



# Eligible Hospital and Critical Access Hospital Meaningful Use Menu Set Measures

## Measure 6

Stage 1

Date issued: November 7, 2010

Medication Reconciliation	
<b>Objective</b>	The eligible hospital or CAH who receives a patient from another setting of care or provider of care or believes an encounter is relevant should perform medication reconciliation.
<b>Measure</b>	The eligible hospital or CAH performs medication reconciliation for more than 50 percent of transitions of care in which the patient is admitted to the eligible hospital's or CAH's inpatient or emergency department (POS 21 or 23).
<b>Exclusion</b>	No exclusion.

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### Definition of Terms

Admitted to the Emergency Department – There are two methods for calculating ED admissions for the denominators for measures associated with Stage 1 of Meaningful Use objectives. Eligible hospitals and CAHs must select one of the methods below for calculating ED admissions to be applied consistently to all denominators for the measures. That is, eligible hospitals and CAHs must choose either the “Observation Services method” or the “All ED Visits method” to be used with all measures. Providers cannot calculate the denominator of some measures using the “Observation Services method,” while using the “All ED Visits method” for the denominator of other measures. Before attesting, eligible hospitals and CAHs will have to indicate which method they used in the calculation of denominators.

*Observation Services method.* The denominator should include the following visits to the ED:

- The patient is admitted to the inpatient setting (place of service (POS) 21) through the ED. In this situation, the orders entered in the ED using certified EHR technology would count for purposes of determining the computerized provider order entry (CPOE) Meaningful Use measure. Similarly, other actions taken within the ED would count for purposes of determining Meaningful Use
- The patient initially presented to the ED and is treated in the ED's observation unit or otherwise receives observation services. Details on observation services can be found in the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 6, Section 20.6. Patients who receive observation services under both POS 22 and POS 23 should be included in the denominator.

*All ED Visits method.* An alternate method for computing admissions to the ED is to include all ED visits (POS 23 only) in the denominator for all measures requiring inclusion of ED admissions. All

actions taken in the inpatient or emergency departments (POS 21 and 23) of the hospital would count for purposes of determining meaningful use.

**Medication Reconciliation** -- The process of identifying the most accurate list of all medications that the patient is taking, including name, dosage, frequency, and route, by comparing the medical record to an external list of medications obtained from a patient, hospital, or other provider.

**Relevant Encounter** – An encounter during which the eligible hospital or CAH performs a medication reconciliation due to new medication or long gaps in time between patient encounters or for other reasons determined appropriate by the eligible hospital or CAH. Essentially an encounter is relevant if the eligible hospital or CAH judges it to be so. (Note: Relevant encounters are not included in the numerator and denominator of the measure for this objective.)

**Transition of Care** – The movement of a patient from one setting of care (hospital, ambulatory primary care practice, ambulatory specialty care practice, long-term care, home health, rehabilitation facility) to another.

## Attestation Requirements

### NUMERATOR / DENOMINATOR

- DENOMINATOR: Number of transitions of care during the EHR reporting period for which the eligible hospital's or CAH's inpatient or emergency department (POS 21 to 23) was the receiving party of the transition.
- NUMERATOR: Number of transitions of care in the denominator where medication reconciliation was performed.

The resulting percentage (Numerator ÷ Denominator) must be more than 50 percent in order for an eligible hospital or CAH to meet this measure.

## Additional Information

- Only patients whose records are maintained using certified EHR technology should be included in the denominator for transitions of care.
- In the case of reconciliation following transition of care, the receiving eligible hospital or CAH should conduct the medication reconciliation.
- The measure of this objective does not dictate what information must be included in medication reconciliation. Information included in the process of medication reconciliation is appropriately determined by the provider and patient.