



MLN Connects[®]

National Provider Call

End-Stage Renal Disease Quality Incentive Program

Payment Year 2019 Final Rule

January 19, 2016



Disclaimer

This presentation was current at the time it was published or uploaded onto the web. Medicare policy changes frequently so links to the source documents have been provided within the document for your reference.

This presentation was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This presentation may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations, and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

Presenters

- **Jim Poyer, MS, MBA**
Director
Division of Value, Incentives, and Quality Reporting
- **Tamyra Garcia, MPH**
ESRD QIP Program Lead and Policy Lead
Division of Value, Incentives, and Quality Reporting
- **Joel Andress, PhD**
Measure Development Lead for ESRD
Division of Quality Measurement

Agenda

To provide an overview of the final rule for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Quality Incentive Program (QIP) for Payment Year (PY) 2019

This National Provider Call (NPC) will discuss:

- ESRD QIP Legislative Framework
- Finalized Measures, Standards, Scoring, and Payment Reduction Scale for PY 2019
- Available Resources

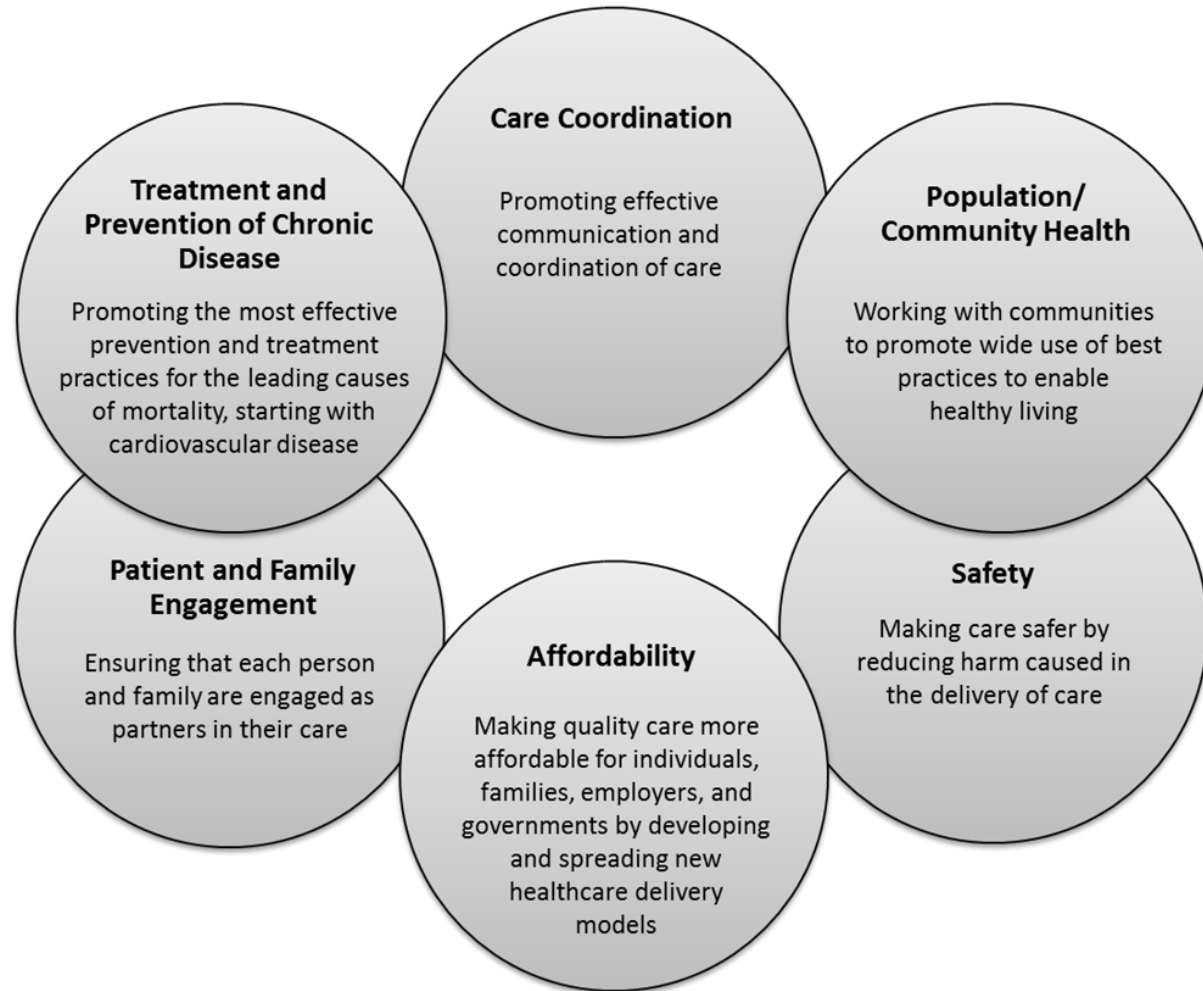
Introduction

Jim Poyer

CMS Objectives for Value-Based Purchasing

- **Identify and require reporting of** evidence-based measures that promote the adoption of best practice clinical care
 - **Advance transparency of performance** across all sites of care to drive improvement and facilitate patient decision-making around quality
 - **Implement and continually refine payment models** that drive high standards of achievement and improvement in the quality of healthcare provision
 - **Stimulate the meaningful use of information technology** to improve care coordination, decision support, and availability of quality improvement data
 - **Refine measurements and incentives** to achieve healthcare equity, to eliminate healthcare disparities, and to address/reduce unintended consequences
- 
- **Paying for quality healthcare is no longer the payment system of the future; it's the payment system of today.**
 - **The ESRD QIP is the leading edge of payment reform and can serve as an example to the healthcare system.**

Six Domains of Quality Measurement Based on the National Quality Strategy



ESRD QIP Overview

Tamyra Garcia

ESRD QIP Legislative Drivers

The ESRD QIP is described in Section 1881(h) of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 153(c) of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA)

- **Program intent:** Promote patient health by providing a financial incentive for renal dialysis facilities (i.e., those submitting 72x claim forms for reimbursement) to deliver high-quality patient care
- **Section 1881(h):**
 - Authorizes payment reductions if a facility does not meet or exceed the minimum Total Performance Score (TPS) as set forth by CMS
 - Allows payment reductions of up to 2%

Overview of MIPPA Section 153(c)

MIPPA requires the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to create an ESRD QIP that will:

- **Select measures**
 - Anemia management, reflecting Food and Drug Administration (FDA) labeling
 - Dialysis adequacy
 - Patient satisfaction, as specified by the HHS Secretary
 - Iron management, bone mineral metabolism, and vascular access, as specified by the HHS Secretary
- **Establish performance standards** that apply to individual measures
- **Specify the performance period** for a given PY
- **Develop a methodology** for assessing total performance of each facility based on performance standards for measures during a performance period
- **Apply an appropriate payment percentage reduction** to facilities that do not meet or exceed established total performance scores
- **Publicly report results** through websites and facility posting of performance score certificates (PSC)

Program Policy: ESRD QIP Development from Legislation to Rulemaking

MIPPA outlines general requirements for ESRD QIP (applied on a PY basis)

HHS components review proposals, including the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CMS publishes proposed rule via Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the *Federal Register*

Public afforded 60-day period to comment on proposed rule

CMS drafts final rule (addressing public comments), which passes through HHS internal clearance process

CMS publishes final rule in the *Federal Register*

Scoring Facility Performance

Collect data from Medicare reimbursement claims, National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN), CROWNWeb, and vendors who report data for the In-Center Hemodialysis Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (ICH CAHPS)

Release estimated scores and payment reduction in a Preview Performance Score Report (PSR) to facilities

Conduct 30-day Preview Period for facility review of calculations and inquiries

Adjust scores where required; submit payment reductions to Center for Medicare (CM)

Release final results in a Final PSR for facilities and PSCs for patients (posted in English and Spanish in a prominent patient area in each facility)

Impact of the Comment Period

- **CMS received 37 public comments about elements in the proposed rule**
- **Changes to the PY 2019 rule:**
 - Did not finalize proposed Ultrafiltration Rate or Full-Season Influenza Vaccination reporting measures
 - Revised technical specification for the Standardized Readmission Ratio (SRR) clinical measure to exclude readmissions that occur within the first three days of initial discharge
 - Finalized alternative Small-Facility Adjuster (effective for PY 2017) so that facility performance not meeting the benchmark for a measure will receive an adjustment (using calculation provided in the final rule)

PY 2019 Final Measures and Scoring

Joel Andress

PY 2019 Final Measures: Overview



new measure for PY 2019

Safety Subdomain – 20% of Clinical Measure Domain score

1. NHSN Bloodstream Infection

Patient and Family Engagement/Care Coordination Subdomain – 30% of Clinical Measure Domain score

1. ICH CAHPS
2. Standardized Readmission Ratio (SRR)

Clinical Care Subdomain – 50% of Clinical Measure Domain score

1. Standardized Transfusion Ratio (STrR)
- ★ 2. Kt/V Dialysis Adequacy (comprehensive)
3. Vascular Access Type (VAT) Measure Topic – Arteriovenous Fistula (AVF)
4. VAT Measure Topic – Catheter $\geq$ 90 days
5. Hypercalcemia

Reporting Measures

1. Mineral Metabolism
2. Anemia Management
3. Pain Assessment and Follow-Up
4. Clinical Depression Screening and Follow-Up
5. NHSN Healthcare Personnel Influenza Vaccination

Kt/V Dialysis Adequacy Comprehensive Measure

- Four currently established Kt/V Dialysis Adequacy measures replaced by a single, comprehensive clinical measure
- Allows patient minimums to be determined from the entire patient population of a facility, rather than determining them as individual populations
- Results in ESRD QIP including more patients and reducing the number of facilities not meeting minimum requirements for pediatric and peritoneal dialysis adequacy measures

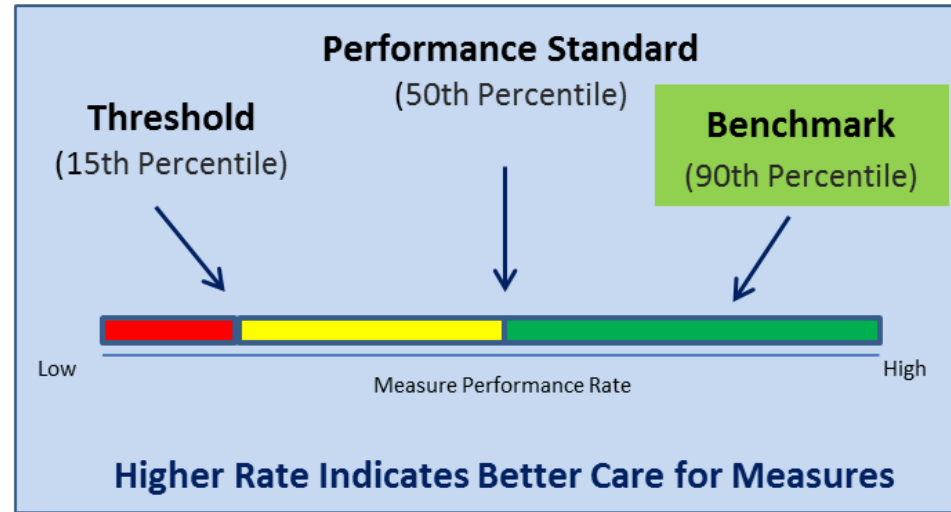
Clinical Measures: Key Scoring Terms

Term	Definition
Achievement Threshold	The 15th percentile of performance rates nationally during calendar year (CY) 2015
Benchmark	The 90th percentile of performance rates nationally during CY 2015
Improvement Threshold	The facility's performance rate during CY 2016
Performance Period	CY 2017*
Performance Standard (clinical measures)	The 50th percentile of performance rates nationally during CY 2015
Performance Rate	The facility's raw score, based on specifications for each individual measure

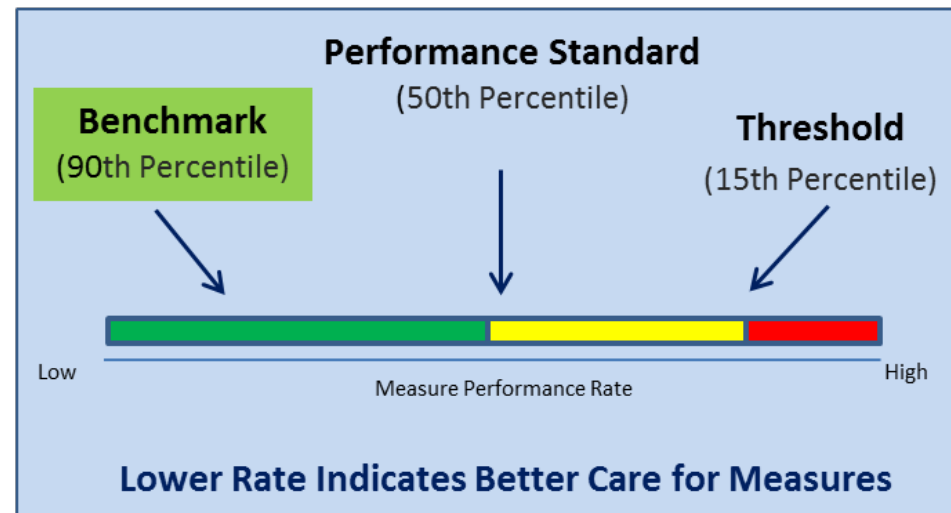
* The performance period for all clinical and reporting measures is CY 2017 except for the NHSN Healthcare Personnel (HCP) Influenza Vaccination reporting measure, which has a performance period of 10/1/2016 – 3/31/2017, reflecting one “full” influenza season.

Clinical Measures: Directionality

- Kt/V Dialysis Adequacy (comprehensive)
- VAT – AVF
- ICH CAHPS



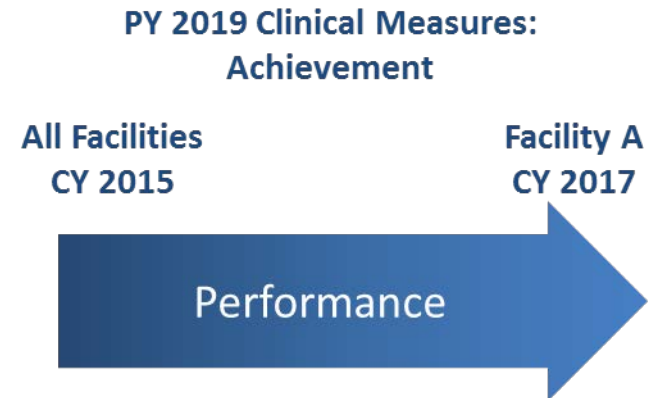
- VAT – Catheter
- NHSN Bloodstream Infection
- Hypercalcemia
- SRR
- STrR



Achievement and Improvement Scoring Methods

Achievement Score: Points awarded by comparing the facility's rate during the performance period (CY 2017) with the performance of **all facilities nationally** during the comparison period (CY 2015)

- Rate better than or equal to benchmark: 10 points
- Rate worse than achievement threshold: 0 points
- Rate between the two: 1 – 9 points



Improvement Score: Points awarded by comparing the facility's rate during the performance period (CY 2017) with **its previous performance** during the comparison period (CY 2016)

- Rate better than or equal to benchmark: 10 points (per achievement score)
- Rate at or worse than improvement threshold: 0 points
- Rate between the two: 0 – 9 points



PY 2019 Methods for Calculating the TPS and Payment Reductions

Tamyra Garcia

Calculating the Total Performance Score

- **Weighting of Clinical Measures:**
 - Each clinical measure or measure topic for which a facility receives a score weighted according to subdomain to comprise 90% of the TPS
- **Weighting of Reporting Measures:**
 - Each reporting measure for which a facility receives a score is equally weighted to comprise 10% of the TPS
- **Facilities will receive a TPS as long as they receive a score for at least one clinical measure *and* one reporting measure**
- **Facilities can obtain a TPS of up to 100 points**

Calculating the Clinical Measure Domain Score (1 of 3)

Scoring Example: Facility A

Clinical Measure	Measure Score
NHSN Bloodstream Infection (BSI)	8
ICH CAHPS	9
SRR	9
STrR	10
Dialysis Adequacy	10
Vascular Access measure topic	9
Hypercalcemia	10

Safety Subdomain formula

$$(\text{NHSN BSI}) \times 10$$

Patient and Family Engagement/ Care Coordination Subdomain formula

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} (.666 \times [\text{ICH CAHPS}]) \\ + \\ (.334 \times [\text{SRR}]) \end{array} \right] \times 10$$

Clinical Care Subdomain formula

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} (.14 \times [\text{STrR}]) \\ + \\ (.36 \times [\text{Dialysis Adequacy}]) \\ + \\ (.36 \times [\text{Vascular Access measure topic score}]) \\ + \\ (.14 \times [\text{Hypercalcemia}]) \end{array} \right] \times 10$$

Calculating the Clinical Measure Domain Score (2 of 3)

Safety Subdomain formula

$$8 \times 10 = 80$$

Patient and Family Engagement/ Care Coordination Subdomain formula

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} .666 \times 9 \\ + \\ .334 \times 9 \end{array} \right) \times 10 = 90$$

Clinical Care Subdomain formula

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} .14 \times 10 \\ + \\ .36 \times 10 \\ + \\ .36 \times 9 \\ + \\ .14 \times 10 \end{array} \right) \times 10 = 96.4$$

Calculating the Clinical Measure Domain Score (3 of 3)

Clinical Measure Domain Score formula

$$\begin{aligned} & (.2 \times [\text{Safety Subdomain score}]) \\ & + \\ & (.3 \times [\text{Patient and Family Engagement/} \\ & \text{Care Coordination Subdomain score}]) \\ & + \\ & (.5 \times [\text{Clinical Care Subdomain score}]) \end{aligned}$$

Scoring Example: Facility A

Subdomain	Subdomain Score
Safety	80
Patient and Family Engagement/Care Coordination	90
Clinical Care	96.4

Clinical Measure Domain Score example for Facility A

$$16 + 27 + 48.2 = 91.2$$

Calculating the Minimum TPS

The minimum Total Performance Score (mTPS) will be calculated by scoring:

- Each clinical measure at the national performance standard for 2015
- Each reporting measure equal to the mean of the median scores achieved by all facilities on the five PY 2017 reporting measures

Data for calculating the PY 2019 mTPS not yet available

Finalized mTPS will be published in the CY 2017 ESRD Prospective Payment System (PPS) final rule

Payment Reduction Scale

Facility Total Performance Score	Payment Reduction
mTPS or greater	0%
1 – 10 points below mTPS	0.5%
11 – 20 points below mTPS	1.0%
21 – 30 points below mTPS	1.5%
31 or more points below mTPS	2.0%

PY 2019 Scoring and Payment Reduction Methodology

CLINICAL	
Subdomain	Measures
Safety (20%)	NHSN Bloodstream Infection
Patient and Family Engagement/ Care Coordination (30%)	ICH CAHPS Survey SRR
Clinical Care (50%)	STrR ★ Kt/V Dialysis Adequacy VAT Measure Topic { Access via AVF Hypercalcemia { Access via catheter

★ new measure
for PY 2019

REPORTING

Mineral Metabolism
Anemia Management
Pain Assessment and Follow-Up
Clinical Depression Screening and Follow-Up
NHSN HCP

Total Category
Weight

= 90%

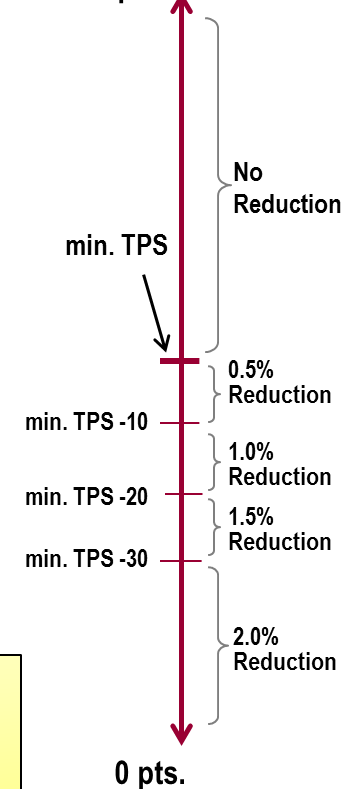
+

= 10%

Total Performance
Score (TPS) is the sum
of the weighted totals
from both measure
categories

Payment Reduction
Percentage

100 pts.



PY 2018 Provisions

Tamyra Garcia

Scoring the Pain Assessment and Follow-Up Reporting Measure

- **Issue:** If a facility does not treat an eligible patient in one six-month period, then the facility might be unduly penalized in the current calculation
- **Solution:** A facility that does not treat an eligible patient in one six-month period will be scored *only* on the other six-month period

PY 2018 Achievement Thresholds, Benchmarks, and Performance Standards

Measure	Achievement Threshold (15th percentile)	Benchmark (90th percentile)	Performance Standard
VAT Measure Topic			
• AVF	53.51%	79.60%	65.94%
• Catheter *	16.79%	2.59%	8.80%
Kt/V Dialysis Adequacy Measure Topic			
• Adult Hemodialysis	92.88%	99.43%	97.24%
• Adult Peritoneal Dialysis	75.42%	97.06%	89.47%
• Pediatric Hemodialysis	81.25%	96.88%	93.94%
• Pediatric Peritoneal Dialysis	43.22%	88.39%	72.60%

* On this measure, a lower rate indicates better performance.

PY 2018 Achievement Thresholds, Benchmarks, and Performance Standards (cont.)

Measure	Achievement Threshold (15th percentile)	Benchmark (90th percentile)	Performance Standard
Hypercalcemia *	3.92%	0.00%	1.19%
NHSN Bloodstream Infection *	1.812	0	0.861
Standardized Readmission Ratio *	1.297	0.588	0.998
Standardized Transfusion Ratio *	1.470	0.431	0.923
ICH CAHPS †	15th percentile	90th percentile	50th percentile

* On these measures, a lower rate indicates better performance.

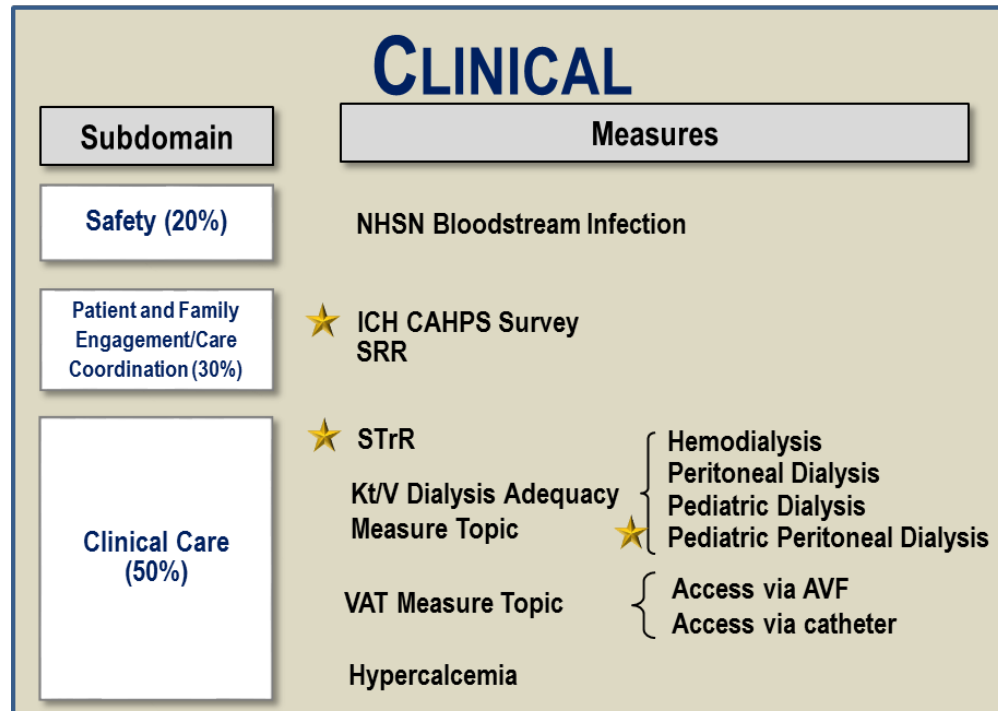
† The achievement threshold, benchmark, and performance standard for the ICH CAHPS measure will be set at the 15th, 90th, and 50th percentile, respectively, of eligible facilities' performance in CY 2015.

Calculating the mTPS

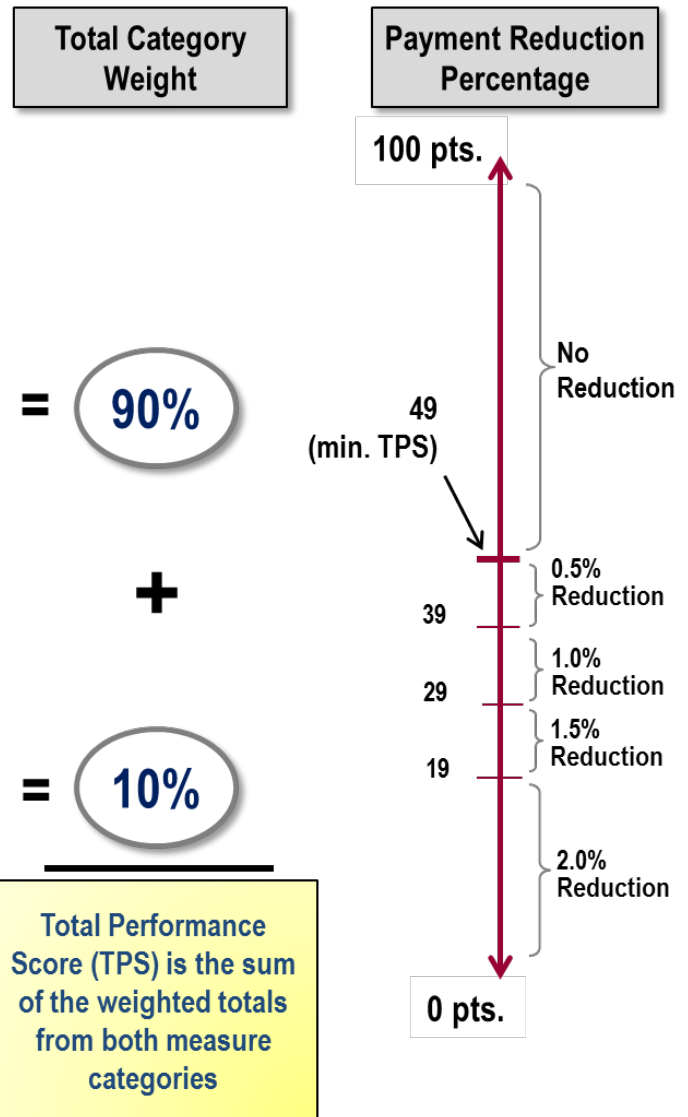
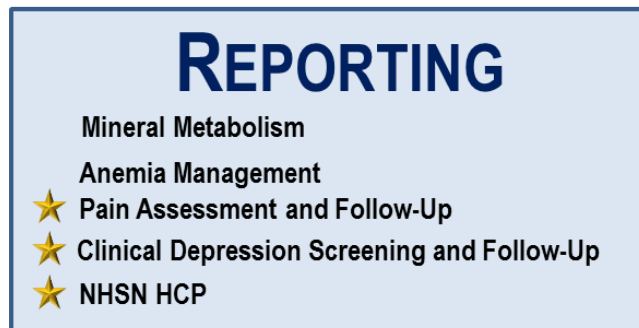
- CMS will apply the calculation method used in recent PYs
- Under new calculation, finalized mTPS for PY 2018 is **49**
- Payment reduction ranges:

Total Performance Score	Payment Reduction Percentage
100 – 49	0%
48 – 39	0.5%
38 – 29	1.0%
28 – 19	1.5%
19 – 0	2.0%

PY 2018 Scoring Methodology



★ new measure for PY 2018



Programmatic Changes

Tamyra Garcia

Clarifying CCN Open Date

- **Issue:** Community confusion about CMS Certification Number (CCN) “Open Date”
- **Solution:** Use date on which the facility’s Medicare CCN becomes effective and facility is eligible for Medicare reimbursement for services

Addressing PAMA's Impact

- **Issue:** Under the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (PAMA), ESRD QIP must include measures specific to the conditions treated with oral-only drugs
 - ESRD QIP must propose/finalize a measure that fulfills this requirement in the current rulemaking cycle
- **Solution:** Hypercalcemia clinical measure fulfills this requirement
 - Condition is commonly treated with an oral-only drug
 - Clinical measure is currently endorsed by the National Quality Forum (NQF)

Modifying the Small-Facility Adjuster

- **Issue:** Under current calculation, facilities do not have access to data needed to predict amount of adjustment that may apply to them
- **Solution:** Revise calculation starting with PY 2017 to use benchmark (based on publicly reported data) as the basis for adjusting each measure
- **Anticipated benefits:**
 - Facilities will be able to perform the calculation on their own to better predict the adjuster's impact
 - Qualifying facilities may also get a larger adjustment
- **Use benchmark as performance point below which the small-facility adjuster applies**

ESRD As-Is Measures Manual

CMS initiated a two-prong process for making non-substantive changes to the ESRD QIP measure set

- Develop an *ESRD Measures Manual*
 - Annual revisions and periodic technical updates
 - CMS anticipates releasing the *Manual* early in 2016
- Establish inclusive process for considering recommendations via jira.oncprojecttracking.org
- More information on feedback process forthcoming

Data Validation Activities

- CROWNWeb Data Validation Pilot Study
 - Random sampling of 300 facilities (~10 records from each)
 - Penalty for failing to provide data within 60 days:
10-point TPS deduction
- NHSN Bloodstream Infection Data Validation Feasibility Study
 - Similar to Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting Program
 - Random sampling of nine facilities for quarterly lists of candidate dialysis events (and potentially additional information)
 - Penalty for failing to provide data within 60 days:
10-point TPS deduction

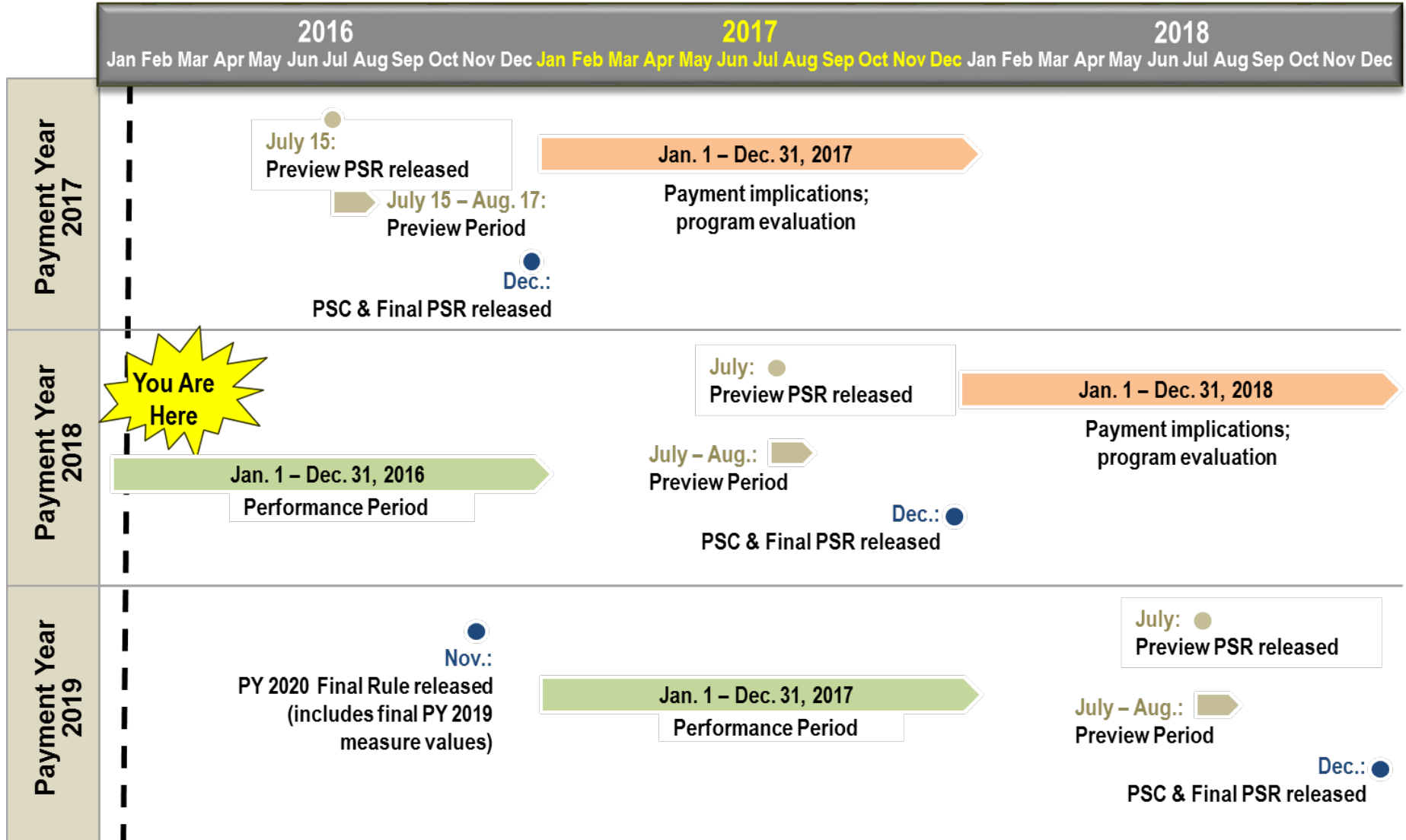
Monitoring Access to Care in Dialysis Facilities

- ESRD PPS CY 2015 final rule mandated that ESRD QIP conduct a study on access to care as part of assessing the impact of the SRR clinical measure
- CMS intends to publish the study methodology as soon as it is available

Resources and Next Steps

Tamyra Garcia

ESRD QIP Timeline



Resources: Websites

- **CY 2016 ESRD PPS Final Rule (includes ESRD QIP PY 2019 Final Rule):**
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-11-06/pdf/2015-27928.pdf>
- **CMS ESRD QIP:** www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/ESRDQIP/index.html
- **Technical Specifications for PY 2019 ESRD QIP Measures:**
www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/ESRDQIP/061_TechnicalSpecifications.html
- **ESRD Network Coordinating Center (NCC):** www.esrdncc.org
- **QualityNet:** www.qualitynet.org
- **Dialysis Facility Compare:** www.medicare.gov/dialysisfacilitycompare
- **Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA):**
www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-110publ275/pdf/PLAW-110publ275.pdf

Next Steps

- Make sure your facility has posted its PY 2016 PSCs in English and Spanish
 - Due to system-based barriers to access, CMS has reset the compliance deadline for posting PY 2016 PSCs to **February 1, 2016**
- Read and comment on PY 2020 Proposed Rule when posted (early July)
- Review PY 2017 Preview PSR when available (mid-July) and submit any clarification questions or a formal inquiry
- Join us for National Provider Calls discussing the PY 2020 Proposed Rule and PY 2017 Preview Period when scheduled (summer)
- Review PY 2017 Final PSR when available (mid-December)
- Post PY 2017 PSCs—in both English and Spanish—when available (mid-December)

Question & Answer Session

ESRDQIP@cms.hhs.gov

Acronyms in this Presentation

Acronym	Definition
AVF	arteriovenous fistula
CCN	CMS Certification Number
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CM	Center for Medicare
CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
CY	Calendar Year
ESRD	End-Stage Renal Disease
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
HCP	healthcare personnel
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
ICH CAHPS	In-Center Hemodialysis Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems
MIPPA	Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008
mTPS	Minimum Total Performance Score
NCC	National Coordinating Center

Acronym	Definition
NHSN	National Healthcare Safety Network
NPC	National Provider Call
NPRM	Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
NQF	National Quality Forum
OGC	Office of General Counsel
PAMA	Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014
PPS	Prospective Payment System
PSC	Performance Score Certificate
PSR	Performance Score Report
PY	Payment Year
QIP	Quality Incentive Program
SRR	Standardized Readmission Ratio
STrR	Standardized Transfusion Ratio
TPS	Total Performance Score
VAT	Vascular Access Type

Evaluate Your Experience

- Please help us continue to improve the MLN Connects® National Provider Call Program by providing your feedback about today's call.
- To complete the evaluation, visit <http://npc.blhtech.com> and select the title for today's call.

Thank You

- For more information about the MLN Connects® National Provider Call Program, please visit <http://cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Outreach/NPC/index.html>.
- For more information about the Medicare Learning Network®, please visit <http://cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNGenInfo/index.html>.

The Medicare Learning Network® and MLN Connects® are registered trademarks of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).