



# **Cooking with CQL: or How to Express eCQMs using CQL, QDM, and FHIR® Webinar**

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# Agenda

- Welcome and Background
- White Board Session

# Evolving eCQM Standards - CQL

- **Background**

- Clinical Quality Language (CQL) is a human readable Health Level Seven International (HL7) authoring language that is a part of the effort to harmonize standards used for electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQMs) and Clinical Decision Support (CDS).
- CQL replaces the logic expressions previously defined in the Quality Data Model (QDM).

- **CQL Transition**

- CQL testing was conducted from 2016 through 2017
- CMS transitioned to CQL-based eCQMs for quality reporting beginning with the 2019 reporting and performance periods.

# Evolving eCQM Standards - FHIR

- **Background**

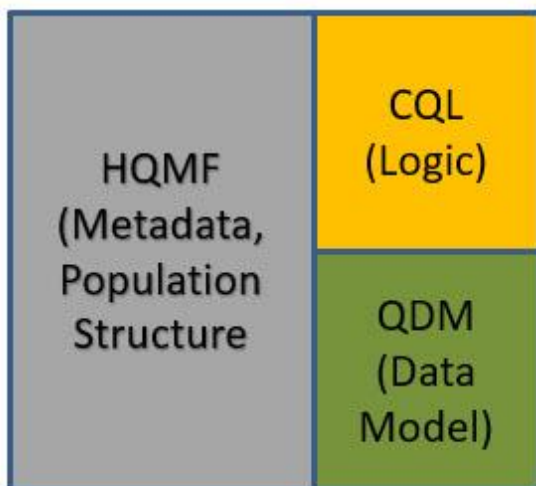
- Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) is a next-generation standards framework created by HL7
- Provides an interoperable platform and defines a common way to structure health data known as Resources
- Enables automated data exchange through Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)
- FHIR will replace the Health Quality Measure Format (HQMF) in the eCQM structure

- **FHIR Transition**

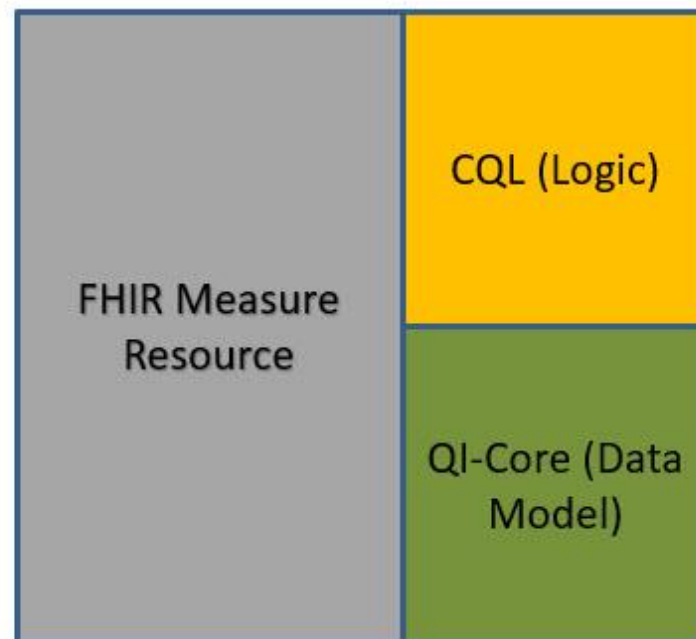
- eCQMs are undergoing translation to FHIR for the purpose of testing in pilot and Connectathon initiatives.

# Evolving eCQM Standards - FHIR

## Current Standards



## Emerging Standards



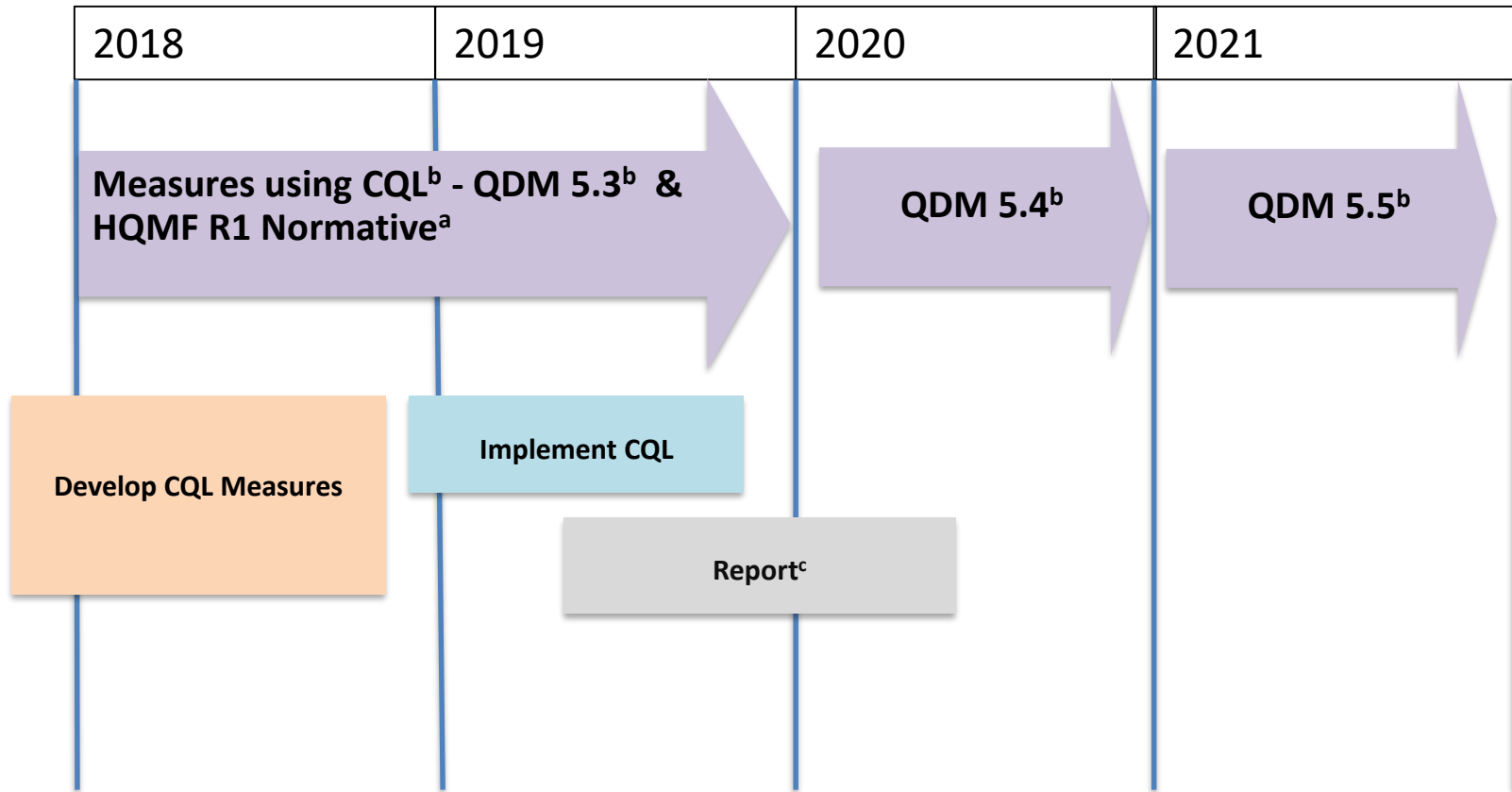
### Definitions:

**HQMF** – Health Quality Measure Format

**CQL** – Clinical Quality Language

**QDM** – Quality Data Model

# Measure Development – Expected Timelines



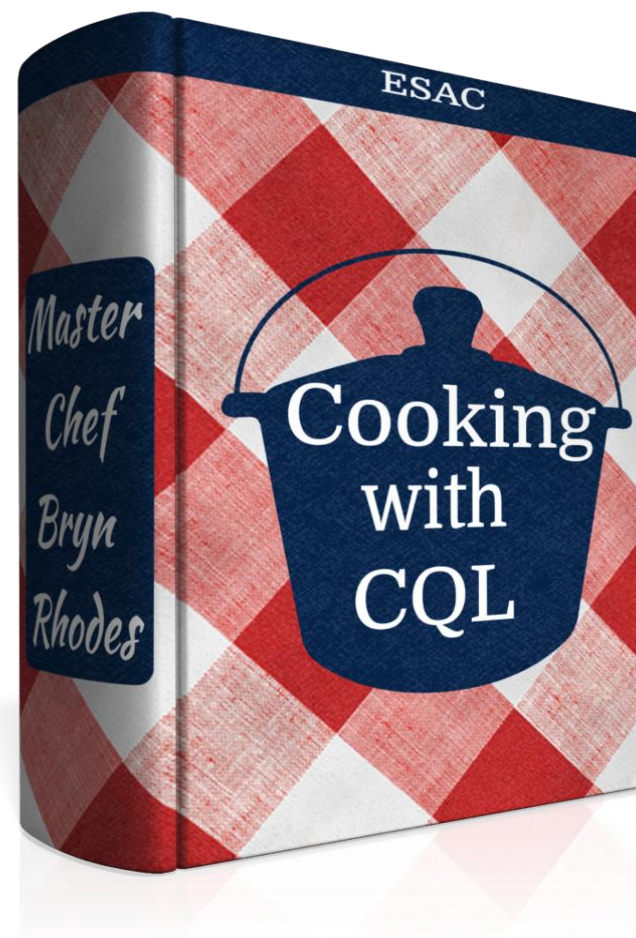
a – Measure Structure – HQMF

b – CQL-based HQMF

c – Measure Report – QRDA Category I (individual report), QRDA Category III (aggregate report)

# Purpose and Goals of “Cooking with CQL”

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



# Disclaimers

- Examples and solutions are built near real-time
- Need thorough clinical, terminological, and technical review
- The use of FHIR for representing eCQMs is investigational only and should not be interpreted as adoption of FHIR by CMS.



# Disclaimers (cont'd)

- 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





# Resources

- HL7 Standard: Clinical Quality Language Specification, Release 1 STU2
  - <http://cql.hl7.org>
- HL7 CDS Workgroup Project Homepage
  - [http://wiki.hl7.org/index.php?title=Clinical\\_Quality\\_Language](http://wiki.hl7.org/index.php?title=Clinical_Quality_Language)
- GitHub Tools Repository
  - [https://github.com/cqframework/clinical\\_quality\\_language](https://github.com/cqframework/clinical_quality_language)
- eCQI Resource Center - <https://ecqi.healthit.gov>
  - CQL Space - <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/cql>



# FHIR Resources

- HL7 Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR)
  - <http://hl7.org/fhir/>
- Quality Improvement Core (QI-Core) Implementation Guide
  - <http://hl7.org/fhir/us/qicore/>
- FHIR Quality Measure Implementation Guide
  - <http://hl7.org/fhir/us/cqfmeasures/>
- Example FHIR Measures (based on 2020 program year)
  - <http://hl7.org/fhir/us/cqfmeasures/>

# Soliciting Examples for the Next Session

- Feedback Survey pop up at the close of this session
- ESAC CQL Email Account
  - [cql-esac@esacinc.com](mailto:cql-esac@esacinc.com)
- ONC JIRA CQL Issue Tracker
  - <https://oncprojecttracking.healthit.gov/support/browse/CQLIT>

# Questions?

