

# Spotlight and Announcements Archive

June 25, 2020

## **NOW AVAILABLE IN iQIES - Preview Reports and Star Rating Preview Reports for the October 2020 Refresh**

Providers can now download the latest Provider Preview Reports and the Quality of Patient Care Star Rating Preview Reports from iQIES. You can find both reports by selecting “My Reports” in iQIES. These reports preview data that will be displayed in the Home Health Compare website beginning around October 30, 2020. Providers are encouraged to save a copy of their preview reports for later reference.

Learn more about the Home Health QRP data submission deadlines [here](#) and about the Home Health Star Ratings [here](#).

June 23, 2020

### **Reminder:**

- **Quality Reporting Programs are expected to report their quality data to meet requirements starting Quarter 3, which begins July 1, 2020.**

The March 27, 2020 Medicare Learning Network Newsletter (MLN) Exceptions and Extensions for Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Requirements that includes Skilled Nursing Facilities, Home Health Agencies, Hospices, Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities, and Long-Term Care Hospitals (hereafter referred to as post-acute care (PAC) programs) applies only to Quarter 4 of 2019 (October 1-December 31, 2019) and Quarters 1 and 2 of 2020 (January 1-June 30, 2020). Providers are expected to report data and meet the QRP requirements beginning with Quarter 3, 2020 that starts July 1, 2020.

As stated in that March 27, 2020 MLN Newsletter, “In some instances, these exceptions and extensions are granted because the data collected may be greatly impacted by the response to COVID-19 and therefore should not be considered in the quality reporting program. CMS is closely monitoring the situation for potential adjustments and will update exception lists, exempted reporting periods, and submission deadlines accordingly as events occur.”

Starting with Quarter 3 that begins July 1, 2020, CMS expects providers to report their quality data. CMS will analyze the data for each program recognizing that the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) remains in effect and could impact the quality data submitted. CMS will closely monitor the situation for public reporting of the data and provide any updates.

April 30, 2020

## **Home Health Compare Quarterly Refresh – April 2020**

The April 2020 quarterly Home Health (HH) Compare refresh is now available on the [Home Health Compare website](#). Please visit to view the new and updated quality data.

April 21, 2020

## **NOW AVAILABLE- Updated Quarterly OASIS Q&As**

April 2020 OASIS Q&A's are available in the OASIS Quarterly Q&As section of the CMS QTSO webpage, <https://qtso.cms.gov/providers/home-health-agency-hha-providers/reference-manuals> .

**March 19, 2020**

**NEW Video Tutorials Available to Assist with Coding Specific Section GG Items**

Accessible from the following webpages:

- [Home Health QRP Training webpage](#)
- [Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility QRP Training webpage](#)
- [Skilled Nursing Facility QRP webpage](#)

**March 10, 2020**

**July 2020 Refresh of Home Health Compare Will Not Occur**

Effective January 1, 2020, CMS is processing all Home Health OASIS submissions and all reporting requirements through iQIES. Due to unforeseen circumstances, CMS has determined that there will not be a refresh for the Compare site in July 2020. Thus, CMS will not release the Home Health Provider Preview Report for the July 2020 refresh in March. The next scheduled refresh for the Compare site will be in October 2020. The publicly reported home health data published for April 2020 will remain in place until the October 2020 refresh. Home health providers can look forward to receiving their next Provider Preview Report in late June of 2020 for the October 2020 Compare site refresh. If there are questions or concerns regarding the information provided above please contact CMS at [iqies@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:iqies@cms.hhs.gov).

**February 11, 2020**

**CALENDAR YEAR (CY)2021 and CY2022 Quick Reference Guides Available**

Quick Reference Guides for CY2021 and CY2022 are now available in the Downloads section of the [Home Health Quality Reporting Requirements webpage](#). The Quick Reference Guides provide high-level information on the Home Health Quality Reporting Program, including frequently asked questions and helpful links.

**February 10, 2020**

**NOW AVAILABLE- Revised Guide to Home Health Help Desks**

A revised version of the comprehensive 1-page guide to Home Health help desks is now available in the downloads section of the Home Health Quality Reporting Program Help Desk webpage, <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/HomeHealthQualityInits/Help-Desk>. Updated email contact information for the iQIES help desk is provided. This document provides guidance to home health providers for questions related to a variety of topics.

**February 3, 2020**

**NEW TRAINING EVENT — Upcoming PAC QRP Reporting Requirements and FY 2020 Training Resources can be accessed from the following webpages: [SNF Quality Reporting Training](#), [IRF Quality Reporting Training](#), [LTCH Quality Reporting Training](#), [Home Health Quality Reporting Training](#).**

**January 23, 2020**

**Home Health Compare Quarterly Refresh – January 2020**

The January 2020 quarterly Home Health (HH) Compare refresh is now available on the [Home Health Compare website](#). Please visit to view the new and updated quality data. Please note as of this refresh, CMS is no longer publically reporting two claims-based measures: Emergency Department Use without Hospital Readmission during the First 30 Days of HH (NQF #2505) and Rehospitalization during the First 30 Days of Home Health (NQF #2380).

**January 21, 2020**

**NOW AVAILABLE- Updated Quarterly OASIS Q&As**

January 2020 OASIS Q&A's are available in the OASIS Quarterly Q&As section of the CMS [QTSO](#) webpage, <https://qtso.cms.gov/providers/home-health-agency-hha-providers/reference-manuals> .

**January 21, 2020**

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