

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

Listening Session:

Development of Additional Imaging Efficiency Measures for Use in the Hospital Outpatient Quality Data Reporting Program

Monday, January 31, 2011

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM EST

In-person CMS Auditorium Baltimore, Maryland and Conference Call

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is holding a Listening Session to solicit input on additional imaging efficiency measures that should be considered for use in the Hospital Outpatient Quality Data Reporting Program (HOP QDRP). The Federal Register Notice for this Listening Session is available at: The Federal Register Notice about the Listening Session is available at:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-29995.pdf>

Section 1833(t) (17) of the Social Security Act (Act) requires that hospitals submit outpatient quality measures data to CMS in order to receive the full annual payment update factor applicable to Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) services furnished by hospitals in outpatient settings. Section 1833(t)(17)(E) of the Act further mandates that CMS make this data available to the public. CMS, therefore, has established the Hospital Outpatient Quality Data Reporting Program (HOP QDRP).

Beginning with the CY 2010 OPPS payment update, CMS adopted the following four claims-based imaging measures—(1) OP–8: MRI Lumbar Spine for Low Back Pain; (2) OP–9: Mammography Follow-up Rates; (3) OP–10: Abdomen CT Use of Contrast Material; and (4) OP–11: Thorax CT Use of Contrast Material. These measures are claims-based and are calculated using Medicare claims data without imposing upon hospitals the burden of having to abstract the data from charts. In the CY 2011 OPPS/ASC final rule published on November 24, 2010 (75 FR 71800) for the CY 2012 payment determination and subsequent payment determinations, CMS adopted three additional imaging efficiency measures—(1) Cardiac Imaging for Preoperative Risk Assessment for Non-Cardiac Low-Risk Surgery; (2) Simultaneous Use of Brain Computed Tomography (CT) and Sinus Computed Tomography (CT); and (3) Use of Brain Computed Tomography (CT) in the Emergency Department for Atraumatic Headache. Information on the current CMS imaging efficiency measures can be found at the [www.qualitynet.org](http://www.qualitynet.org) website under the "Hospital - Outpatient: Imaging Efficiency Measures" section.

Public reporting of imaging efficiency measures are important because of the health risks and financial implications associated with the use of imaging procedures in the Medicare beneficiary population. Research shows that a significant portion of imaging services received by patients may be inappropriate; and immoderate use of diagnostic imaging also contributes to inflated medical technology costs. The imaging efficiency measures fill a significant gap in the availability of imaging efficiency measures at the hospital outpatient facility level and are a

seminal step in the promotion of more efficient imaging services provided to Medicare beneficiaries. This listening session will be hosted to solicit input from professionals and other interested parties on the development of additional imaging efficiency measures for the HOP QDRP program. Potential topics for consideration will include:

- a. Are there other imaging procedures that would be appropriate candidates for imaging efficiency measures?
- b. What data sources and methods are appropriate for imaging efficiency measures, e.g. claims data, chart abstracted data, EHRs, use of registries, etc.;  
--CMS has focused on the use of claims data. Are there other data sources that CMS should be considering in order to develop additional imaging efficiency measures that can not be calculated based on claims data?  
-- What are examples of possible areas of imaging efficiency measurement that could be explored if other data sources were used?
- c. Are there suggestions for how CMS might approach imaging efficiency measurement from a diagnostic lens?
- d. Are there certain diseases which should be examined from the standpoint of use of imaging services in the diagnosis of certain conditions?
- e. Should CMS be examining imaging efficiency measurement in other settings, e.g., IDTFs, physician offices, rendering versus referring physicians?
- f. What data sources can be used to support measurement in these other settings, e.g., claims data (robustness of coding), electronic health records, or registries?
- g. Are there suggestions / feedback on the integration of the imaging efficiency measures into the overall HOP QDRP program?

Background information on the listening session will be posted on the QualityNet Web site at <http://www.qualitynet.org> prior to the session. The information will be posted under the tab for “Hospitals Outpatient,” then select “Imaging Efficiency Measures” from the drop-down menu. We anticipate posting an audio download and/or transcript of the listening session in the same location on <http://www.qualitynet.org> a few weeks after completion of the listening session.

We ask that all interested parties who wish to present prepare to speak for no more than 3 minutes.

Written Comments or Statements: Any interested party may send written comments or statements comments or statements by mail to Imaging Measures/OCSQ/QMHAG, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Mail Stop S3-02-01, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850; by e-mail to [imagingmeasures@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:imagingmeasures@cms.hhs.gov); or by fax to 410-786-8532. We will accept written testimony, questions, or other statements, not to exceed 5

single-spaced, typed pages, before the meeting, and up until 5 p.m. E.S.T. on February 10, 2011. Submitters of suggestions for new measures are requested to provide references to the evidence base supporting the suggested measures.

#### Listening Session Registration Instructions:

Interested parties may participate either onsite at CMS headquarters in Baltimore, MD, or via teleconference. The meeting is open to the public, but attendance is limited to space and teleconference lines available, and registration is required.

Persons interested in attending the meeting in-person must register by completing the on-line registration via the designated Web site <http://www.cms.gov/apps/events/event.asp?id=622>. The on-line registration system will generate a confirmation page to indicate the completion of your registration. Please print this page as your registration receipt.

Individuals may also participate in the listening session by teleconference. For individuals interested in participating via teleconference, registration is available via the Web site at <https://www.magnetmail.net/events?cf4db6967a514fb681832e700ee3e5b0a>. Registration is required as the number of call-in lines will be limited.