



Quality Assessments Only (QAO): Measure Review and Historical Performance Reports

Special Open Door Forum

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

June 2, 2015

Agenda

- Introduction
- Review of Quality Assessments Only (QAO) Metric
 - Background
 - Computation
- Historical Performance Report
 - Rationale
 - Sample Report
- Questions and comments

Why QAO Metric for Home Health?

- Section 1895(b)(3)(B)(v)(I) of the Social Security Act (“the Act”) established the requirement for Home Health Quality Reporting Program
- Performance is tied to the home health market basket percentage increase (annual percentage update /APU program)
 - APU can be reduced by 2 percentage points
- Previous HHA performance criterion was deemed inadequate (Department of Health & Human Services Office of the Inspector General (OIG) February 2012)

Communication with Stakeholders

- QAO metric was announced in the CY2015 Home Health Rule
- Special Open Door Forum on November 12, 2014
- QAO metric information will be updated in the CY2016 Home Health Rule
- Second Special Open Door Forum on June 2, 2015

QAO Metric: Background

- QAO metric first effective for the performance period (OASIS assessments completed) from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016
- QAO metric compares the number of assessments submitted that can be used for quality measurement with the total number of assessments that should be usable for quality measurement
- A quality OASIS assessment is an assessment that:
 - can be combined with another assessment during the reporting period to form a quality episode of care or
 - could reasonably be combined with an assessment that occurred either prior to or immediately following the reporting period to form a quality episode of care
- Follow-up assessments (i.e., those conducted if a patient is on care for > 60 days) are not counted in the calculation

QAO Metric: Background (cont.)

- Examples of quality assessments:
 - A Start or Resumption of Care (SOC/ROC) assessment that can be matched with an End of Care (EOC) (i.e., transfer, death, discharge) assessment to form a quality episode of care
 - SOC/ROC assessment that occurs in the last 60 days of the APU performance period
 - EOC assessment that occurs in the first 60 days of the APU period
 - SOC/ROC assessment that can be paired with a follow-up assessment that occurs in the last 60 days of the APU period
 - EOC assessment that can be paired with a follow-up assessment that occurs in the first 60 days of the APU period
 - SOC/ROC assessment that is identified as a “one assessment only” episode per claims data information

QAO Metric: Background (cont.)

- Examples of non-quality assessments:
 - A Start or Resumption of Care (SOC/ROC) assessment that
 - cannot be matched with an End of Care (EOC) (i.e., transfer, death, discharge) assessment to form a quality episode of care, and
 - does not occur in the last 60 days of the performance period and does not have a matching follow-up assessment that occurs in the last 60 days of the performance period, and
 - is not a “one assessment only” episode
 - An End of Care (EOC) assessment that
 - cannot be matched with an SOC/ROC assessment to form a quality episode of care, and
 - does not occur in the first 60 days of the performance period and does not have a matching follow-up assessment that occurs in the first 60 days of the APU performance period

QAO Calculations & Performance Standards

$$\text{QAO} = \frac{100 * \# \text{ Quality Assessments}}{\# \text{ Quality Assessments} + \# \text{ Non-Quality Assessments}}$$

Performance Standards:

2015-2016 = 70

2016-2017 = 80

2017-2018 = 90

Based on 2013-2014 data:

Average HHA QAO score = 91.1

% of HHAs with score \geq 90: 86.3%

2013-2014 QAO Historical Performance Report: Overview

- The 2013-2014 QAO Historical Performance Report provides HHAs:
 - Illustration of how the QAO metric is computed
 - Information about how well they are doing relative to the QAO metric based on their submissions during the 2013-2014 APU performance period
- Report is based on historical data
 - May or may not reflect the HHA's current performance
- The QAO score on the 2013-2014 QAO Historical Performance Report will NOT be used to evaluate the HHA's APU performance for 2014-2015 or for 2015-2016, when the new metric is effective
 - Informational purposes only
- The 2013-2014 QAO Historical Performance Report will be available in your CASPER folders in late June 2015

2013-2014 QAO Historical Performance Report: Background Information

- QAO Historical Performance Report contains several background sections:
 - Statutory Authority for the Home Health Quality Reporting Program
 - How the Scores are Calculated
 - If Your QAO Performance Report Score Does Not Meet the 2015-2016 Standard of 70
- Overview of how the QAO score is calculated
- Guidance on how to improve your score if 2013-2014 performance would not meet the 2015-2016 criterion

2013-2014 QAO Historical Performance Report: Header Information

The header contains the name and CMS Certification Number (CCN) of the HHA, a description of the date range for the assessments, the QAO score for 2013-2014 , and a note indicating whether this level of performance would meet the 2015-2016 performance criterion.

July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 Historical Quality Assessments Only (QAO) Performance Report

This QAO Performance Report is based on assessments submitted by your HHA during the 2013-2014 Annual Payment Updated (APU) performance period (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014)

The results displayed in this report do NOT affect any prior or current period APU adjustments for this agency.

QAO Score for JW Blues (99A999) Baton Rouge, Louisiana
34.4 (would NOT meet 2015-2016 standard of 70)

2013-2014 QAO Historical Performance Report: Computation Information

- The information on the 2013-2104 QAO Historical Performance Report can be divided into four sections:
 - HHA identification and total assessments count
 - SOC/ROC assessments evaluated as either quality or non-quality
 - EOC assessments evaluated as either usable or non-usable
 - Summary computations of the QAO metric score

2013-2014 QAO Historical Performance Report: SOC/ROC assessments

Start or Resumption of Care (SOC/ROC) Assessments		#
Quality Assessments		
[1]a	# matched to EOC assessments to form a quality episode of care	0
[2]a	# matched to follow-up assessment (occurring in last 60 days of APU period)	8
[3]a	# that occurred in last 60 days of APU period	36
[4]a	# with no expected EOC assessment per claims data	0
[5]a	Total SOC/ROC Quality Assessments	44
Non-Quality Assessments		
[6]a	# that do not meet above Quality Assessment criteria	131

- Rows 1a – 5a are quality assessments, while row 6a is the number of non-quality SOC/ROC assessments submitted by this HHA

2013-2014 QAO Historical Performance Report: EOC assessments

End of Care (EOC) Assessments		#
	Quality Assessments	
[1]b	# matched to SOC/ROC assessments to form a quality episode of care	0
[2]b	# matched to follow-up assessment (occurring in first 60 days of APU period)	13
[3]b	# that occurred in first 60 days of APU period	15
[4]b	N/A	
[5]b	Total EOC Quality Assessments	28
	Non-Quality Assessments	
[6]b	# that do not meet above Quality Assessment criteria	6

- Rows 1a – 5b are quality assessments, while row 6b is the number of non-quality EOC assessments submitted by this HHA

2013-2014 QAO Historical Performance Report: Summary Calculations

Calculation of Quality Assessments Only (QAO) Rate	
[7] Total Quality Assessments ([5]a + [5]b)	72
[8] Total Non-Quality Assessments ([6]a + [6]b)	137
[9] Total Assessments	209
QAO Score	
[10] = $100 \times [7] / [9]$	34.4

- Total number of quality assessments is 72 (Row 17)
- Total number of non-quality assessments is 137 (Row 8)
- Total number of assessments is 209 (Row 9)
- QAO score: $100 \times (72) / (209) = 34.4$ (Row 10)
- This QAO score is less than the 2015-2016 standard of 70
 - Changes needed to improve assessment submission performance

Next Steps

- An agency-specific 2013-2014 QAO Historical Performance Report will be distributed via CASPER at the end of June 2015
- The QAO metric will be first used for the APU performance period that includes assessments completed between July 1, 2015 and ends June 30, 2016, and will be used to adjust payment rates for CY2017.

Additional Information

- Further reading and FAQs:
- <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/HomeHealthQualityInits/Home-Health-Quality-Reporting-Requirements.html>

Questions

