

Hospice QRP Spotlight & Announcements

May 25, 2023

The HQRP Quarterly Q&A for Q1 2023 is now available. This Q&A includes selected questions received by the Hospice Quality Help Desk during the first quarter of 2023 (January 1 to March 31). A link to the document can be found in the Downloads section of the HQRP Requirements and Best Practices page.

May 24, 2023

Home Health & Hospice Health Equity Technical Expert Panel Report

CMS has released the Home Health & Hospice Health Equity Technical Expert Panel (TEP) Report. This report provides a summary of the TEP's input on options for health equity measurement in the home health and hospice care settings. Specific topics include: health equity in hospice and home health, social determinants of health, disparities in access to care and quality of care, and health equity measurement and monitoring.

The Home Health & Hospice Health Equity TEP Report is available in the "Related Links" section of the Hospice QRP Health Equity webpage.

March 31, 2023

Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Hospice Wage Index and Payment Rate Update, Hospice Conditions of Participation Updates, Hospice Quality Reporting Program Requirements, and Hospice Certifying Physician Provider Enrollment Requirements Proposed Rule (CMS-1787-P)

On March 31, 2023, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a proposed rule (CMS-1787-P) that provides updates to the fiscal year (FY) 2024 Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP). This rule includes updates on HOPE and future quality measures, CMS efforts to close the health equity gap as it relates to last year's request for information (RFI), and provides updates to the Hospice CAHPS Survey mode experiment. Finally, this rule proposes to codify hospice data submission thresholds and discusses updates to hospice survey and enforcement procedures special focus program (SFP).

The proposed rule went on display at the Federal Register and will be available at:
<https://www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection/current>

For further information, see the hospice webpage
here: <http://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Hospice-Center.html>.

March 30, 2023

NEW RESOURCE AVAILABLE: HQRP CAHPS^â Hospice Survey – Care Compare Data Refresh Schedule

This resource can be accessed through the Public Reporting: Key Dates for Providers page.

March 23, 2023

Important Updates on the Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP)

Swingtech sends informational messages to hospices related to the Quality Reporting Program (QRP) on a quarterly basis. Their latest outreach communication can be found on the HQRP Requirements and Best Practices web page. If you want to receive Swingtech’s quarterly emails, add or update the email addresses to which these messages are sent by sending an email to ORPHelp@swingtech.com. Be sure to include the name of your facility and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Certification Number (CCN) along with any requested updates.

February 15, 2023

Care Compare Quarterly Refresh – February 2023

The February 2023 quarterly refresh for the Hospice Quality Reporting Program is now available on [Care Compare](#).

For additional information, please see the FY 2023 Hospice Wage Index Final Rule at <https://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Hospice-Center>. Please visit the [Hospice Background and Announcements web page](#) to review the [Claims-Based Measures Questions and Answers downloadable \(PDF\)](#) for more information on the HCI and HVLDL.

February 15, 2023

NOW AVAILABLE IN QIES – Hospice Preview Reports for the May 2023 Refresh

Providers can now access the latest Provider Preview Reports via the Certification and Survey Provider Enhanced Reports (CASPER) application. Once released in CASPER, providers will have 30 days during which to review their quality measure results. Although the actual “preview period” is 30 days, the reports will continue to be available for another 30 days, or a total of 60 days. The preview period for the latest Provider Preview Report lasts from February 15, 2023 to March 17, 2023. CMS encourages providers to download and save their Hospice Provider Preview Reports for future reference, as they will no longer be available in CASPER after this 60-day period.

Learn more about the Provider Preview Report (HIS and Claims-based measures) [here](#) and about the CAHPS Preview Report [here](#). Hospice QRP Key Dates for Providers can be found [here](#). The 3rd Edition HQRP Public Reporting Tip Sheet is available [here \(PDF\)](#).

January 20, 2023

HQRP Quarterly Update for 4th Quarter of 2022 is Available

The Hospice Quarterly Update for the fourth quarter of 2022 is now available. This update includes Hospice Quality Reporting Program highlights from October to December 2022, events and engagement opportunities for the first quarter of 2023 (January – March 2023), and selected questions and answers from the Hospice Quality Help Desk. Please navigate to the [HQRP Requirements and Best Practices](#) page to download this document.

December 22, 2022

Important Updates on the Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP)

Swingtech sends informational messages to hospices related to the Quality Reporting Program (QRP) on a quarterly basis. Their latest outreach communication can be found on the [HQRP Requirements and Best Practices](#) web page. If you want to receive Swingtech's quarterly emails, add or update the email addresses to which these messages are sent by sending an email to QRPHelp@swingtech.com. Be sure to include the name of your facility and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Certification Number (CCN) along with any requested updates.

December 16, 2022

Updated Information Gathering Report for Hospice Quality Reporting Program

CMS has released the Hospice Quality Reported Program 2022 Information Gathering Reporting. This report provides information from literature reviews and expert interviews that supports expansion of the hospice quality reporting program. Specific topics include: health equity in hospice access and enrollment, health equity in hospice care, and recent hospice quality research.

The updated Information Gathering Report is available in the **Downloads** section of the [Provider and Stakeholder Engagement](#) web page.

November 23, 2022

Care Compare Quarterly Refresh – November 2022

The November 2022 quarterly refresh for the Hospice Quality Reporting Program is now available on [Care Compare](#).

For additional information, please see the FY 2023 Hospice Wage Index Final Rule at <https://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Hospice-Center>. Please visit the [Hospice Background and Announcements](#) website to review the [Claims-Based Measures Questions and Answers downloadable \(PDF\)](#) for more information on the HCI and HVLDL.

November 9, 2022

NOW AVAILABLE IN QIES - Preview Reports for the February 2023 Refresh

Providers can now access the latest Provider Preview Reports via the Certification and Survey Provider Enhanced Reports (CASPER) application. Once released in CASPER, providers will have 30 days during which to review their quality measure results. Although the actual “preview period” is 30 days, the reports will continue to be available for another 30 days, or a total of 60 days. The preview period for the latest Provider Preview Report lasts from November 9, 2022 to December 9, 2022. CMS encourages providers to download and save their Hospice Provider Preview Reports for future reference, as they will no longer be available in CASPER after this 60-day period.

Learn more about the Provider Preview Report (HIS and Claims-based measures) [here](#) and about the CAHPS Preview Report [here](#). Hospice QRP Key Dates for Providers can be found [here](#). The 3rd Edition HQRP Public Reporting Tip Sheet is available [here \(PDF\)](#).

October 26, 2022

Care Compare Off-Cycle Refresh – October 2022

An off-cycle October 2022 Refresh for the Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP) is now available on [Care Compare](#).

The HQRP and the Hospice Care Index (HCI) informational videos are now available to be viewed on Care Compare. References to Hospice APU Compliance have been removed from Care Compare.

October 25, 2022

Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP) September Forum Materials Available Now

On Wednesday, September 28, 2022, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) hosted the September 2022 HQRP Forum to provide information on the Fiscal Year 2023 Hospice Final Rule, recent public reporting activity, and additional HQRP updates. Materials from this HQRP Forum, including a recording of the presentation, are now available in the **Downloads** section of the [Provider and Stakeholder Engagement](#) web page.

October 21, 2022

HQRP Quarterly Update for 3rd Quarter of 2022 is Available

The Hospice Quarterly Update for the third quarter of 2022 is now available. This update includes Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP) highlights from July to September 2022, events and engagement opportunities for the fourth quarter of 2022 (October – December 2022),

and selected questions and answers from the Hospice Quality Help Desk. Please navigate to the [HQRP Requirements and Best Practices](#) page to download this document.

October 18, 2022

Post-Acute Care (PAC) Quality Reporting Programs (QRP) Demographic Data Transition

Historically provider demographic data have been maintained in the Automated Survey Processing Environment (ASPEN) software; however, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will be transitioning to use the demographic information from Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS). While this transition is underway, a final date when all demographic data will be obtained from PECOS has not been identified. During this transition, all Post-Acute Care (PAC) providers will be responsible to ensure their latest demographic data are updated and available in both ASPEN (SNF/NFs, IRFs, and LTCHs) or iQIES (HHAs and Hospices) and PECOS systems.

A referencing document that outlines the steps each PAC provider should follow can be accessed in the **Downloads** section of the [Help Desks](#) web page. Should you have questions regarding this updated process, please contact the iQIES help desk by email at iQIES@cms.hhs.gov or by phone at (800) 339-9313.

September 14, 2022

NEW RESOURCE AVAILABLE: Third Edition HQRP Public Reporting Tip Sheet

The purpose of the **Third Edition HQRP Public Reporting Tip Sheet** is to help providers understand public reporting for the Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP) in the midst of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE).

This resource can be accessed through the [HQRP Requirements and Best Practices](#) page.

September 14, 2022

UPDATED RESOURCE AVAILABLE: HQRP Acronym List

This resource has been revised. The updated Hospice Quality Reporting Program (**HQRP**) **Acronym List** can be accessed through the [HQRP Training and Education Library](#).

September 7, 2022

Register Now: CMS Hospice Quality Reporting Program September Forum

Registration for the September 28, 2022 Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP) Forum is now open! In this webinar, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will share updates related to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Hospice Final Rule, recent Public Reporting activity, and

other updates related to HQRP. Please visit the [Provider and Stakeholder Engagement](#) web page for additional details, including the registration link.

September 06, 2022

CMS Announces New Openings for Hospices to Participate in Hospice Outcomes & Patient Evaluation (HOPE) Beta Test

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and their contractor, Abt Associates, are recruiting additional Medicare-certified hospice providers to participate in a beta test of the draft hospice patient assessment instrument called Hospice Outcomes & Patient Evaluation (HOPE). Recruitment is ongoing. Training will occur on a rolling basis. Data collection begins when training is completed and continues until the target number of HOPE assessments are completed, which we anticipate will be early fall 2022. The detailed recruitment announcement is available on CMS's [Hospice QRP Provider and Stakeholder Engagement](#) web page. Those interested in participating should email HOPETesting@abtassoc.com. The HOPE development work is conducted under CMS contract number 75FCMC18D0014 and task order number 75FCMC19F0001.