



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

May 2022

eCQM 101 Overview

- Where do I find which eCQM 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)

CMS.gov Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Measures Inventory Tool External Resources About Login to CMIT

Measure Inventory Measure Summary Measures In Use Environmental Scan

Enter Keywords or Measure ID to Search Individual Measures [How do I search?](#)

Measure Inventory

[Export Excel File](#)

1065 Individual Measures Based on your Filters

[Add Filters](#) Active

Views Group By Display Format

[Show/Hide Columns](#)

Add to Measure Comparison	CMIT Ref. No	Measure Title	Program	Measure Type	Reporting Status	CBE ID	CBE Endorsement Status
<input type="button" value="Add"/>	05610-C-HC	(SUB)-3 Alcohol & Other Drug Use Disorder Treatment Provided or Offered at Discharge	Hospital Compare	Process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Active	9999	Not Endorsed
<input type="button" value="Add"/>	02800-C-HC	30-day all-cause unplanned readmission following psychiatric hospitalization in an inpatient psychiatric facility (IPF)	Hospital Compare	Outcome	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Active	2860	Endorsed

Measure Comparison (0)
Compare up to 3

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 Programs 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)

ONC Project Tracking System

Learning Resources Create an Issue Ticket Search for an Issue Create An Account Log In

The ONC Project Tracking System is a collaboration platform in which users can **log**, **track**, and **discuss** issues with subject matter experts in support of health information technology implementation. It also provides tools to facilitate knowledge sharing and agile project management.

Reminder:
This is an open platform that does not intend for users to communicate sensitive or confidential information such as protected health information and personal identifiable information.

All CQMs **Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR)**
Certification Other

Contact the Hospital Inpatient Support Team:
https://cmequalitysupport.servicenow.com/gnet_ga

<https://oncprojecttracking.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 contact [QualityNet Service Center](#), (866) 288-8912 or QNetSupport@hcqis.org.
- Outpatient Quality Reporting (OQR), contact the [QualityNet Question Answer website](#).
- Quality Payment Program (QPP), contact QPP@cms.hhs.gov (866) 288-8292.

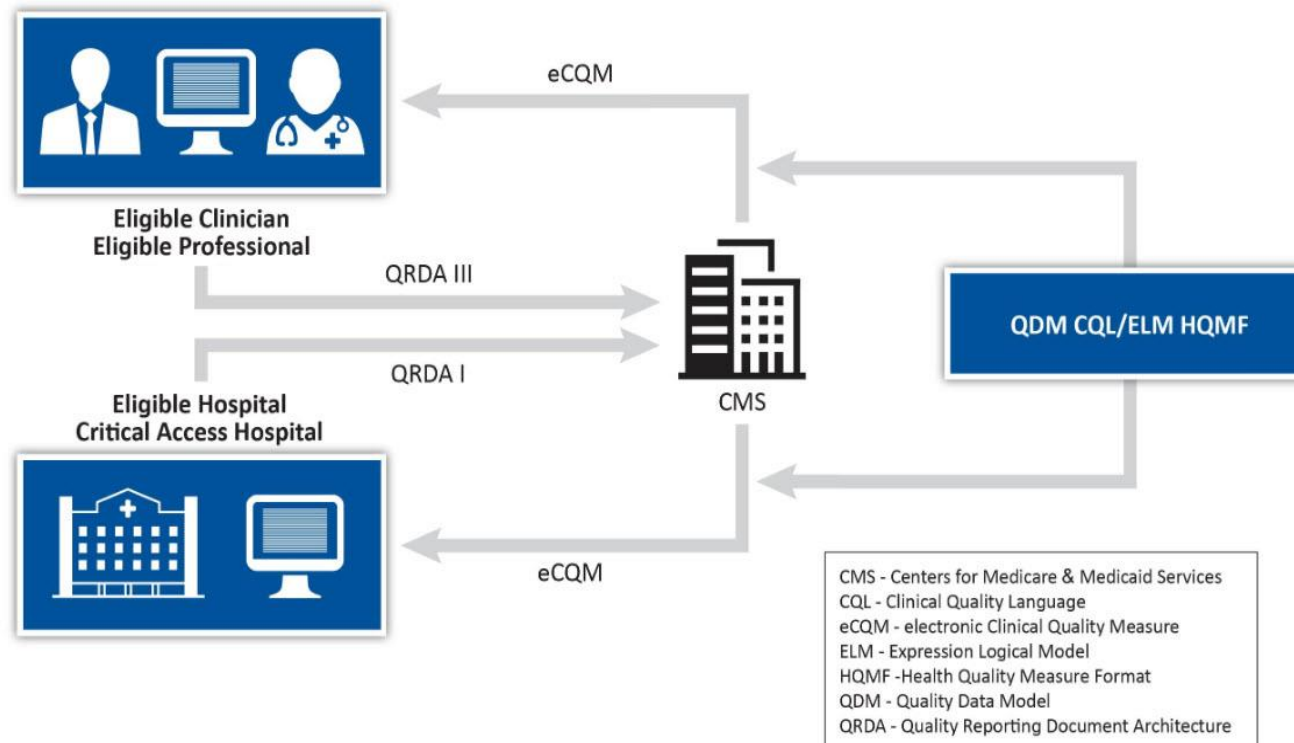
What and how do I report eCQMs to CMS?

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.
- An 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.



Testing QRDA: CMS QRDA Pre-Submission Validation Tools

- Cypress Validation Utility – incorporated into [Cypress](#)
 - The Cypress Validation Utility (CVU) conformance 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](#) home 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?



Getting Started with eCQMs

[Receive updates on this topic](#)



Electronic clinical quality measures (eCQMs) use data electronically extracted from electronic health records (EHRs) and/or health information technology systems to measure the quality of healthcare provided. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) use eCQMs in a variety of quality reporting and value-based purchasing programs.

There are several benefits of using eCQMs:

- eCQMs use clinical data to assess the outcomes of treatment by measured entities.
- eCQMs reduce the burden of manual abstraction and reporting for measured entities.
- eCQMs foster the goal of access to real-time data for point of care quality improvement and clinical decision support.

Measured entities use eCQMs to provide feedback on their care systems and to help them identify opportunities for clinical quality improvement. eCQMs are reported to CMS, The Joint Commission, federal health agencies, and commercial insurance payers in programs that track and/or reimburse measured entities based on quality reporting.

Review [eCQM Basics \(PDF\)](#), [eCQM 101 – Getting Started with eCQMs for Quality Reporting Programs, \(PDF\)](#) and visit the [Educational Resources](#) tab to learn more about 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
CQL	Clinical Quality Language
CAH	Critical Access Hospital
CVU	Cypress Validation Utility
eCQI	Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement
eCQM	Electronic Clinical Quality Measure
EHR	Electronic Health Record
EH	Eligible Hospital
ELM	Expression Logical Model

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 Program
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