

A Guide to the Physician Compare Preview Period

Overview

This guide describes how to use the **Provider Quality Information Portal (PQIP)**. PQIP is a portal that allows clinicians and group representatives to preview their 2016 performance information before it is published on [Physician Compare](#) in late 2017.

What's in this guide:

- [What's the Physician Compare preview period?](#)
- [Will I have performance information available for preview?](#)
- [How do I preview my performance information?](#)
- [Navigating PQIP](#)
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Who should use this guide?

- Clinicians who submitted 2016 Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) and/or non-PQRS Qualified Clinical Data Registry (QCDR) measure data
- Individuals representing groups that submitted 2016 PQRS measure data and/or non-PQRS QCDR measure data

What's the Physician Compare preview period?

The Physician Compare preview period is a 30-day period set by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) that allows clinicians and group representatives to preview their performance information before it is publicly reported.

Later this year, Physician Compare will begin publicly reporting performance information for 2016 data. All 2016 PQRS data, including Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) for PQRS, and non-PQRS QCDR data, are available for public reporting later this year.

The secured 30-day preview period is facilitated through the Provider Quality Information Portal (PQIP), a web-based system that is part of the [PQRS portal](#). PQIP displays performance information as it will appear on Physician Compare, so you can preview your data the way your patients will see it when it is published on the site. Preview period begins on **October 18, 2017** and ends on **November 17, 2017 at 8 PM EDT**.

Why preview?

- It's a chance for you to see what your patients will see before your performance information is published on the Physician Compare website later this year.
- You'll be able to see which of the measure data you submitted for 2016 is targeted for public reporting on Physician Compare profile pages versus the [Downloadable Database](#).

We encourage you to preview your data as early in the preview period as possible. To learn more about Physician Compare, public reporting, and the 30-day preview period, visit the [Physician Compare Initiative page](#).

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Will I have performance information available for preview?

You can check if you or your group have performance information available for preview by using the **Physician Compare Lookup Tool** available on the [PQRS Lookup Functions page](#). Note that the Physician Compare Lookup Tool will be available at the start of the preview period on October 18, 2017.

To access the Lookup tool, follow these steps:

1. Go to https://qnpapp.qualitynet.org/pqrs/lookup_func.htm.
2. Under the **Physician Compare Lookup** section, select the TIN or NPI radio button.
 - › If you're checking the status for an **individual clinician**, select the **NPI** radio button.
 - › If you're checking the status for a **group**, select the **TIN** radio button.
3. Depending on what you selected in Step 2, enter the TIN or NPI in the textbox.

NOTE: Make sure you're using the correct TIN/NPI format. TIN must include 9 digits; only digits are allowed (ex: 012345678). NPI must include 10 digits (ex: 0123456789).

4. Select **Lookup**.
 - a. You will get a message indicating if you or your group have or do not have performance information available for preview for this year.

CMS.gov | QualityNet
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

PQR Lookup

Enter a TIN, TIN/NPI, CEC ESCO ID or CPC Practice Site ID to check if your organization has received the 2018 PQRS payment adjustment. Please access your Quality Resource Use Report (QRUR) to determine payment adjustment status for your practice.

PQRS Eligible Professional ▾

TIN: e.g. 012123234
[Input Field]

NPI: e.g. 0121232345
[Input Field]

Lookup

Physicians Compare Lookup

Enter a TIN or NPI to check if you or your organization will have 2016 performance scores publicly reported on Physician Compare later this year. If you submitted 2016 performance information as an individual, enter your NPI. If you submitted 2016 performance information as part of a group practice, enter the group practice's TIN. For questions about public reporting, contact PhysicianCompare@Westat.com.

TIN NPI

[Input Field] **Lookup**

How do I preview my performance information?

Follow these steps to access PQIP and preview your performance information.

1. Determine your user role.

To access PQIP and preview your performance information, you'll need the appropriate user role. Use the following descriptions to determine your correct user role:

If you are:	Secure this role in EIDM:
An Individual Eligible Practitioner (EP) who submitted 2016 PQRS measure data as an individual EP	Individual Practitioner
An individual who reviews the PQRS quality measure data and the patient experience data on behalf of a group	PQIP Group Representative

For assistance requesting the correct user role, contact the QualityNet Help Desk: 866-288-8912, TTY: 877-715-6222, gnetsupport@hcqis.org.

2. Establish an Enterprise Identity Management (EIDM) account.

In addition to having the correct user role, you'll also need an active EIDM account to access PQIP and preview your performance information. To set up a new EIDM account, go to <https://portal.cms.gov/>.

Find more information about applying for and updating your EIDM account via the [Quick Reference Guides](#) or by visiting [CMS.gov](https://www.cms.gov).

NOTE: When applying for a new EIDM account, you must specify the Individual Practitioner or PQIP Group Representative user role. You'll receive an email confirming your approval for an account after completing the EIDM registration. At that point, you can log in to the [PQRS portal](#) to access PQIP.

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3. Launch PQIP.

- Go to <https://www.qualitynet.org/pqrs>.
- The PQRS portal sign-in page will appear. Select **Sign In**.

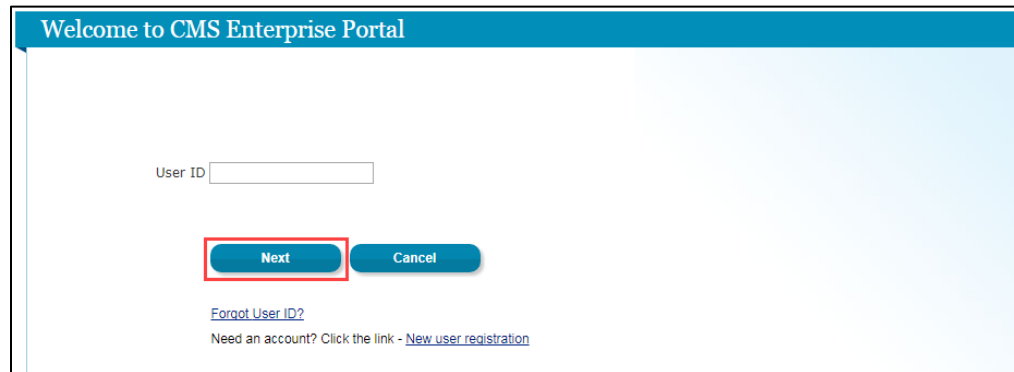
The screenshot shows the CMS.gov QualityNet sign-in page. At the top left is the CMS.gov logo and QualityNet text. Below it are 'Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' and a 'Related Links' section with icons for CMS, Quality Improvement Resources, Measure Development, Consensus Organizations for Measure Endorsement/Approval, and Communication Support Page. To the right is a 'Guest Announcement' section with text about the confidentiality of PQR feedback reports. Below the announcement is a 'Physician and Other Health Care Professionals Quality Reporting Portal' section with a 'Sign In' button highlighted by a red box. Below the button is the text 'If you do not have an account, please register.' and a 'Forgot your password?' link.

- A System Use Notification form will appear. After reading the terms and conditions, select **I Accept**.

The screenshot shows a 'System Use Notification' form. At the top is a blue header with the text 'System Use Notification'. Below the header is a section with the text 'OMB No.0938-1236 | Expiration Date: 04/30/2017 (OMB Re-Certification Pending) | [Paperwork Reduction Act](#)'. Below this is a paragraph of text: 'This warning banner provides privacy and security notices consistent with applicable federal laws, directives, and other federal guidance for accessing this Government system, which includes (1) this computer network, (2) all computers connected to this network, and (3) all devices and storage media attached to this network or to a computer on this network.' Below this is another paragraph: 'This system is provided for Government authorized use only.' Below that is a paragraph: 'Unauthorized or improper use of this system is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action and/or civil and criminal penalties.' Below that is a paragraph: 'Personal use of social media and networking sites on this system is limited as to not interfere with official work duties and is subject to monitoring.' Below that is a paragraph: 'By using this system, you understand and consent to the following:' followed by a bulleted list of two items: 'The Government may monitor, record, and audit your system usage, including usage of personal devices and email systems for official duties or to conduct HHS business. Therefore, you have no reasonable expectation of privacy regarding any communication or data transiting or stored on this system. At any time, and for any lawful Government purpose, the government may monitor, intercept, and search and seize any communication or data transiting or stored on this system.' and 'Any communication or data transiting or stored on this system may be disclosed or used for any lawful Government purpose.' Below the list is a paragraph: 'To continue, you must accept the terms and conditions. If you decline, your login will automatically be cancelled.' At the bottom of the form are two buttons: 'I Accept' (highlighted with a red box) and 'Decline'.

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- d. The Welcome to CMS Enterprise Portal page will appear. Enter your EIDM User ID in the textbox and select **Next**.



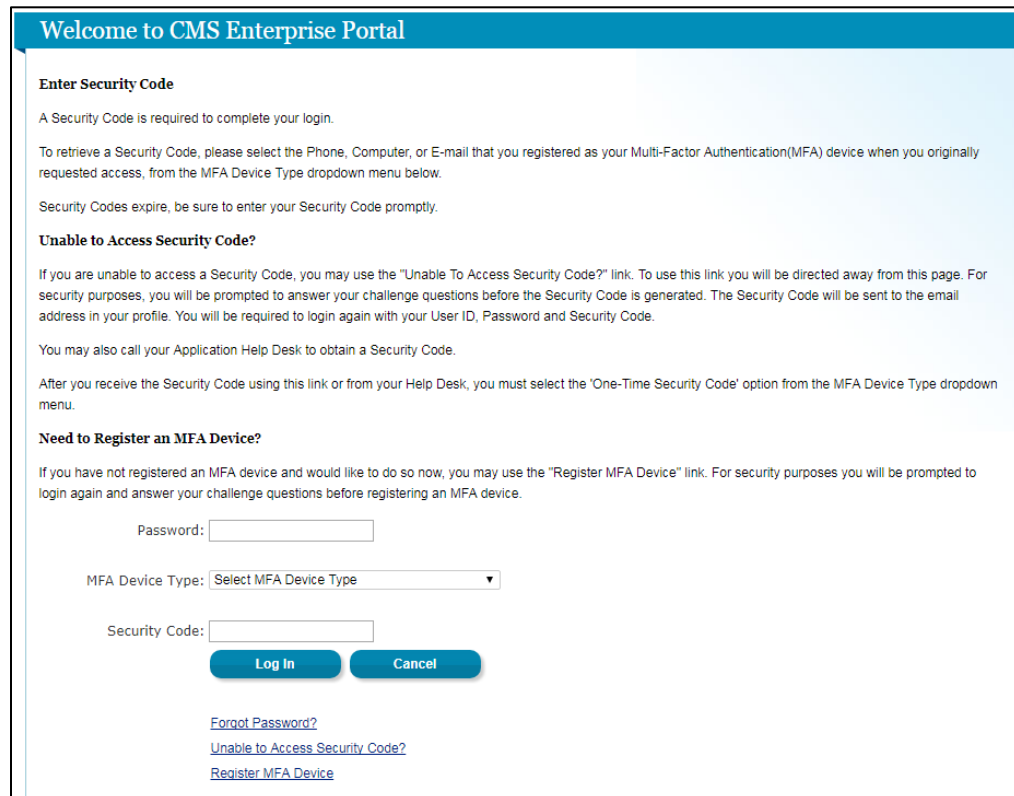
Welcome to CMS Enterprise Portal

User ID

Next **Cancel**

[Forgot User ID?](#)
Need an account? Click the link - [New user registration](#)

- e. The second sign-in form will appear. This form requires you to sign in with two-factor authentication.
- › Enter your password in the **Password** textbox.
 - › Select your Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) device type option using the **MFA Device Type** drop down box and select **Send**.
 - › Enter the security code delivered to you via email or phone or displayed on your secure connection device in the **Security Code** textbox.
 - › Select **Log In**.



Welcome to CMS Enterprise Portal

Enter Security Code

A Security Code is required to complete your login.

To retrieve a Security Code, please select the Phone, Computer, or E-mail that you registered as your Multi-Factor Authentication(MFA) device when you originally requested access, from the MFA Device Type dropdown menu below.

Security Codes expire, be sure to enter your Security Code promptly.

Unable to Access Security Code?

If you are unable to access a Security Code, you may use the "Unable To Access Security Code?" link. To use this link you will be directed away from this page. For security purposes, you will be prompted to answer your challenge questions before the Security Code is generated. The Security Code will be sent to the email address in your profile. You will be required to login again with your User ID, Password and Security Code.

You may also call your Application Help Desk to obtain a Security Code.

After you receive the Security Code using this link or from your Help Desk, you must select the 'One-Time Security Code' option from the MFA Device Type dropdown menu.

Need to Register an MFA Device?

If you have not registered an MFA device and would like to do so now, you may use the "Register MFA Device" link. For security purposes you will be prompted to login again and answer your challenge questions before registering an MFA device.

Password:

MFA Device Type:

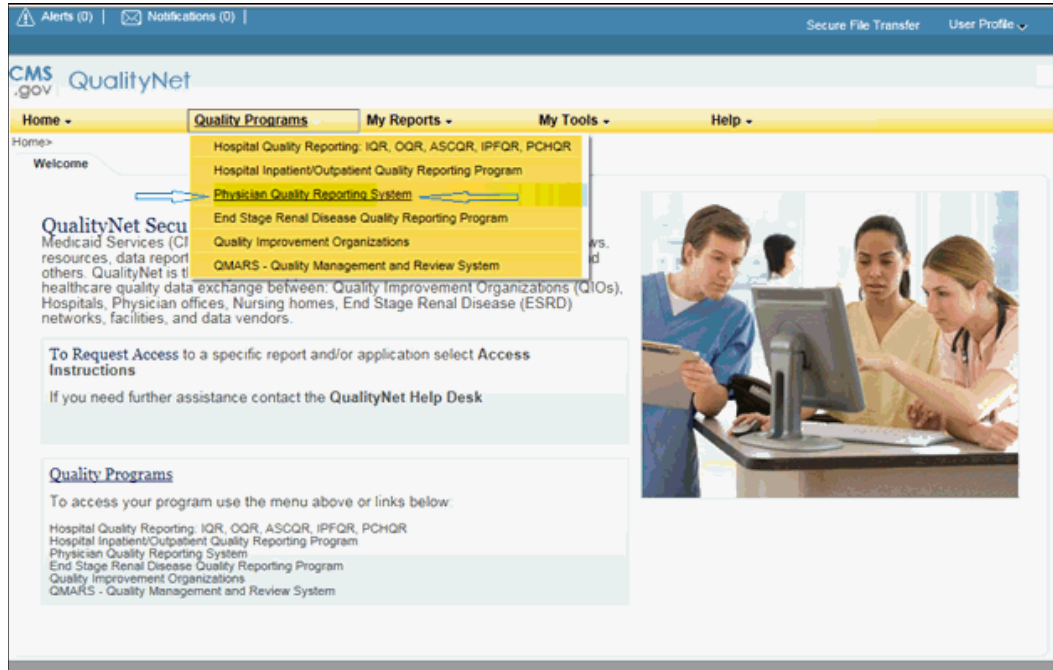
Security Code:

Log In **Cancel**

[Forgot Password?](#)
[Unable to Access Security Code?](#)
[Register MFA Device](#)

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- f. The QualityNet Secure Portal Landing page will appear. Select the **Physician Quality Reporting System** link in the drop down menu for the **Quality Programs** tab.



- g. From the Physician Quality Reporting System Landing page, select the **Physician Quality Information Portal** link under the **Reports** panel on the right-hand side.

› **This will launch the PQIP application**, where you'll be able to preview your performance information.



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4. Preview your 2016 performance information.

Once you launch PQIP, you can view your 2016 performance information as it will appear on Physician Compare later this year.

- › If you don't have performance information available for public reporting later this year, you'll receive the following message:

You will not have performance scores published on Physician Compare this year. Only individual eligible professionals and group practices that participated in the 2016 Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) and submitted measures noted in the 2016 Physician Fee Schedule final rule as available for public reporting have performance scores to preview at this time. For more information about public reporting on Physician Compare, visit the [Physician Compare Initiative Page](#).

- › If you do have performance information available for public reporting later this year, you'll see a screen similar to one shown below:

The screenshot displays a web interface for a clinician's performance scores. At the top, it shows the clinician's name, primary specialty (Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation), NPI (0123456789), and quality activities (Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS)). Below this, there are two tabs: 'Performance Scores' (selected) and 'Downloadable Data'. A message box provides contact information for the Physician Compare support team. The main content area is titled 'Performance Scores' and includes a detailed explanation of how these scores are calculated based on Medicare data. Two specific performance measures are listed: 'Dilated eye exams on patients with age-related macular degeneration' with a score of 57%, and 'Giving preventive antibiotics to surgical patients' with a score of 48%.

CLINICIAN NAME
Primary Specialty: Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
NPI: 0123456789
Quality Activities: Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS)

Performance Scores Downloadable Data

If you have questions or concerns about your performance scores or about public reporting on Physician Compare, you can contact the Physician Compare support team via e-mail at PhysicianCompare@Westat.com or via the QualityNet Helpdesk at:
Phone: (866) 288-8912
TTY: (877) 715-6222

Performance Scores

These performance scores are based on information this clinician reported to Medicare using a set of specific criteria and guidelines developed to show whether this doctor provided patients the best recommended care. Performance scores are included on Physician Compare to help you make informed decisions about your health care and to encourage all clinicians to improve the care they provide. It's important to understand that not all clinicians report the same information to Medicare, and the types of care available to report on are different depending on the types of services they provide to patients. Reporting more or less information is not a reflection of this clinician's quality. And, the performance scores are not a complete picture of the types of services this clinician provides. This is just a snapshot of some of the care this clinician provided to people with Medicare in 2015. Get more information.

Eye care

Some clinicians do a better job than others providing care to protect patients' eyes and vision. Medicare gave this clinician a performance score based on how well the clinician provided care to maintain patients' eyesight. The scores are presented as stars and as a percent.

› Dilated eye exams on patients with age-related macular degeneration. **57%**

Patient safety

Some clinicians do a better job than others preventing harm to patients by reducing risk of accidents and medical error. Medicare gave this clinician a performance score on each measure based on how well the clinician followed recommended care to keep patients safe. The scores are presented as stars and as a percent.

› Giving preventive antibiotics to surgical patients. **48%**

Navigating PQIP

Depending on the measures that you or your group reported, you may see one to three different tabs while signed in to PQIP.

1. Performance Scores tab.¹

The Performance Scores tab only appears if:

- › The preview period is open (October 18, 2017 – November 17, 2017); and
- › Your group has 2016 PQRS performance information available for public reporting on Physician Compare starting later this year; and/or
- › You or your group have 2016 non-PQRS QCDR performance information available for public reporting on Physician Compare starting later this year.

2. Patient Survey Scores tab.

The Patient Survey Scores tab only appears if:

- › The preview period is open; and
- › Your group has 2016 CAHPS for PQRS performance information available for public reporting on Physician Compare starting later this year.

3. Downloadable Data tab.²

The Downloadable Data tab only appears if:

- › The preview period is open; and
- › You or your group have performance information available for public reporting in the Physician Compare [Downloadable Database](#).

The next page shows you an example of how these tabs might appear in PQIP.

¹ Beginning in late 2017, the tab labeled “Performance Scores” will be labeled “Performance” on Physician Compare public-facing profile pages.

² Any 2016 information publicly reported on Physician Compare must be designated as available for public reporting in the Calendar Year (CY) 2016 Physician Fee Schedule final rule. Measures publicly reported in the Downloadable Database must have a sufficient number of reporters and meet our statistical reporting criteria. This means measures must be deemed statistically valid, reliable, accurate, and comparable. Performance scores for all measures that meet these statistical criteria are available for inclusion in the Downloadable Database to support CMS’s goal of increased transparency.

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GROUP NAME

Primary Specialty: Not Available

PAC ID: 012345678

Quality Activities: Group Practice Reporting Option (GPRO)

Performance Scores

Patient Survey Scores

Downloadable Data

If you have questions or concerns about your performance scores or about public reporting on Physician Compare, you can contact the Physician Compare support team via e-mail at PhysicianCompare@Westat.com or via the QualityNet Helpdesk at:
Phone: (866) 288-8912
TTY: (877) 715-6222

Performance Scores



These performance scores are based on information this group practice reported to Medicare using a set of specific criteria and guidelines developed to show whether this group practice provided patients the best recommended care. Performance scores are included on Physician Compare to help you make informed decisions about your health care and to encourage all clinicians to improve the care they provide. It's important to understand that not all group practices report the same information to Medicare, and the types of care available to report on are different depending on the types of services they provide to patients. Reporting more or less information is not a reflection of this group practice's quality. And, the performance scores are not a complete picture of the types of services this group practice provides. This is just a snapshot of some of the care this group practice provided to people with Medicare in 2015. Get more information.

More stars are better.

Eye care

Some group practices do a better job than others providing care to protect patients' eyes and vision. Medicare gave this group practice a performance score based on how well the group provided care to maintain patients' eyesight. The scores are presented as stars and as a percent.

▷ Dilated eye exams on patients with age-related macular degeneration.



Patient safety

Some group practices do a better job than others preventing harm to patients by reducing risk of accidents and medical error. Medicare gave this group practice a performance score on each measure based on how well the group followed recommended care to keep patients safe. The scores are presented as stars and as a percent.

▷ Giving preventive antibiotics to surgical patients.

Not Available ¹

▷ Stopping preventive antibiotics 24 hours after non-cardiac surgeries.



More ways to learn

Questions about EIDM and PQIP

For EIDM and PQIP registration assistance, including requesting the correct user role, contact the **QualityNet Help Desk: 866-288-8912, TTY: 877-715-6222, qnetsupport@hcqis.org**.

You can get more information about PQIP at any time by selecting the **Help** link in the top header for each page in the portal. This will open the complete User Manual for PQIP. You can also select the Help icons within individual sections of each screen to launch help information for that specific section.

Questions about Physician Compare

For questions about public reporting on Physician Compare, the 30-day preview period, or performance information, visit the [Physician Compare Initiative page](#) or contact us at PhysicianCompare@Westat.com.

To find out what 2016 performance information are targeted for public reporting on Physician Compare starting later this year, check out these documents in the preview toolkit on the [Physician Compare Initiative page](#):

- › Physician Compare PY 2016 Group Profile Page Measures Available for Preview
- › Physician Compare PY 2016 Group Downloadable Database Measures Available for Preview
- › Physician Compare PY 2016 Clinician Downloadable Database Measures Available for Preview
- › Physician Compare PY 2016 Non-PQRS QCDR Measures Available for Preview
- › Physician Compare PY 2015 Clinician Utilization Data Available for Preview