



The Skilled Nursing Facility Value-Based Purchasing Program: Information on Quarterly Confidential Feedback Reports

Background

Section 215 of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA) of 2014 (P.L. 113-93) added sections 1888(g) and (h) to the Social Security Act (the Act), and authorizes the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to implement the Skilled Nursing Facility Value-Based Purchasing (SNF VBP) Program beginning with claims paid in fiscal year (FY) 2019.

Additional information about the SNF VBP Program can be found on the CMS website at:
<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-Based-Programs/Other-VBPs/SNF-VBP.html>.

Confidential Feedback Reports

Section 1888(g)(5) of the Act further requires that the Secretary begin providing quarterly confidential feedback reports to SNFs regarding their performance on the measures specified under the SNF VBP Program.

On page 2 of this document, we provide an example of the confidential feedback report that will be furnished to you quarterly via the Certification and Survey Provider Enhanced Reporting (CASPER) system. This report will provide you with information on your performance on the measure being used in the SNF VBP Program.

Measure Description

The Skilled Nursing Facility 30-Day All-Cause Readmission Measure (SNFRM) was adopted for the SNF VBP Program in FY 2016. The SNFRM assesses unplanned hospital readmissions for Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) beneficiaries within 30 days of discharge from a prior proximal acute care, critical access, or psychiatric hospital stay. The SNFRM is a risk-standardized readmission rate (RSRR) and is risk adjusted in order to allow for comparison of SNFs' performance. This risk-adjustment or risk-standardization approach takes into account several patient and clinical characteristics that might be related to the outcome but are unrelated to quality of care. Data for this measure are extracted from one year of Medicare claims. This measure is endorsed by the National Quality Forum (NQF #2510).

For additional information on the SNFRM, including a full explanation as to why the risk-standardized rate differs from the simple rate, we refer readers to our technical report (*Skilled Nursing Facility Readmission Measure (SNFRM) NQF #2510: All-Cause Risk-Standardized Readmission Measure Draft Technical Report*), available at:

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/NursingHomeQualityInits/Downloads/SNFRM-Technical-Report-3252015.pdf>.

Note: On the next page, we provide an example of the report that we will use in the future to record information on your SNF's performance.



EXAMPLE REPORT

**The Skilled Nursing Facility Value-Based Purchasing Program
Quarterly Confidential Feedback Report**

Facility:
CCN:
City, State:

**Your SNF's Performance on the Skilled Nursing Facility 30-Day All-Cause
Readmission Measure (SNFRM) in [YEAR]**

Measure	Your SNF's Number of Eligible Stays	Your SNF's Number of Readmissions*	Your SNF's Risk- Standardized Readmission Rate**	National Average Readmission Rate***
SNFRM	.	.	. %	. %

Source: Medicare claims and eligibility data from [YEAR].

- * The number of stays at your SNF that were followed by an unplanned hospital readmission within 30 days of discharge from a prior proximal hospitalization.
- ** The risk-standardized readmission rate is your SNF's risk-adjusted rate of unplanned readmissions.
- *** The national average readmission rate is the unadjusted average readmission rate for all eligible SNF stays nationally.

Questions?

If you have questions about your data, please contact CMS at SNFVBPInquiries@cms.hhs.gov.