Guide to Physician Compare Preview Period

Overview

In late 2016, Physician Compare will publicly report performance scores for a sub-set of individual clinician and group practice 2015 Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) measures and non-PQRS measures submitted through a qualified clinical data registry (QCDR). Physician Compare only publicly reports data that meet our public reporting standards. Data must be statistically valid, reliable, and accurate; comparable across reporting mechanisms; and, to be included on public-facing profile pages, measures must resonate with consumers. Visit the Physician Compare Initiative page for more information about Physician Compare and how measures are selected for public reporting.

The Physician Compare 30-day preview-period allows clinicians and group practice representatives to preview their 2015 quality performance scores as they will appear on Physician Compare in late 2016. The Physician Compare preview period begins on **October 12, 2016** and ends **November 11, 2016.**

The secured preview period is facilitated through the **Provider Quality Information Portal (PQIP)**, which is part of the PQRS Portal. PQIP only displays performance scores during the 30-day preview period, which is set by CMS. **We encourage all clinicians and group practice representatives to preview their performance scores as early in the preview period as possible.**

This guide contains the following sections:

- How do I know if I have performance scores available for preview?
- How do I preview performance scores?
- Who do I contact if I have questions?

How do I know if I have performance scores available for preview?

The **Physician Compare Lookup** tool is available on the PQRS Lookup page. This tool lets you to check if you or your group practice have 2015 performance scores available for preview without signing in to the Portal.

To use the Physician Compare Lookup tool:

1. Go to https://www.qualitynet.org/portal/server.pt/community/lookup.
2. Select the **TIN** radio button for checking the status for a group practice or the **NPI** radio button to check the status of an individual clinician.
3. Depending on the selected button, enter the TIN or NPI in the text box.

   NOTE: There is no entry validation. Make sure that you are using the correct TIN or NPI format. TIN must include 9 digits in total; only digits and hyphens are allowed (examples: 01-2123234 or 012123234). NPI must include 10 digits (example: 0121232345).

4. Select **Lookup**.

How do I preview performance scores?

A step-by-step guide to access PQIP and preview your 2015 performance scores

1. Determine your user role

You need the correct user role to access your 2015 performance scores. Use the following role descriptions to determine your correct role:

- **Individual Eligible Practitioner (EP)**

  The Individual Practitioner role applies to any eligible professional who submitted 2015 PQRS quality measure data as an individual clinician.

- **Provider Quality Information Portal (PQIP) Group Representative**

  The PQIP Group Representative role applies to any individual who reviews the 2015 PQRS quality measure and patient experience data on behalf of a group practice.

2. Establish an Enterprise Identity Management (EIDM) account

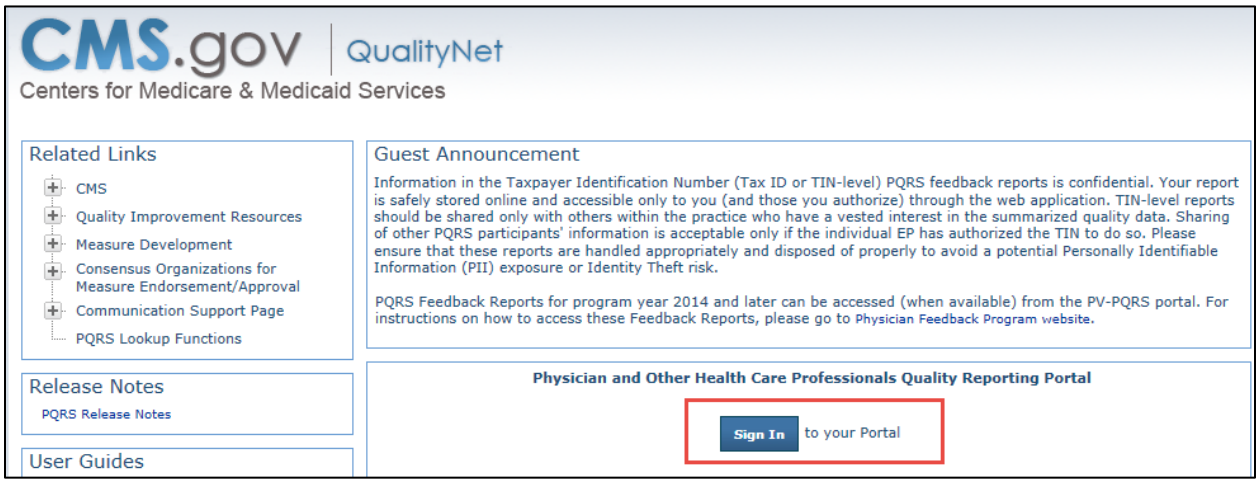
You need an active Enterprise Identity Management (EIDM) account with the appropriate user role to access PQIP. To set up a new EIDM account, navigate to https://portal.cms.gov/wps/portal/unauthportal/home. Visit CMS.gov for additional information on EIDM accounts.

Remember, you must specify the **Individual Practitioner** or **PQIP Group Representative user role** when applying for an EIDM account. You will receive an email confirming that you have been approved for an account after completing the EIDM registration. You can then log into the PQRS Portal and access PQIP.

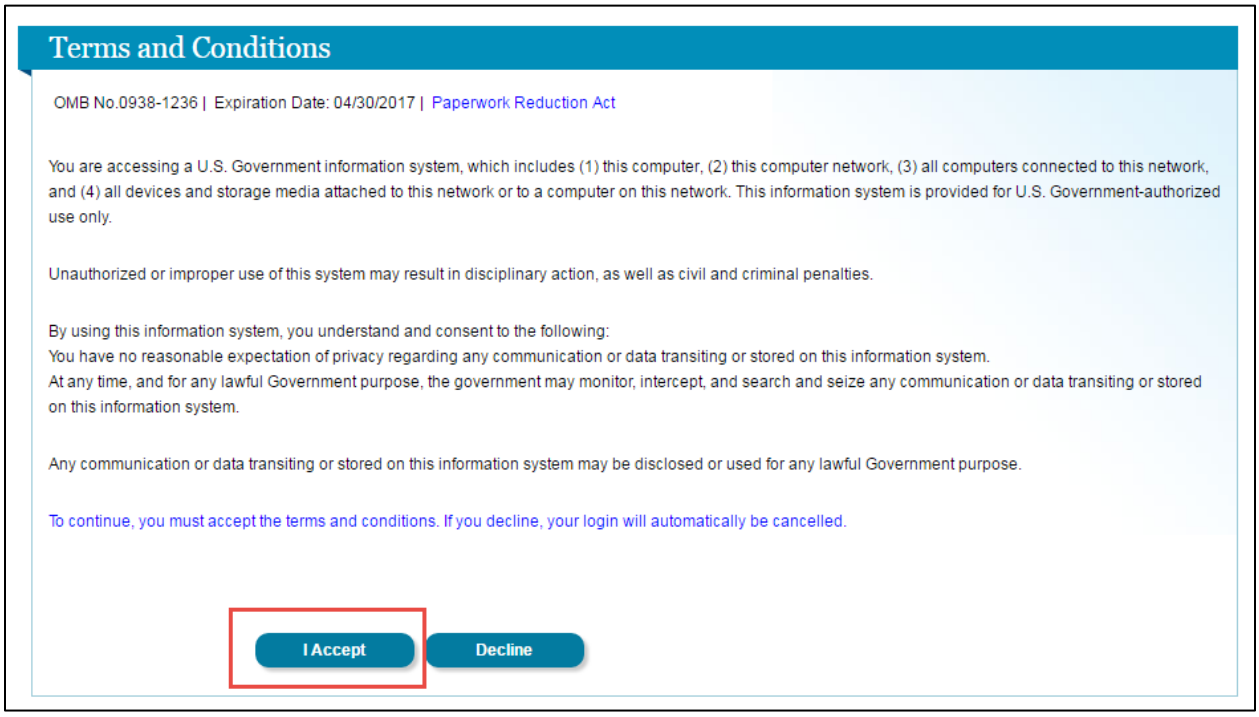
3. Launch PQIP

A. Navigate to the QualityNet Portal (http://www.qualitynet.org/pqrs).

B. The PQRS Portal sign-in page will appear. Select the **Sign In** button.

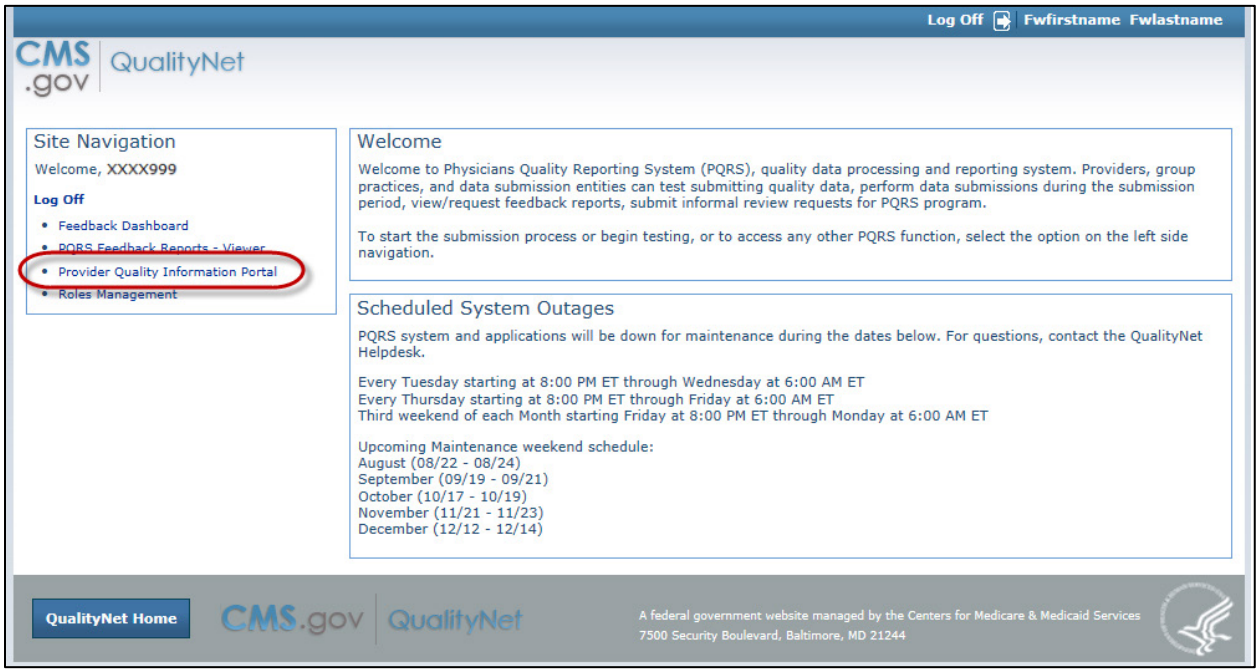


C. A warning screen will appear, describing the terms and conditions associated with Portal use. After reading the warning screen text, select **I Accept**.



D. The **Sign In** screen will appear. Type your EIDM **User Name** and **Password** in the **User Name** and **Password** fields and select **Log In**.

E. The **Welcome Page** will appear. Select the **Provider Quality Information Portal** link in the side navigation to launch PQIP.



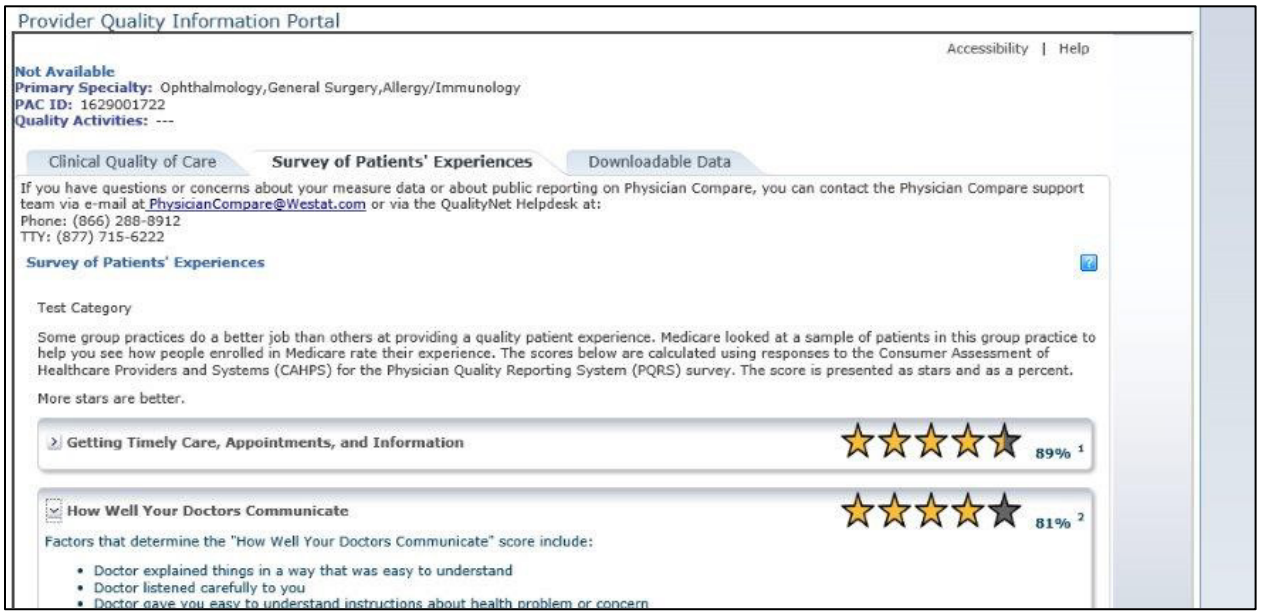
4. Preview your 2015 performance scores

Once you launch PQIP, you can view your 2015 performance scores as they will be reported on Physician Compare later this year. A list of clinician and group practice performance scores that are targeted for public reporting this year is available on the Physician Compare Initiative page.

If you don't have performance scores that will be publicly reported later this year, you'll see the following message:

> *You will not have quality measure data published on Physician Compare this year. Only individual eligible professionals and group practices that participated in the 2015 Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) and submitted measures noted in the 2015 Physician Fee Schedule final rule as available for public reporting have measures to preview at this time. For more information about public reporting on Physician Compare, visit the Physician Compare Initiative page.*

If you do have performance scores that will be publicly reported later this year, you'll see a screen similar to the following:



This screen is described in more detail on the next page.

Depending on the measures that you or your group practice reports, you may see one to three tabs:

1. Clinical quality of care tab[1]

The clinical quality of care tab only appears if:

- The preview period is open; and
- You or your group practice have 2015 PQRS performance scores available for public reporting on Physician Compare later this year.

If these conditions are not met, the tab will not appear.

2. Survey of patients' experience tab[2]

The survey of patients' experience tab only appears if:

- The preview period is open; and
- Your group practice has 2015 CAHPS for PQRS performance scores available for public reporting on Physician Compare later this year.

If these conditions are not met, the tab will not appear.

3. Downloadable data tab[3]

The downloadable data tab only appears if:

- The preview period is open; and
- You or your group practice have performance scores in the Physician Compare downloadable datasets later this year.

If these conditions are not met, the tab will not appear.

For a list of PQRS measures that are targeted to be reported on Physician Compare in late 2016, refer to the following documents.

- 2015 Individual Clinician Measures Available on Physician Compare in late 2016
- 2015 Group Practice Measures Available on Physician Compare in late 2016
- 2015 Individual Clinician Measures Available on the Physician Compare Downloadable Database in late 2016
- 2015 Group Practice Measures Available on the Physician Compare Downloadable Database in late 2016

[1]Beginning in late 2016, PQRS clinical quality of care measures publicly reported on Physician Compare will be labeled "performance scores."
[2]Beginning in late 2016, CAHPS for PQRS measures publicly reported on Physician Compare will be labeled "patient survey scores."
[3] If a measure meets all of the public reporting standards, except for the requirement that it resonates with consumers, these performance scores may be added to the Physician Compare downloadable database, but not be included on the public-facing profile pages. All measures available on the public-facing profile pages are published using plain language measure titles and descriptions and have been tested with consumers.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

For EIDM and PQIP registration assistance, contact the QualityNet Help Desk. 866-288-8912, TTY: 877-715-6222, qnetsupport@hcqis.org.

You can get more information about PQIP at any time by selecting the **Help link** in the header for each page to open the complete User Manual for PQIP. You can also select the **Help icons** within individual sections of each screen to launch information for that specific section.

For questions about Physician Compare, public reporting, preview period, or performance scores, visit the Physician Compare Initiative or contact us at PhysicianCompare@Westat.com