eCQM 101 - Getting Started with Electronic Clinical Quality Measures for Quality Reporting Programs CMS Specifics

December 2023

eCQM 101 Overview

- Where do I find which eCQMs are used in Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) quality programs?

- Where do I go for help regarding use of eCQMs in CMS Quality programs?

- What and how do I report eCQMs to CMS?

Where do I find which eCQMs are used in specific CMS quality programs?

CMS Measures Inventory Tool (CMIT)

https://cmit.cms.gov/cmit/#/MeasureInventory

CMS Quality Reporting Program Using eCQMS

- CMS publishes eCQMs for inclusion or potential inclusion in several quality reporting programs:
  - [Advanced APM: Primary Care First (PCF)](#)
  - [Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program](#)
  - [Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting (OQR) Program](#)
  - [Medicare Promoting Interoperability EHR Incentive Program for Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals](#)
  - [Medicare Shared Savings Program: Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)](#)
  - [Quality Payment Program: The Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) and Advanced Alternative Payment Models (Advanced APMs)](#)

Where do I go for help regarding use of eCQMs in CMS Quality programs?

eCQM Implementation Questions
ONC Project Tracking System (Jira)

https://oncprojectracking.healthit.gov/wiki/olp

CMS Policy/Quality Reporting Program Questions

- Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program, contact the Hospital Inpatient Support Team at https://cmsqualitysupport.servicenowservices.com/qnet_qa or (844) 472-4477.

- Medicaid eligible professionals and Medicaid only eligible hospitals participating with the Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program should contact their state Medicaid agencies.

- Medicare Promoting Interoperability (formerly EHR Incentive) Program for Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals contact QualityNet Service Center, (866) 288-8912, or QNetSupport@cms.hhs.gov.

- Outpatient Quality Reporting (OQR), contact QualityNet Question Answer website.

- Quality Payment Program (QPP), contact QPP@cms.hhs.gov or (866) 288-8292.
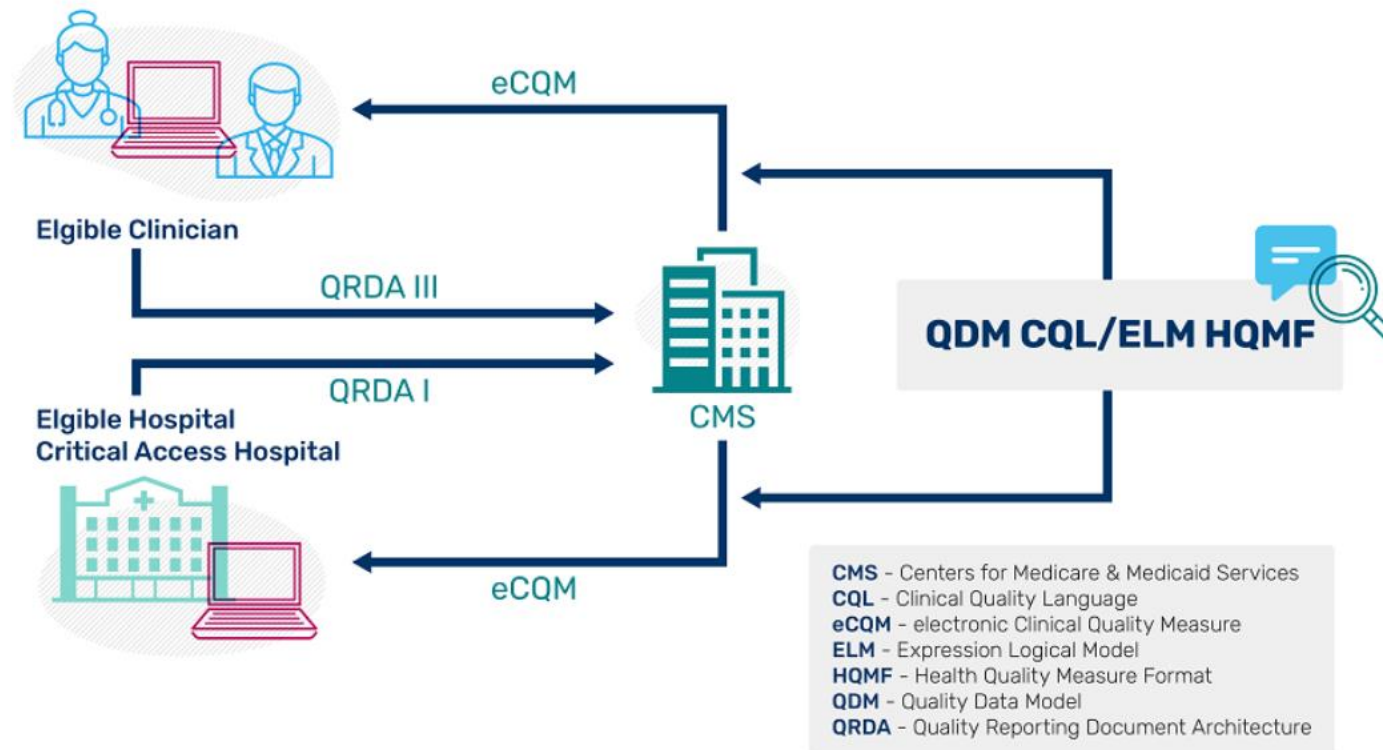
What and how do I report eCQMs to CMS?

Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA)

- The QRDA is the data submission standard used for a variety of quality measurement and reporting initiatives. It creates a standard method to report quality measure results in a structured, consistent format and can be used to exchange eCQM data between systems.

- A Health Level Seven International® (HL7) Clinical Document Architecture (CDA)-based standard, which further constrains CDA Release 2 for exchange of eCQM data.

- CMS publishes [QRDA Implementation Guides (IGs), Schematrons, and sample files](#) annually to provide technical guidance for implementing the HL7 QRDA standards for reporting to CMS quality programs.

QRDA (Cont'd)

- QRDA was adopted by ONC as the standard to support both QRDA Category I (individual patient) and QRDA Category III (aggregate) data submission for quality reporting. This figure depicts the use and flow of the eCQM transmission standards.

CMS - Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
CQL - Clinical Quality Language
eCQM - electronic Clinical Quality Measure
ELM - Expression Logical Model
HQMF - Health Quality Measure Format
QDM - Quality Data Model
QRDA - Quality Reporting Document Architecture

Testing QRDA: CMS QRDA Pre-Submission Validation Tools

- [Cypress](#) QRDA validation tool
  - The Cypress QRDA validation tool provides implementers with the ability to validate the conformance of QRDA Category I and Category III documents to CMS implementation guides.
- CMS Quality Reporting System – for eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals
- For the most up to date information, see the [CMS QRDA Pre-Submission Validation Tools](#) page on the eCQI Resource Center

Where to Submit eCQMs

- Eligible Clinicians – via QPP website – must have a QPP account
- Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals – via Hospital Quality Reporting page – must have a HCQIS (Health Care Quality Information Systems) Access and Roles Profile (HARP) account

Where do I find more information about the eCQMs?

https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ecqms

Companion eCQM 101 Presentations

- Companion eCQM 101 Presentations
  - [Introduction](#)
  - [Resources](#)
- [eCQI Resource Center](#)
- [Ask questions or provide website feedback](#)

Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
ACO	Accountable Care Organizations
APM	Alternative Payment Models
CDA	Clinical Document Architecture
CMIT	CMS Measures Inventory Tool
CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
eCQI	Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement
eCQM	Electronic Clinical Quality Measure
EHR	Electronic Health Record

Acronyms (Cont'd)

Acronym	Definition
HARP	HCQIS Access and Roles Profile
HCQIS	Health Care Quality Information Systems
HL7	Health Level Seven International®
HQMF	Health Quality Reporting Format
IG	Implementation Guide
IQR	Inpatient Quality Reporting
MIPS	Merit-based Incentive Payment System
ONC	Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
OQR	Outpatient Quality Reporting
PCF	Primary Care First Model
QPP	Quality Payment Program
QRDA	Quality Reporting Document Architecture