

MEDICARE PROMOTING INTEROPERABILITY PROGRAM ELECTRONIC CLINICAL QUALITY MEASURES: REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR 2021

Electronic clinical quality measures, or eCQMs, are tools that help measure and track the quality of health care services provided by eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAHs) within our health care system. These measures use data associated with health care providers' ability to deliver high-quality care or relate to long-term goals for quality health care.

eCQMs measure many aspects of patient care including:

- Clinical processes and effectiveness
- Patient safety
- Efficient use of health care resources
- Care coordination
- Patient and family engagement
- Population and public health

eCQMs help ensure that our health care system is delivering effective, safe, efficient, patient-centered, equitable, and timely care.

To participate in the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program and receive an incentive payment, health care providers are required to submit eCQM data from certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT).

The table below outlines the eCQM reporting requirements for Medicare hospitals in 2021. The submission period will be the two months following the end of the 2021 calendar year, ending on **February 28, 2022**.

Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program eCQM Reporting Requirements			
Reporting Year		2021	
Reporting Method		Hospitals (First-time)	Hospitals (Returning)
# of eCQMs	Attestation	8	8
	Electronically	4	4
Reporting Period	Attestation	Full calendar year (consisting of four quarterly data reporting periods)	Full calendar year (consisting of four quarterly data reporting periods)
	Electronically	Two self-selected calendar quarters of data	Two self-selected calendar quarters of data
Submission Deadline		February 28, 2022	February 28, 2022

**Attestation is only an option available for Medicare eligible hospitals and CAHs in specific circumstances when electronic reporting is not feasible.*

eCQM Reporting Form and Manner for Promoting Interoperability Programs in CY 2021

- This requires the following:
 - Use of Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA) Category I for hospital eCQM submissions to CMS
 - 2015 Edition CEHRT
- The eCQM requirement fulfillment for the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program also satisfies the eCQM reporting requirement for the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting Program.
- QRDA file specifications, Schematrons, sample files, and other helpful materials are located on the eCQI Resource Center website at <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/qrda>.