with Abt Associates to develop cross-setting post-acute care measures for the quality measures Discharge to Community (DTC) and Potentially Preventable Rehospitalizations. The technical specifications for risk adjustment for these measures are available in the "**Downloads**" section of the [Home Health Quality Initiative](#) page.

December 21, 2016

Video Recordings of November Dallas Home Health QRP Provider Training Now Available

Video recordings of presentations made at the November 16 and 17, 2016, Home Health QRP Provider Training in Dallas, TX, are now available via [YouTube](#).

December 15, 2016

Post-training Presentations (with Answers) from the November Dallas Home Health QRP Provider Training Now Available

Post-training materials from the November 16 and 17, 2016, Home Health QRP Provider Training in Dallas, TX, are now available under the Downloads section of the [Home Health QRP Training webpage](#).

December 12, 2016

Functional Status TEP Summary Available

CMS held a Technical Expert Panel for the IMPACT Act of 2014 Cross-Setting Quality Measure Domain: Function Status, Cognitive Function, and Changes in Function and Cognitive Function on October 17 and 18, 2016. A summary of the TEP is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/MMS/TechnicalExpertPanels.html>

November 18, 2016

**IMPACT Act Cross-Setting Quality Measure: Transfer of Health Information and Care Preferences
Comments Due December 11**

Public comments are due December 11 on a cross-setting post-acute care measure under the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation Act of 2014 ([IMPACT Act](#)). In alignment with the CMS and National Quality Strategy (NQS) objectives and goals, the purpose of this project is to develop, maintain, re-evaluate, and implement measures reflective of quality care for PAC settings to support CMS quality missions including the LTCH QRP, IRF QRP, SNF QRP and HH QRP.

CMS seeks to obtain input on the development of the following cross-setting quality measures for use in post-acute care settings:

1. Transfer of Information at Post-Acute Care Admission, Start, or Resumption of Care from Other Providers/Settings
2. Transfer of Information at Post-Acute Care Discharge or End of Care to Other Providers/Settings

Visit the [Public Comment](#) webpage for more information.

November 18, 2016

**Proposed IMPACT Act Cross-Setting Quality Measure: Percent of Home Health Episodes with an Admission and Discharge Functional Assessment and a Care Plan That Addresses Function
Comments due December 9**

Public comments are due December 9 on a proposed cross-setting post-acute care measure under the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation Act of 2014 ([IMPACT Act](#)).

Visit the [Public Comment](#) webpage for more information.

November 14, 2016

Starting with the July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 annual performance update (APU) period, the QAO performance requirement is increased to 80%. The table below shows the QAO reporting schedule for 2017. More information on the QAO performance requirement is available on the [Home Health Quality Reporting](#) page. The QAO Interim and Annual Performance Reports will remain in the CASPER folders for 120 days.

Quality Assessment Only (QAO) Interim Performance Report (Available in CASPER folders)	Includes OASIS Assessments COMPLETED During	Includes OASIS Assessments SUBMITTED by
By January 31, 2017	October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016	October 30, 2016
By April 1, 2017	January 1, 2016-December 31, 2016	January 31, 2017
By June 30, 2017	April 1, 2017-March 31, 2017	April 30, 2017
Quality Assessment Only (QAO) ANNUAL Performance Report - By September 30, 2017	July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017	July 31, 2017

Below is calendar of key 2017 dates for the next three quarters of Home Health Compare updates. There will be no refresh in October 2017 to accommodate provisions of the IMPACT Act.

	January 2017	April 2017	July 2017	October 2017
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Preview reports available in CASPER	September 30, 2016	By January 5, 2017	By April 6, 2017	N/A
Quality of Patient Care Star Rating suppression request deadline	October 24, 2016	January 20, 2017	April 21, 2017	N/A
Deadline for submitting missing or corrected data	November 18, 2016	February 10, 2017	May 12, 2017	N/A
Home Health Compare updated	January 26, 2017	TBD, April 2016	TBD, July 2016	N/A

November 08, 2016

A corrected version of the OASIS C-2 Item Set, correcting 2 minor typos on page 3 of the all time points version, has been posted on the OASIS Item Set page.

November 08, 2016

OASIS-C2 Question and Answer Documents Now Available

Q&A documents to support data collection under OASIS-C2 are now available on the [OASIS User Guides & Training](#) webpage. The guidance reflected in these Q&A's should be considered effective with the OASIS-C2 data set use, applicable for all assessments with a M0090 Date Assessment Completed date of January 1, 2017 or later.

November 03, 2016

Training Materials for November 2016 Home Health QRP Provider Training Available

Training materials for the upcoming 2-day Home Health QRP Provider Training event on Wednesday, November 16, and Thursday, November 17, 2016, near Dallas, TX, are now available under the download section of the [HH QRP Training webpage](#). The URL, **which will be live at the time of the event**, to access the webcast of next week's training is as follows: <http://breasiaproductions.com/bptv/> **OR (live at the time of the event)**. Programming will start at 8:30 a.m. CT and end at 5:00 p.m. CT on Wednesday, November 16. On Thursday, November 17, training will start at 8:30 a.m. CT and end at 3:30 p.m. CT.

There will be an optional Meet-and-Greet with CMS staff and presenters on Wednesday, November 16, from 5:00 to 5:30 p.m. CT for those individuals participating in-person.

Visit the [HH QRP Training webpage](#) for more information and to register and/or find out how to participate.

November 02, 2016

Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings Update

A follow-up meeting of the Quality of Patient Care Technical Expert Panel (TEP) was held on September 20, 2016. The purpose of the webinar was to review the results of additional analysis recommended by the TEP, along with revised communication materials. The TEP summary, an updated sample preview report and a fact sheet for stakeholders are available on the [Star Ratings](#) page.

October 31, 2016

Specifications for the measures finalized in the HH QRP through the CY 2017 HH PPS Final Rule are now available. The specifications provide detailed information on the following proposed measures:

- Discharge to Community-Post Acute Care Home Health Quality Reporting Program,
- Potentially Preventable 30-Day Post Discharge Readmission Measure for Home Health Quality Reporting Program, and
- Drug Regimen Review Conducted with Follow-Up for Identified Issues-Post Acute Care Home Health Quality Reporting Program, and
- Cross-Setting Pressure Ulcer Measure: Percent of Residents or Patients with Pressure Ulcers that are New or Worsened (revision to fix a typo in the calculation algorithm).

The OASIS Item Set specifications for the measures finalized in the CY 2017 CY HH PPS Final Rule are also available.

The specifications for the measures proposed can be found in the Downloads section of the Impact Act Downloads and Videos page and Home Health Quality Measures page.

Other documents posted in support of the CY2017 HH QRP Final Rule include the Home Health Measures Tables revised to reflect OASIS-C2 item set revisions and the measure removals finalized in the CY2017 final rule:

- Home Health Process Measures Tables
- Home Health Outcome Measures Tables
- Home Health Potentially Adverse Events Measures Tables

These tables can be found on the [Home Health Quality Measures Page](#)

October 26, 2016

REMINDER TO REGISTER for the Dallas TX Home Health (HH) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Provider Training on November 16-17, 2016. Deadline to receive discounted rates on hotel rooms will end on October 26.

CMS is hosting a 2-day training event on the Home Health (HH) Quality Reporting Program (QRP). This event will be held in Dallas, Texas on Wednesday, November 16, and Thursday, November 17, 2016.

TO REGISTER: Visit the [HH Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage

October 26, 2016

CMS 2016 Quality Conference- Baltimore, MD

December 13-15

Join more than nearly 2,000 thought leaders in American health care quality improvement at the CMS 2016 Quality Conference. This conference will explore how patients, advocates, providers, researchers, and the many leaders in health care quality improvement can develop and spread solutions to some of America's most pervasive health system challenges. The 2016 CMS Quality Conference will be the most expansive yet, with both new and existing participants from programs across CMS, HHS, and community stakeholders. The collaborative format of the conference, and strong focus on data-proven outcomes is underscored by this year's conference theme, Aligning for Innovation and Outcomes.

For more information and to register, visit the [CMS Quality Conference](#) webpage.

October 20, 2016

Errata Issued for the OASIS-C2 Guidance Manual set to take effect on January 1, 2017 is now available at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/HomeHealthQualityInits/HHQIOASISUserManual.html>

October 12, 2016

Home Health Quality Reporting Program Provider Training: Registration Open

CMS is hosting a 2-day training event on the Home Health (HH) Quality Reporting Program (QRP). This event will be held in Dallas, Texas on Wednesday, November 16, and Thursday, November 17, 2016.

Visit the [HH Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage for more information and to register.

September 30, 2016

Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings Preview Reports now available

The Home Health Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings Preview Reports and the Home Health Compare Provider Preview Reports are now available in the Provider CASPER folders. These reports contain data that will be publicly reported on the Home Health Compare website in January 2017. The deadline to submit a request to have the Quality of Patient Care star rating data suppressed is October 24, 2016. Please follow the directions laid out in the Quality of Patient Care star rating Preview Report to submit a suppression request.

The October 2016 refresh of the Home Health Compare website will occur on October 19, 2016. The data presented on HHC in October will match those presented in the preview reports that were uploaded to CASPER in July.

Any questions about these reports can be directed to HomeHealthQualityQuestions@cms.hhs.gov.

September 28, 2016

Quality Assessment Only (QAO) Annual Performance Reports Now Available

The QAO Annual Performance Reports have been posted to the CASPER folders. These reports show QAO results for the Annual Performance Update (APU) period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The performance requirement for this period is a QAO rate of at least 70%. The QAO Annual Performance Reports will remain in the CASPER folders for 120 days. More information on the QAO performance requirement is available on the [Home Health Quality Reporting](#) page.

August 25, 2016

TEP on IMPACT Act Quality Measures: Nominations due September 7

Nominations are due September 7 for a Technical Expert Panel (TEP) on quality measures to satisfy the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation Act of 2014 (IMPACT Act). CMS is developing cross-setting post-acute care measures for the quality measure domain - Function Status, Cognitive Function, and Changes in Function and Cognitive Function.

Visit the [Technical Expert Panels](#) webpage for more information.

July 05, 2016

Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings Preview Report Update

Due to the July 4th holiday, the Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings Preview Reports will be available in CASPER folders the week of July 5th. These reports contain data that will be publicly reported on the Home Health Compare website in October 2016. Starting this quarter, the preview report includes additional information about the rating and how the results shown on the scorecard can be used by agencies for quality improvement.

The deadline to submit a request to have the star rating data suppressed is July 25, 2016. Please follow the directions laid out in the Preview Reports to submit a suppression request.

Any questions about these reports can be directed to HomeHealthQualityQuestions@cms.hhs.gov.