



# **Cooking with CQL, QDM, and FHIR® Webinar**

---

**Vidya Sellappan**  
**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**  
**and**  
**Bryn Rhodes, ICF**

**Updated September 2022**

# Agenda

- CQL/FHIR Background
- White Board Session

# Evolving eCQM Standards Background

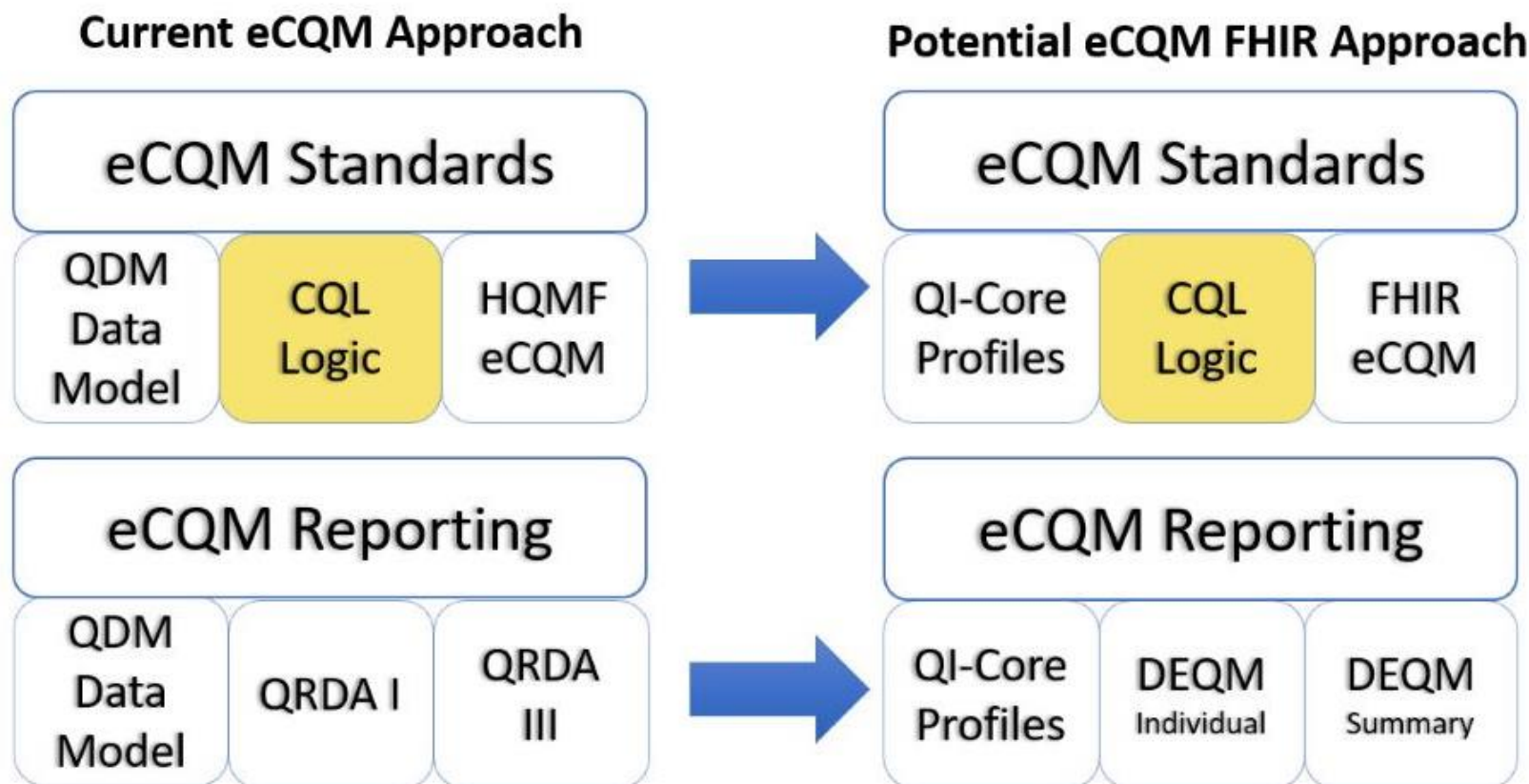
- **Background**

- Through initiatives such as the eCQM Strategy Project, CMS has been pursuing means for improving harmonization and reducing burden related to quality reporting.
- These initiatives resulted in new standards for quality measurement including the use of Clinical Quality Language (CQL) and continues with the investigation of Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources® (FHIR)

# Evolving eCQM Standards

- CQL
  - Beginning with the eCQMs intended for implementation in calendar year 2019, Health Level Seven International® (HL7®) CQL replaced the Quality Data Model (QDM) as the preferred eCQM expression language.
- FHIR
  - [FHIR](#) is a next-generation standards framework created by HL7
  - FHIR provides a means for representing and sharing information among clinicians and organizations in a standard and focuses on implementation and uses the latest web technologies to aid rapid adoption.
  - As CMS investigates the use of FHIR in quality reporting, eCQMs are undergoing translation to FHIR for the purpose of testing in pilot and Connectathon initiatives.

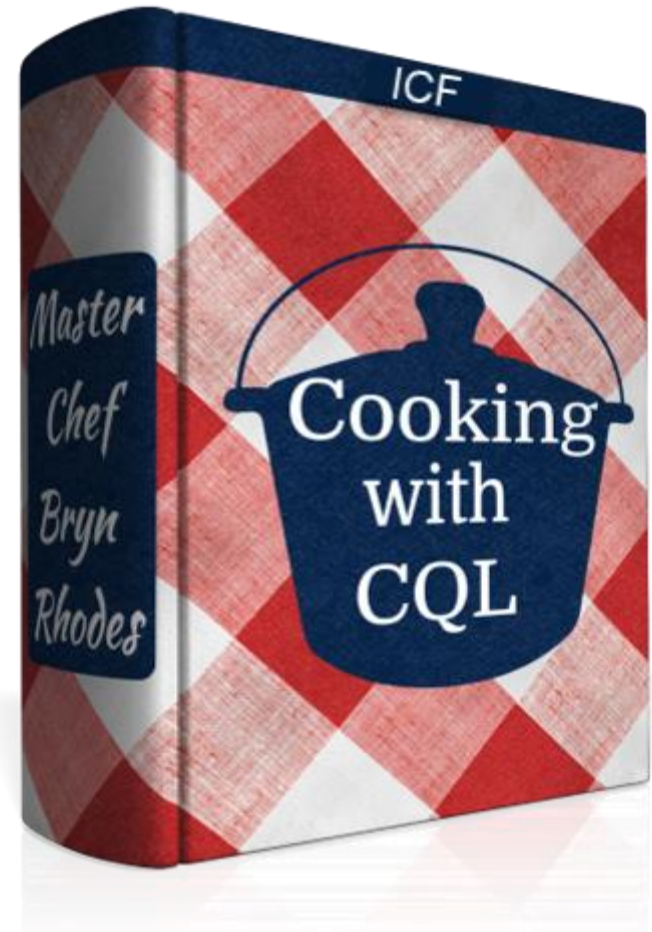
# Evolving eCQM Standards - FHIR



HQMF – Health Quality Measure Format, QI-Core – Quality Improvement Core, QRDA – Quality Reporting Document Architecture, DEQM – Data Exchange for Quality Measurement

# Purpose and Goals of “Cooking with CQL, QDM, and FHIR®”

- Interactive Forum
- Engage Measure Developers
- Solicit Feedback Early and Often



# Disclaimers

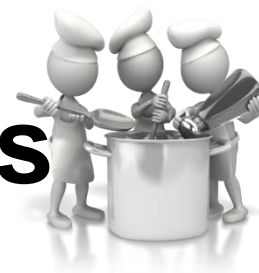
- Examples and solutions are built near real-time. Many need thorough clinical, terminological, and technical review before implementation.
- The use of FHIR for representing eCQMs is investigational only and should not be interpreted as adoption of FHIR by CMS.
- Whatever we review on the calls is recorded and available for public viewing. Those presenting content for review and CQL formatting should only provide information that is appropriate for public display and distribution. If there is intellectual property in the content, the submitter agrees that it may be shared publicly.

# White Board Session





# CQL Educational Resources



- CQL on Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement (eCQI) Resource Center - <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/cql>
- Previous Cooking with CQL, QDM, and FHIR® examples and questions and answers - <https://github.com/cqframework/CQL-Formatting-and-Usage-Wiki/wiki/Cooking-with-CQL-Examples>

# CQL Implementation and Technical Resources



- HL7 Standard: Clinical Quality Language Specification, Release 1 STU2
  - <http://cql.hl7.org>
- HL7 Clinical Decision Support (CDS) Workgroup Project Homepage
  - <https://confluence.hl7.org/display/CDS/WorkGroup+Home>
- GitHub Tools Repository
  - [https://github.com/cqframework/clinical\\_quality\\_language](https://github.com/cqframework/clinical_quality_language)



# FHIR Resources

- HL7 Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR)
  - <http://hl7.org/fhir/>
- Quality Improvement Core (QI-Core) Implementation Guide (IG)
  - <http://hl7.org/fhir/us/qicore/>
- FHIR Quality Measure IG
  - <http://hl7.org/fhir/us/cqfmeasures/>
- FHIR Data Exchange for Quality Measures IG
  - <HL7.FHIR.US.DAVINCI-DEQM\Home - FHIR v4.0.1>
- eCQI Resource Center FHIR page
  - <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/fhir>

# Soliciting Examples for the Next Session

- ICF eCQM Email Account
  - [ecqm@icf.com](mailto:ecqm@icf.com)
- ICF FHIR Email Account
  - [fhir@icf.com](mailto:fhir@icf.com)
- ONC JIRA CQL Issue Tracker
  - <https://oncprojecttracking.healthit.gov/support/browse/CQLIT>

# Questions?

