



Measure Management and You

Volume 3, Edition 12

Welcome!

This month's newsletter provides an overview of the 2018 Measures under Consideration List and explains how to find Measures under Consideration in the CMS Measures Inventory Tool (CMIT). Every edition includes links to the [CMS Blueprint](#) (the version in use at the time of publication), as well as a calendar of upcoming events and opportunities.

We hope you find this newsletter useful and we welcome any feedback or suggestions to make it even better. Please send comments or suggestions for future newsletters to MMSSupport@battelle.org.

2018 Measures under Consideration (MUC) List Published

The CMS Pre-Rulemaking process continued with the publication of the 2018 Measures under Consideration (MUC) List on November 30th, as required by Section 1890A(a)(2) of the Social Security Act. Submissions of new or modified healthcare quality, cost, and efficiency measures were accepted until June 15, 2018. Candidate measures that were submitted and then accepted for consideration for inclusion in one or more CMS quality programs were added to the draft 2018 MUC List. This MUC List was shared with federal stakeholders during a workshop on August 2 and released and publicly posted on CMS.gov. Healthcare and policy specialists, and other stakeholders across HHS review the specifications of each measure to determine the appropriate selection of measures to include. Reviewers also offered comments

and recommendations. Measures may be changed, removed from, or added to the MUC List during this process.

The determination of which measures to include on the list is an iterative process, with agencies providing written comments and questions to CMS. CMS staff work with measure owners and stewards to evaluate the changes and apply them as appropriate to the measure specifications.

One new feature in 2018 was the assignment of one "Meaningful Measures Area" designation for each candidate measure submitted for consideration. These 19 Meaningful Measures Areas are grouped to correspond to one of six healthcare quality priorities.

Following the publication of the MUC List, the National Quality Forum, a consensus-based entity, will convene public meetings of the Measure Applications Partnership (MAP) workgroups to obtain stakeholder input and recommendations regarding the

candidate measures. (This process is required by law in Section 1890A(a)). The MAP recommendations provide multi-stakeholder feedback to HHS to assist the Department in deciding whether to propose to implement each measure in the designated quality program through formal rulemaking.

Plans are now underway for the 2019 measure submission cycle for the next round of new candidate healthcare quality, cost, and efficiency measures to populate the 2019 MUC List. The data requirements for 2019 are expected to be similar to those for 2018. Measure owners and stewards should review the [CMS Measures Management System Blueprint](#) and the [MUC User Guide](#) as they gather specifications, supporting data, and other documentation to support the review and adoption of new measures. Watch for announcements in early spring for specific dates and schedules. For more information about the MUC list, [see the full article](#).

How to Find Measures under Consideration in CMIT

“Measures under Consideration” (MUC) have been submitted as part of the pre-rulemaking process to CMS and been published in an annual MUC List. Measures under consideration are fully developed and tested and are ready for implementation in a CMS program. Here’s how to find which measures are on a MUC list but have yet to be picked up via rulemaking in the [CMS Measures Inventory Tool \(CMIT\)](#):

1. First, locate the measure topic of interest. This can be done by searching for keywords (e.g. “Influenza Immunization”), National Quality Forum (NQF) ID, or measure titles in the search bar, or by using the filters to the left of the results table.
2. Next, on the left-hand side of the results table, click the “Current Status” filter and select “Considered.” Selecting “Current Status” opens a new filter window. The box for the desired selection can then be checked. To continue, the filter pop-up window must be closed by clicking the “x” in the top right corner.
3. The results will display all measures currently under consideration across all CMS programs related to your keywords in the search. To find out more information about a specific measure, click on its title.
4. To see which programs are considering the measure, click on the “PROGRAMS” tab and select the program of interest.
5. Click on “Expand All” on the right-hand side to see all the sections.
6. Scroll down to the “Current Measure Status” section to view the “MUC ID” and the “MUC Year,” the year the measure was published in the MUC List.
7. For additional searches, you’ll need to clear out the previous search first. To clear a search, return to the CMIT homepage by clicking on “Measure Inventory” and click the “x” located by the search bar and uncheck the selected filters.

For more information please visit cmit.cms.gov. We always welcome feedback on the CMS Measures Inventory – for any questions or comments, please contact MMSSupport@battelle.org.

Spotlight Announcement

New and Improved eCQI Resource Center Website

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is excited to share an updated and redesigned [Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement \(eCQI\) Resource Center](#) website, the one-stop shop for federal eCQI initiatives that includes the most current electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM) specifications, as well as links to the tools, standards, education, and materials critical to support development, testing, implementation, and reporting of eCQMs.

The eCQI Resource Center has updated its look and feel to promote a more user-friendly experience based on feedback from the community. The redesign aligns with the [Quality Payment Program \(QPP\) website](#) to promote continuity amongst CMS resources, and as a result, the update simplifies navigation and presents eCQI resources and information in a more manageable and meaningful way.

Tell us what you think! We are always working to improve the [eCQI Resource Center](#). Please send us any suggestions for improvement, news, events, and content to ecqi-resource-center@hhs.gov.

Upcoming Events

All times shown are Eastern Time zone

- CY 2019 OPPS/ASC Final Rule: Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting (OQR) Program on January 9, 2019 at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM
 - Register for event [here](#)
- CY 2019 OPPS/ASC Final Rule: Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting (ASCQR) Program on January 10, 2019 at 2:00 PM
 - Register for event [here](#)
- Eligible Clinician eCQM Preventive Care and Screening Measures on January 15, 2019 at 1:00 PM
 - Register for event [here](#)
- ESRD Quality Incentive Program: CY 2019 ESRD PPS Final Rule Call on January 15, 2019 at 2:00 PM
 - Register for event [here](#)
- 2019 CMS Quality Conference - Innovating for Value and Results on January 29-31, 2019
 - Register for event [here](#)

Upcoming Opportunities

Opportunities for [Public Comment](#) on quality measures

- Development of Inpatient Outcome Measures for the Merit-based Incentive Payment System
 - The call for public comment period opened on November 29, 2018 and closes on January 4, 2019.

Please check the [CMS Quality Measures Public Comment Web Page](#) for current Public Comment announcements and summary reports.

Opportunities to participate in a [Technical Expert Panel \(TEP\)](#)

- MACRA Episode-Based Cost Measures – Call for Clinical Subcommittee
 - The TEP nomination period closed on March 20th, but nominations are being accepted on a continuous basis.

Please check the [CMS Quality Measures Call for TEP Web Page](#) for current TEP membership lists and meeting summaries.

New to the Listserv?

New to the listserv or missed a month? Find all our announcements as well as printer-friendly versions of past newsletters [here](#).



Please send comments and suggestions to MMSSupport@battelle.org