

# CMS IRF Quality Reporting Spotlight & Announcements

## 2016

**December 14, 2016**

### **Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Compare Website Now Available**

Today, as part of our continuing commitment to greater data transparency, CMS unveiled the new *Compare* website for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRFs).

This new tool takes reported data and puts it into a format that can be used more readily by the public to get a snapshot of the quality of care each facility provides. For instance, this tool will help families compare some key quality metrics, such as pressure ulcers and readmissions, for over 1,100 IRFs across the nation. Specifically, the following quality measures will be reported on the new *Compare* site:

- Percent of Residents or Patients with Pressure Ulcers that are New or Worsened (Short Stay) (National Quality Forum #0678)
- All-Cause Unplanned Readmission Measure for 30 Days Post-Discharge From Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (National Quality Forum #2502)

This website reflects current industry best practices for consumer-facing websites and will be optimized for mobile use. Visit <https://www.medicare.gov/inpatientrehabilitationfacilitycompare> to view the new Compare site.

For more information, visit the [IRF Quality Public Reporting](#) webpage and the [CMS Newsroom](#).

**December 14, 2016**

### **IRF and LTCH Quality Reporting Program Call: Audio Recording and Transcript Now Available**

An [audio recording](#) and [transcript](#) are available for the [December 1](#) call on Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) and Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Quality Measure Reports. Find out how to get aggregate performance for the current quarter or past three quarters; find reporting errors that may affect your performance; and interpret the information.

**December 12, 2016**

### **IRF QRP Provider Preview Reports Now Available**

IRFs now have the opportunity to review their performance data on each quality measure based on Quarter 2 - 2015 to Quarter 1 - 2016 data prior to public display on IRF Compare in spring 2017.

Providers have 30 days (December 11, 2016 through January 10, 2017) to review their performance data. As finalized in the FY 2017 IRF PPS final rule, corrections to the underlying data will not be permitted during this time; however, IRFs may request CMS review of the data contained within their Preview Report, should they believe it to be inaccurate. For more information and directions on how to retrieve these reports visit the [IRF Quality Public Reporting](#) webpage.

**November 30, 2016**

### **Written Transcript and Audio Recording from NHSN - Transition to the 2015 Rebaseline Guidance for IRF and LTCHs Now Available**

The written transcript & audio file from the Wednesday, November 16, 2016 webinar has been posted. This webinar explained the new healthcare-associated infection (HAI) models, as they relate to Long-Term Care Hospitals (LTCHs) and Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRFs), and discussed the reason HAI data contained within IRF and LTCH Preview Reports may not align with the data in NHSN for the same target period.

Visit the [IRF Quality Public Reporting](#) and [LTCH Quality Public Reporting](#) webpages for the written transcript and audio recording.

**November 18, 2016**

### **IMPACT Act Cross-Setting Quality Measure: Transfer of Health Information and Care Preferences Comments Due December 11**

Public comments are due December 11 on a cross-setting post-acute care measure under the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation Act of 2014 ([IMPACT Act](#)). In alignment with the CMS and National Quality Strategy (NQS) objectives and goals, the purpose of this project is to develop, maintain, re-evaluate, and implement measures reflective of quality care for PAC settings to support CMS quality missions including the LTCH QRP, IRF QRP, SNF QRP and HH QRP.

CMS seeks to obtain input on the development of the following cross-setting quality measures for use in post-acute care settings:

1. Transfer of Information at Post-Acute Care Admission, Start, or Resumption of Care from Other Providers/Settings
2. Transfer of Information at Post-Acute Care Discharge or End of Care to Other Providers/Settings

Visit the [Public Comment](#) webpage for more information.

**November 16, 2016**

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### **Extraordinary Circumstances Extension / Exception (ECE) due to Hurricane Matthew**

CMS intends to grant quality reporting data submission exceptions to IRF Medicare providers adversely affected by the devastating impact of Hurricane Matthew. CMS is exercising its authority to grant exceptions for data submission requirements for the IRF Quality Reporting Programs for providers located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-designated "major disaster" counties of Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina. For further information visit the [IRF QR Reconsiderations and Exceptions and Extensions](#) webpage

### **November 15, 2016**

The presentation for the Wednesday, November 16, 2016 NHSN: Transition to the 2015 Rebaseline Guidance for IRF and LTCHs Webinar has been [posted](#). During this webinar, CDC explains the new HAI models, as they relate to LTCHs and Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities IRFs, and will discuss the reason HAI data contained within IRF and LTCH Preview Reports may not align with the data in NHSN for the same target period.

### **November 03, 2016**

#### **Report Retention Change for IRF-PAI Provider Reports**

The retention time period for the IRF-PAI Provider reports will change from 730 days to 60 days. Effective December 1, 2016, the reports requested from the IRF-PAI Provider report category in the CASPER Reporting application will only be stored 60 days. Any IRF-PAI Provider reports requested 60 days or more prior to December 1, 2016 will be permanently deleted from your CASPER folder. If you wish to retain these reports, you may print or save a copy prior to the report retention time period change. Any reports not printed or saved prior to the retention period time change will be permanently deleted. If you lose a copy that you'd wished to retain, you may recreate these reports on demand from the IRF-PAI Provider report category in the CASPER Reporting application.

For a list of affected reports in the IRF-PAI Provider report category or for detailed instructions on printing or saving CASPER reports, please refer to the CASPER Reporting User's Guide. The CASPER Reporting User's Guide is available on the 'Welcome to the CMS QIES Systems for Providers' web page and on the IRF-PAI User Guides and Training page on the QTSO website (<https://www.qtsso.com/irfpaitrain.html>).

### **November 03, 2016**

#### **IRF and LTCH Quality Measure Report MLN Connects® Call**

Thursday, December 1 from 1:30 to 3 pm ET

To register or for more information, visit [MLN Connects Event Registration](#).

CMS experts present on the soon to be released Certification and Survey Provider Enhanced Reports (CASPER) Quality Measure (QM) reports for the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) and Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Quality Reporting Programs. Find out how to get aggregate performance for the current quarter or past three quarters, find reporting errors that may affect your performance, and interpret the information.

### **October 28, 2016**

#### **Webinar: NHSN - Transition to the 2015 Rebaseline Guidance for IRF and LTCHs**

**When:** Wednesday, November 16, 2016

**Time:** 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM Eastern Time

Click [here](#) to register.

During this webinar, the CDC explains the new healthcare-associated infection (HAI) models, as they relate to Long-Term Care Hospitals (LTCHs) and Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRFs), and discuss the reason HAI data contained within IRF and LTCH Preview Reports may not align with the data in NHSN for the same target period.

For more information and materials for this webinar, visit the [IRF Quality Public Reporting](#) and [LTCH Quality Public Reporting](#) webpages.

### **October 26, 2016**

CMS 2016 Quality Conference- Baltimore, MD  
December 13-15

Join more than nearly 2,000 thought leaders in American health care quality improvement at the CMS 2016 Quality Conference. This conference will explore how patients, advocates, providers, researchers, and the many leaders in health care quality improvement can develop and spread solutions to some of America's most pervasive health system challenges. The 2016 CMS Quality Conference will be the most expansive yet, with both new and existing participants from programs across CMS, HHS, and community stakeholders. The

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collaborative format of the conference, and strong focus on data-proven outcomes is underscored by this year's conference theme, Aligning for Innovation and Outcomes.

For more information and to register, visit the [CMS Quality Conference](#) webpage.

### October 25, 2016

#### IRF QRP APU FY 2017: Successful Facilities

As stated in the [Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Prospective Payment System for Federal Fiscal Year 2016](#) rule, CMS has published a list of IRFs who successfully met the reporting requirements after all reconsideration requests have been processed. This report will be updated on an annual basis. View the list on the [IRF Quality Reporting Data Submission Deadlines](#) webpage.

### October 25, 2016

#### IRF Quality Reporting Program Data Submission Deadline: November 15

The submission deadline for the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) is approaching. IRF-PAI assessment data, as well as data submitted via the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) data for April-June (Q2) of calendar year (CY) 2016 are due with this submission deadline. **All data must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on November 15, 2016.**

The list of measures required for this deadline can be found under "What are the measures & deadlines for the FY 2018 payment determination?" on the [IRF Quality Reporting Data Submission Deadlines page](#) on the CMS IRF QRP website.

As a reminder, it is recommended that providers run the applicable [CMS CASPER validation reports](#) and [NHSN output reports](#) prior to each quarterly reporting deadline to ensure all required data has been submitted. Providers are also encouraged to verify all facility information prior to submission, including their CCN and facility name. Only successful submissions will count toward your Annual Increase Factor requirement.

For information on training resources available to assist with successful submission, visit the [IRF Quality Reporting Training website](#).

### October 21, 2016

#### IRF Question and Answer (Q+A) Document from August Training Now Available

The question and answer (Q+A) document is now available in the "Downloads" portion of the [IRF Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage. The Q+A document contains participant questions from the August 9 and 10, 2016, in-person provider training in Chicago, IL.

### October 20, 2016

#### IRF Public Reporting Update - CDC & NHSN Rebaseline Guidance

As noted in the Rebaseline Timeline posted in the [June 2016 NHSN Newsletter](#), the CDC submitted standardized infection ratios (SIRs) to CMS using the new 2015 baseline starting with 2016 Q1 data. The IRF QRP Preview Reports released on September 1, 2016 contained CY2015 healthcare-associated infection (HAI) SIRs in accordance with the new NHSN baselines based on nationally collected data from 2015. However, providers were unable to use NHSN to verify the accuracy of the HAI data contained within their preview reports for the Compare sites during the 30-day preview period established for this purpose. Consequently, CMS will begin publically displaying the NHSN HAI data on the Compare sites for IRFs and LTCHs in the next quarterly refresh in spring 2017 instead of in fall 2016.

For further information and to assist IRFs in understanding the use of the rebaselined data and how to monitor their quality data using the new baseline, we have posted a document titled **IRF and LTCH Public Reporting Update - CDC & NHSN Rebaseline Guidance**. This document is accessible by selecting the link with this title under the **Downloads** section of [IRF Quality Public Reporting webpage](#).

### September 30, 2016

#### August 9 and 10 IRF Quality Reporting Program Provider Training: Post-Training Materials Available

Post-training materials from the August 9 and 10, 2016, IRF QRP Provider Training in Chicago, IL, are now available under the download section of the [IRF QRP Training webpage](#).

Materials Available:

- PowerPoint presentations
- Answers to polling scenarios
- Material used to facilitate the integrated case study and other classroom activities.

A playlist with recordings of each presentation is posted on [YouTube](#). Also included in the download section is

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the IMPACT Act and Assessment Data Element Standardization and Interoperability presentation. Click [HERE](#) to access the video.

### September 8, 2016

#### **Video Recordings of the May 18 and 19, 2016, IRF QRP Provider Training Presentations Available**

Video recordings of the presentations made during the IRF QRP Provider Training event on May 18 and 19, 2016, in Dallas, TX, are now available on the CMS YouTube site. To access, [CLICK HERE](#).

Visit the [IRF Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage for more information.

### September 1, 2016

#### **IRF QRP Public Reporting Preview Reports Now Available**

IRF Preview Reports are now available until September 30, 2016. Each IRF has the opportunity to review their performance data on each quality measure prior to public display on IRF Compare. Directions on how to retrieve these reports can be found in the Download section of the [IRF Quality Public Reporting](#) webpage.

IRFs have 30 days to review their performance data. As finalized in the FY 2017 IRF PPS final rule, corrections to the underlying data will not be permitted during this time; however, IRFs may request CMS review of the data contained within their Preview Report, should they believe it to be inaccurate. All such requests must be made during the 30-day preview period.

### August 25, 2016

#### **Preview Reports – Available September 1, 2016**

Prior to the release of data on IRF Compare, IRFs are given the opportunity to review data during a 30-day preview period using their Preview Reports, which CMS will auto-generate and issue to providers via the CMS CASPER reporting application. The reports will be available from September 1- September 30, 2016.

Instructions on how to access the reports are available in the Download section of the [IRF Quality Public Reporting](#) webpage.

### August 19, 2016

#### **Presentation for August 23 IRF/LTCH Quality Public Reporting Webinar Available**

The presentation for the upcoming IRF/LTCH Quality Public Reporting webinar on August 23 is now available under the download section of the [IRF Quality Public Reporting](#) webpage.

Visit the [IRF Quality Public Reporting](#) webpage for more information and to register.

### August 17, 2016

A change table outlining updates to Section 4, the Quality Indicators section, of the IRF-PAI Training Manual V1.4, has been added to the [Downloads](#) section of the IRF Quality Reporting Program Measures Information page. This change table summarizes the updates included in the IRF-PAI Training Manual V1.4 that were posted in August 2016.

### August 12, 2016

#### **IRF & LTCH Quality Reporting Program: Public Reporting Webinar**

**When: Tuesday, August 23, 2016**

**Time: 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Eastern Time**

Click [here](#) to register

During this webinar, CMS will discuss the Preview Reports for IRFs and LTCHs that will be available to providers in the near future. Participants will gain an understanding of how to access these reports, how to interpret the contents of these reports, and what to do if they believe their report contains an error.

#### **For more information:**

- [IRF Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage
- IRF Public Reporting helpdesk: [IRFPRquestions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:IRFPRquestions@cms.hhs.gov)

### August 09, 2016

#### **Updated Section 4 (Quality Indicators) of IRF-PAI Training Manual V1.4**

An updated version of Section 4, the Quality Indicators section, of the IRF-PAI Training Manual V1.4 has been added to the Downloads section of the [IRF Quality Reporting Program Measures Information](#) webpage. This section contains information regarding data collection for the quality measures on the IRF-PAI version 1.4, effective October 1, 2016.

### August 08, 2016

#### **IRF Question and Answer (Q+A) Document from May Training Now Available**

The question and answer (Q+A) document is now available in the “Downloads” portion of the [IRF Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage. The Q+A document contains participant questions from the May 18 and 19 in-

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person provider training in Dallas, Texas.

## August 05, 2016

### Training Materials for August 9 and 10 IRF QRP Provider Training Available

Training materials for the upcoming 2-day IRF QRP Provider Training event on August 9 and 10, 2016, in Chicago, IL, are now available under the download section of the [IRF Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage. The URL to access the webcast of next week's training is as follows: <http://breasiaproductions.com/bptv/>. Programming will start at 8:00 a.m. CDT and end at 5:00 p.m. CDT on August 9. On August 10, training will start at 8:00 a.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m. CDT. Please note: The title of the event on the page hosting the webcast will not be updated until the day of the event.

Visit the [IRF Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage for more information and to register and/or find out how to participate electronically.

## July 29, 2016

Specifications for the measures finalized for adoption into the IRF QRP through the IRF PPS FY 2017 Final Rule are posted. The specifications provide detailed information on the following adopted measures: Medicare Spending per Beneficiary-Post Acute Care IRF Quality Reporting Program, Discharge to Community-Post Acute Care IRF Quality Reporting Program, Potentially Preventable 30-Day Post Discharge Readmission Measure for IRF Quality Reporting Program, Drug Regimen Review Conducted with Follow-Up for Identified Issues-Post Acute Care IRF Quality Reporting Program, and Potentially Preventable Within Stay Readmission Measure for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities.

The measure specifications can be found in the [Downloads](#) section.

## July 20, 2016

### IRF Quality Reporting Program: Non-Compliance Letters

CMS has provided notifications to facilities that were determined to be out of compliance with Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) requirements for CY 2015, which will affect their FY 2017 APU. Non-compliance notifications were placed into facilities CASPER folders in QIES on July 20, 2016. Facilities that receive a letter of non-compliance may submit a request for reconsideration to CMS via email no later than 11:59pm PST, August 19, 2016. If you receive a notice of non-compliance and would like to request a reconsideration, see the instructions in your notification letter and on the [IRF Quality Reporting Reconsideration and Exception & Extension](#) webpage.

## July 15, 2016

### IRF Quality Reporting Program Data Submission Deadline: August 15

Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) NHSN data for quarter 1 (Q1) of calendar year (CY) 2016 and IRF-PAI data for Q1 of CY 2016 must be submitted on August 15, 2016. For additional information, including a list of quality measure data that is due, visit the [IRF Quality Reporting Data Submissions Deadlines](#) webpage.

## July 15, 2016

### IRF Quality Reporting Program Provider Training: Registration Open

Tuesday, August 9 through Wednesday, August 10, 2016

CMS is hosting a 2-day, in-person training event on August 9 and 10 for the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting program (QRP) in Chicago, IL. This training is for IRF providers, associations, and organizations. The objective is to provide IRFs with assessment-based data collection instructions and updates associated with the changes in the October 1, 2016, release of the IRF-Patient Assessment Instrument (PAI) V 1.4 and other reporting requirements of the IRF QRP. IRF preview reports will also be discussed.

Visit the [IRF Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage for more information and to register.

## June 30, 2016

### Subject: Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Provider Training on May 18 and 19, 2016—Post-Training Materials Posted to the CMS Web site

Presentations with answers to practice activities and materials used to facilitate group exercises during the IRF QRP Provider Training in Dallas, TX, on May 18 and 19 have been posted to the CMS Web site at the following URL: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/IRF-Quality-Reporting/Training.html>. The link to the files is located at the bottom of the page under Downloads.

The focus of the May IRF QRP Provider Training was to provide those responsible for implementing or training others in their organization on assessment-based data collection instructions and updates associated with the changes in the October 1, 2016, release of the IRF Patient Assessment Instrument version 1.4 and other



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reporting requirements of the IRF Quality Reporting Program. Recordings of the training sessions themselves will be forthcoming.

If you have questions or need additional information about the logistics of the training session, please email the PAC Training mailbox at [PACTraining@econometricainc.com](mailto:PACTraining@econometricainc.com)

**May 17, 2016**

**Subject: Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Provider Training on May 18 and 19, 2016—Training Event Full/Registration Closed/Web Streaming Will Be Made Available**

The Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Provider Training on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, and Thursday, May 19, 2016, is now full and registration has been disabled. To allow as many providers as possible to view this training, we will be streaming the training live. Additionally, recordings of the training sessions will be posted to the CMS YouTube site several weeks after the event. If you are interested in viewing the event in real time via streaming media, you can access the training via the following URL between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. CT on May 18, 2016, and between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. CT on May 19, 2016.

The URL to access the training event via streaming media is: <http://breasiaproductions.com/cms-irf-live-stream/>. Copies of presentation materials and the agenda for the two-day training have been posted to the CMS website at the following URL: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/IRF-Quality-Reporting/Training.html>. The link to the files is located at the bottom of the page under Downloads.

The focus of this train-the-trainer event will be to provide IRFs with assessment-based data collection instructions and updates associated with the changes in the October 1, 2016, release of the IRF Patient Assessment Instrument version 1.4 and other reporting requirements of the IRF Quality Reporting Program. This important training is open to all IRF providers, associations, and organizations. The training itself will take place at the Dallas/Addison Marriott Quorum by the Galleria hotel at 14901 Dallas Parkway, Dallas, TX 75254. If you were not able to register and attend the on-site training event or were not able to view via the streaming media session and are interested in being notified when the YouTube recording is posted, please send an email to [PACTraining@econometricainc.com](mailto:PACTraining@econometricainc.com).

If you have questions or need additional information about the logistics of the training session, please email the PAC Training mailbox at [PACTraining@econometricainc.com](mailto:PACTraining@econometricainc.com).

**May 13, 2016**

**Subject: Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Provider Training on May 18 and 19, 2016—Materials Posted**

The presentations for the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Provider Training on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, and Thursday, May 19, 2016, have been posted to the CMS website at the following URL: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/IRF-Quality-Reporting/Training.html>. The link to the files is located at the bottom of the page under Downloads.

The focus of this train-the-trainer event will be to provide IRFs with assessment-based data collection instructions and updates associated with the changes in the October 1, 2016, release of the IRF Patient Assessment Instrument version 1.4 and other reporting requirements of the IRF Quality Reporting Program. This important training will be open to all IRF providers, associations, and organizations. The training itself will take place at the Dallas/Addison Marriott Quorum by the Galleria hotel at 14901 Dallas Parkway, Dallas, TX 75254. Registration is currently closed. A recorded version of the webinar will be posted to the CMS YouTube site following the event. If you were not able to register and are interested in being notified when the recording is posted, please send an email to [PACTraining@econometricainc.com](mailto:PACTraining@econometricainc.com).

If you have questions or need additional information about the logistics of the training session, please email the PAC Training mailbox at [PACTraining@econometricainc.com](mailto:PACTraining@econometricainc.com).

**April 29, 2016**

Section 9 of the IRF-PAI Version 1.4 Training Manual is available under the Downloads section of the IRF QRP Measures Information page at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/IRF-Quality-Reporting/IRF-Quality-Reporting-Program-Measures-Information-.html>. This section of the IRF-PAI Training Manual includes a table that allows providers to easily identify which items on the IRF-PAI Version 1.4 (effective beginning October 1, 2016) are required, or required if available, and which items are voluntary. Please refer to the IRF-PAI Data Submission Specifications for item-level responses that the

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QIES ASAP submission system will accept as a valid response to an item on the IRF-PAI for data submission starting on October 1, 2016. Draft Data Submission specifications for IRF-PAI Version 1.4 can be found at this website: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/InpatientRehabFacPPS/Software.html>

**April 21, 2016**

Specifications for the measures proposed for adoption into the IRF QRP through the IRF PPS FY 2017 Proposed Rule are posted. The specifications provide detailed information on the following proposed measures: Medicare Spending per Beneficiary- Post Acute Care Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program, Discharge to Community-Post Acute Care Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program, Potentially Preventable 30-Day Post Discharge Readmission Measure for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program, Potentially Preventable Within Stay Readmission Measure for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities, and Drug Regimen Review Conducted with Follow-Up for Identified Issues-Post Acute Care Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program. The specifications for the measures proposed can be found in the Downloads section of the [IRF Quality Reporting Measures Information page](#).

The proposed item set specifications for the proposed measure, Drug Regimen Review Conducted with Follow-Up for Identified Issues-Post Acute Care Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program, as delineated in the IRF PPS FY 2017 Proposed Rule can be found in the Downloads section of the [IRF Quality Reporting Measures Information page](#).

**April 14, 2016**

The submission deadline for the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) is approaching. CDC's NHSN data for Q4 of calendar year (CY) 2015, including Influenza Vaccination Coverage among Healthcare Personnel (NQF #0431), and IRF-PAI data for Q4 of CY 2015 are due with this submission deadline. **All data must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on May 15, 2016.**

IRFs are required to submit quality reporting data each quarter to meet QRP reporting requirements. Failure to submit data prior to the submission deadlines could result in a two percentage point reduction in the Annual Increase Factor. The following measures must be submitted to meet the requirements for the IRF QRP:

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Measures

- **National Healthcare Safety Network Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection Outcome Measure (NQF # 0138)**
- **National Healthcare Safety Network Facility-Wide Inpatient Hospital-onset Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus Bacteremia Outcome Measure (NQF #1716)**
- **National Healthcare Safety Network Facility-Wide Inpatient Hospital-onset Clostridium difficile Infection Outcome Measure (NQF #1717)**
- **Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Healthcare Personnel (NQF #0431) (For the period of October 01, 2015 through March 31, 2016)**

### Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Patient Assessment Instrument (IRF-PAI) Measures

- **Percent of Residents or Patients with Pressure Ulcers That Are New or Worsened (NQF #0678)**
- **Percent of Residents or Patients Who Were Assessed and Appropriately Given the Seasonal Influenza Vaccine (Short Stay) (NQF #0680)**

Data collected using the IRF-PAI are submitted to the Quality Improvement Evaluation System (QIES) via the Assessment Submission and Processing (ASAP) system and are submitted based on the IRF prospective payment system deadlines; corrections to the Quality Indicator items used to inform required IRF QRP quality measures must be submitted by the established IRF QRP quarterly deadline. CMS calculates the quality measure (e.g., percent of patients with pressure ulcers that are new or worsened) using the IRF-PAI records from each IRF.

### Medicare Fee-For-Service Claims-Based Measure

- The **All-Cause Unplanned Readmission Measure for 30 Days Post-Discharge From Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (NQF #2502)** is a Medicare Fee-For-Service claims-based measure; hence, no additional IRF QRP data collection and submission is required by IRFs.

CMS strongly encourages all facilities to submit data several days prior to the deadline to allow time to address

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any submission issues and to provide opportunity to review submissions to ensure data is complete and accurate.

As a reminder, it is recommended that providers run the applicable CMS CASPER validation reports and NHSN output reports prior to each quarterly reporting deadline. Only successful submissions will count toward your Annual Increase Factor requirement.

Detailed guidance on how to run and interpret NHSN output reports, as well as a checklist used to ensure complete reporting into NHSN, can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/cms/index.html>. Detailed guidance on how to run and interpret these reports can be found here: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/analysis/how2ccreate-modify-dates-irf-cauti-labid.pdf>. If you have questions regarding these reports within NHSN, please contact the NHSN Helpdesk: [NHSN@cdc.gov](mailto:NHSN@cdc.gov).

Detailed guidance on how to run and interpret IRF-PAI validation reports can be found in the IRF-PAI Submission User's Guide, Appendix A, available at [https://www.qtso.com/download/irfpai/Users\\_AppA.pdf](https://www.qtso.com/download/irfpai/Users_AppA.pdf).

### Helpful Links:

For questions about IRF-PAI data coding or IRF-PAI data submission, call 800-339-9313 or email [help@qtso.com](mailto:help@qtso.com) or visit Quality Improvement Evaluation System (QIES) at <https://www.qtso.com/>.

For questions about IRF quality data submitted to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Health Safety Network (NHSN) email [NHSN@cdc.gov](mailto:NHSN@cdc.gov) or visit <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/>.

For questions about quality measure calculation, data submission deadlines, data items in the Quality Indicator section of the IRF-PAI, email IRF Quality Questions Help Desk email: [IRF.questions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:IRF.questions@cms.hhs.gov).

### April 8, 2016

An updated version of the IRF Quality Reporting Program User's Manual has been added to the Downloads section of the IRF Quality Reporting Measures Information page. The IRF-PAI-based Quality Reporting Program User's Manual V1.1 for the patient assessment based measures contains information regarding record selection and measure calculation for the quality measures and the logical specifications for the IRF-PAI Quality Measures. The manual also includes information on quality measures for public reporting in Fall 2016.