

# Expanded Home Health Value-Based Purchasing (HHVBP) Model

## HHVBP Newsletter – August 2022

The HHVBP Newsletter provides home health agencies (HHAs) with the latest information about the expanded HHVBP Model as well as important tools, news, and timely insights from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the HHVBP Model Technical Assistance (TA) Team. Please consider sharing this newsletter within your organization.

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### HHVBP Model Highlights

#### ***Ending Soon: Calendar Year (CY) 2022 Pre-Implementation Year***

The CY 2022 pre-implementation year for the expanded HHVBP Model concludes **December 31, 2022**. CMS designated this pre-implementation year to allow HHAs time to learn about the expanded HHVBP Model without risk to payments. **Figure 1** illustrates the timeline for the rollout of the expanded Model through CY 2025.

The **first performance year** for the expanded HHVBP Model is CY 2023, beginning **January 1, 2023**.

HHAs can leverage the remaining months of the pre-implementation year to prepare for the CY 2023 performance year. Information and resources designed to assist HHAs with preparation are available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#).

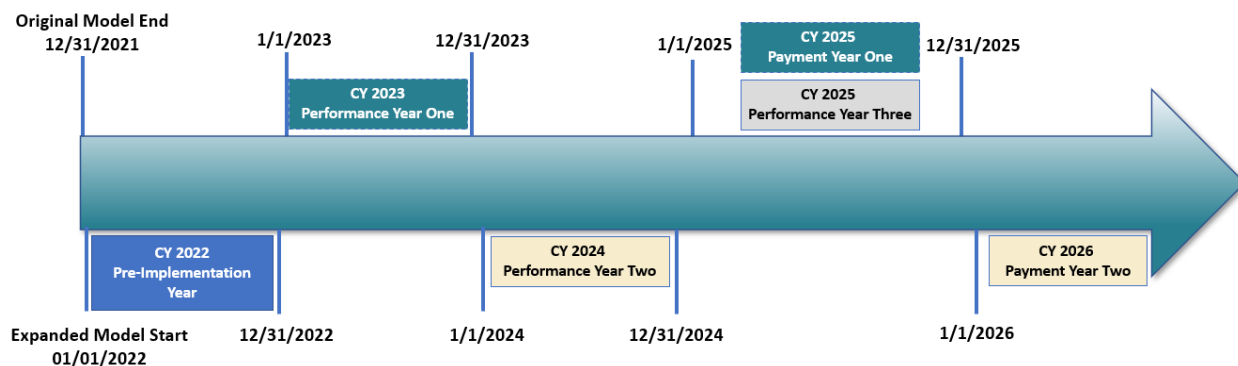


Figure 1. Timeline for Rollout of the Expanded HHVBP Model

**Now Available: Expanded HHVBP Model Sample Reports - Interim Performance Report (IPR) and Annual Performance Report (APR)**

For learning purposes only, CMS published two (2) sample reports– one (1) for the Interim Performance Report (IPR) and one (1) for the Annual Performance Report (APR). These two (2) reports, unique to the expanded HHVBP Model, are now available to help HHAs become familiar with the performance feedback provided through the expanded HHVBP Model. **These sample reports do not include actual HHA performance data.**

The sample reports are available to each competing HHA on the Internet Quality Improvement and Evaluation System ([iQIES](#)). The sample reports are based on the same scoring methodologies and other policies presented in the [CY 2022 Home Health Prospective Payment System \(HH PPS\) final rule](#). Information in the sample reports includes:

- An overview of the IPR and APR,
- Achievement, Improvement, Care Points, Measure Scorecard, and TNC Change Reference tabs,
- Annual Payment Adjustment tab in the APR,
- Formulas and notes to explain the calculations of the Total Performance Score (TPS) in both reports and the final TPS-adjusted payment percentage in the APR, and
- Sample percentile rankings reflecting the agency’s performance relative to the performance of other HHAs in their cohort.

Instructions on how to access the sample reports are available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#), in the “Expanded HHVBP Model Reports – Access Instructions” document.

For questions about the sample reports, please contact the **HHVBP Help Desk** at [HHVBPquestions@lewin.com](mailto:HHVBPquestions@lewin.com).



## ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

### **Event Materials Now Available: Navigating Performance Feedback Reports: Interim Performance Report (IPR) and Annual Performance Report (APR)**

On Thursday, August 25th, the HHVBP TA Team hosted the live event, “*Navigating Performance Feedback Reports: Interim Performance Report (IPR) and Annual Performance Report (APR)*.” This live event introduced the two (2) types of expanded HHVBP Model performance feedback reports: IPRs and APRs. A review of the purpose, availability, timing, and location of the reports was provided, followed by a walkthrough of the layout, navigation, and content on each tab.

Understanding important details for each report type and navigating the reports are essential skills for an HHA to accurately and efficiently track, trend, and identify report information to interpret their total performance score and potential payment adjustments, and inform quality assurance and performance improvement (QAPI) initiatives.

The audio recording, slides, and transcript are available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#). The HHVBP TA Team encourages HHAs to view these on-demand resources and share with other HHA staff seeking to engage in the expanded HHVBP Model.

For questions, email the Expanded HHVBP Model Help Desk at [HHVBPquestions@lewin.com](mailto:HHVBPquestions@lewin.com).



## Resource Spotlight

### **Current Resources Available to HHAs**

As the CY 2022 pre-implementation year for the expanded HHVBP Model comes to an end, the HHVBP TA Team encourages HHAs to utilize the resources designed to assist with implementation of the expanded Model. Resources listed below are available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#). All podcasts, instructional videos, and on-demand recordings are also accessible on the [Expanded HHVBP Model YouTube playlist](#). Subscribe to the [CMS HHS YouTube channel](#) to receive updates when latest videos are available.

#### Model Overview

- Webinar: HHVBP Model Expansion 101 - Thursday, February 10, 2022, 2:00 PM ET (audio, slides, and transcript)

#### FAQs & Model Guide

- Expanded HHVBP Model Frequently Asked Questions
- Expanded HHVBP Model Guide - May 2022
- Making the Most of HHVBP Resources Instructional Recording

#### Model Reports

- Expanded HHVBP Model Reports – Access Instructions

- **NEW!** Webinar: Navigating Performance Feedback Reports: Interim Performance Report (IPR) and Annual Performance Report (APR) - Thursday, August 25, 2022, 2:00 PM ET (audio, slides, and transcript)

#### Newsletters

- HHVBP Model Newsletter August 2022
- HHVBP Model Newsletter July 2022
- HHVBP Model Newsletter June 2022
- HHVBP Model Newsletter May 2022
- HHVBP Model Newsletter April 2022
- HHVBP Model Newsletter February 2022
- HHVBP Model Newsletter December 2021

#### Quality Measures

- CY 2023 Benchmarks and Achievement Thresholds – Access Instructions
- An Overview: Risk Adjustment Process and Use in the Expanded HHVBP Model
- HHVBP Model: Quality Measures Used in the Expanded Model (audio, slides, transcript)
- How to use Existing Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) Processes to Support Improvement in Expanded Home Health Value-Based Purchasing (HHVBP) Model

#### Quality Improvement

- Leadership and Communication — Essential Elements for Quality Improvement Podcast
- The Patient with Declining Memory: The “Keys” to Safe Mobility Podcast
- Infection Prevention and Control: Home Health Patient Care and Communication Podcast
- Managing Chronic Illness through Home Health Care Podcast

#### Total Performance Score & Payment Adjustment

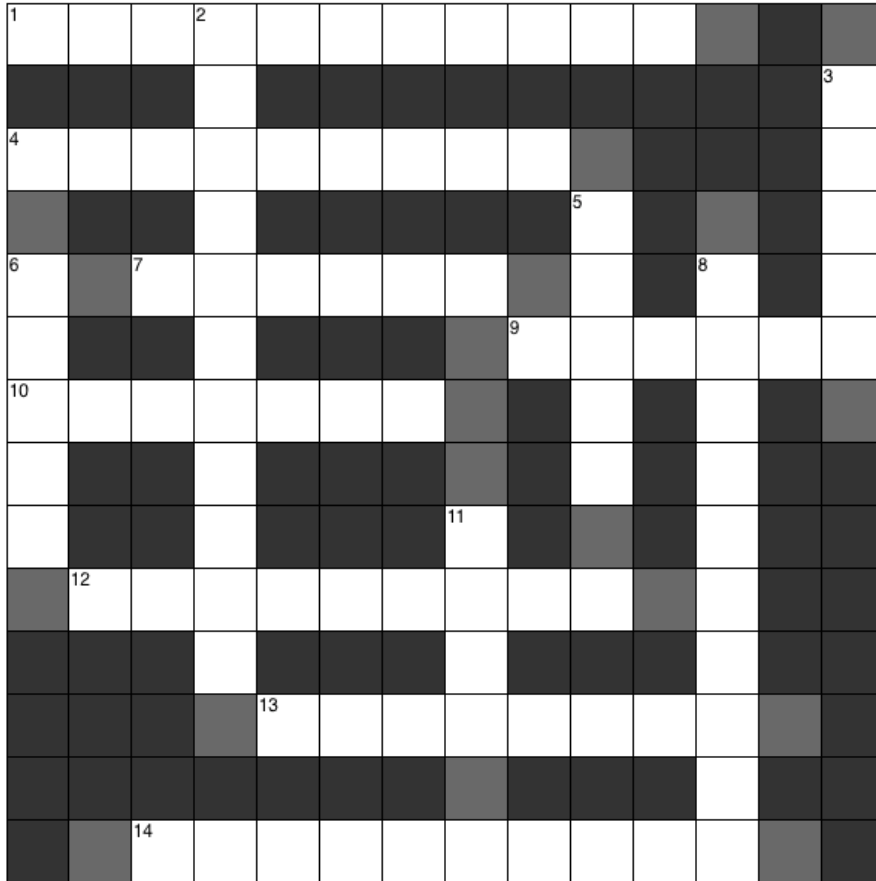
- HHVBP Model Composite Measure Calculation Steps
- HHVBP Model Technical Specifications Composite Outcome Measures
- **NEW!** How Measure Performance Becomes Care Points Instructional Video
- **NEW!** How Care Points Become the Total Performance Score (TPS)
- **NEW!** How the Total Performance Score (TPS) Becomes the Final Payment Adjustment

#### Regulations & Notices

- CY 2023 Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS) Proposed Rule
- CY 2022 Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS) Final Rule
- CY 2022 Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS) Final Rule Press Release
- CY 2022 Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS) Final Rule Fact Sheet

#### ***Test Your Knowledge: HHVBP Model Crossword***

With the first performance year (CY 2023) for the expanded HHVBP Model less than six (6) months away, the HHVBP TA Team challenges HHA staff to test their knowledge of information and terms unique to the expanded Model by completing the crossword below! Answers will be available in the next edition of the HHVBP Newsletter.



ACROSS

1. \_\_\_\_ Threshold: The median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) of Medicare-certified HHAs' performance scores on each quality measure during the designated Model baseline year.
4. \_\_\_\_ HHA: An HHA that has a current Medicare certification and is receiving payment for home health care services from CMS.
7. The group in which an HHA competes. HHAs compete nationally in one (1) of two (2) volume-based \_\_\_\_, as defined by the number of unique HHCAHPS survey-eligible beneficiaries for each HHA in the year prior to the performance year.
9. \_\_\_\_ Performance Report: Includes payment adjustment percentage for the following payment year and how CMS determined this adjustment relative to the HHA's performance scores.
10. \_\_\_\_ Performance Report: Quarterly report on quality measure performance based on the 12 most recent months of data available.
12. The mean of the top decile (90<sup>th</sup> percentile) of all HHAs' performance scores on the specified quality measure during the baseline year, calculated separately for the larger- and smaller-volume cohorts.
13. HHA \_\_\_\_ Year: The year which CMS will compare an HHA's performance score by measure in a performance year and calculate each HHA's unique improvement threshold.
14. Payment \_\_\_\_ Percentage: The percentage by which an HHA's final claim payment amount under the HH PPS changes and is applied to an HHA's Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) payments for the corresponding payment year.

## DOWN

2. \_\_\_\_ Threshold: An individual competing HHA's performance on an applicable measure during the HHA baseline year.
3. \_\_\_\_ Baseline Year: The year against which CMS calculates the achievement threshold and benchmarks for each cohort.
5. Achievement \_\_\_\_ : A scale between the achievement threshold and the designated benchmark, along which an HHA will receive achievement points for a given measure.
6. The access site for all HHVBP performance feedback reports for the expanded HHVBP Model.
8. An HHA must have \_\_\_\_ data to establish a baseline year for a particular quality measure.
11. \_\_\_\_ Points: The higher of achievement points or improvement points for each measure on the IPR and APR.

## Contact Us

Please **do not reply to this email**. This is an unmonitored inbox. If you require assistance, use the following options:

- For program questions about the expanded HHVBP Model, contact the **HHVBP Help Desk** at [HHVBPquestions@lewin.com](mailto:HHVBPquestions@lewin.com).
- For support with registration for the Internet Quality Improvement and Evaluation System ([iQIES](#)), please contact the **QIES/iQIES Service Center** by phone at **(800) 339-9313** or by email at [iqies@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:iqies@cms.hhs.gov). You may also refer to the *iQIES Onboarding Guide* posted to QTSO for registration support: <https://qtso.cms.gov/software/iqies/reference-manuals>.
- To receive email updates about expansion, please subscribe to the [Expanded HHVBP Model listserv](#). Enter your email address in the contact form, then select "Home Health Value-Based Purchasing (HHVBP) Expanded Model" from the Innovations list.
- Please contact the **Home Health Quality Reporting Program (HH QRP) Help Desk** at [homehealthqualityquestions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:homehealthqualityquestions@cms.hhs.gov) for questions about the following: Home Health Quality, including Care Compare (excluding HHCAHPS), OASIS coding and OASIS documentation, quality reporting requirements & deadlines, data reported in quality reports, measure calculations, Quality of Patient Care Star Rating (excluding suppression requests), public reporting, risk adjustment, and Quality Assessment Only (QAO)/Pay for Reporting (P4P).