



Overview

Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Strategy Project

Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement (eCQI) Resource Center

Measure Collaboration (MC) Workspace

Updated November 2023

eCQM Strategy Project

eCQM Strategy Background

Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Strategy Project Goals

- Reduce Burden
- Increase Value
- Increase Stakeholder Involvement

Problem Statement

- Providers participating in CMS quality and value-based purchasing programs have shared challenges they experience related to the **complexity and high burden of eCQM implementation, data capture, and reporting.**

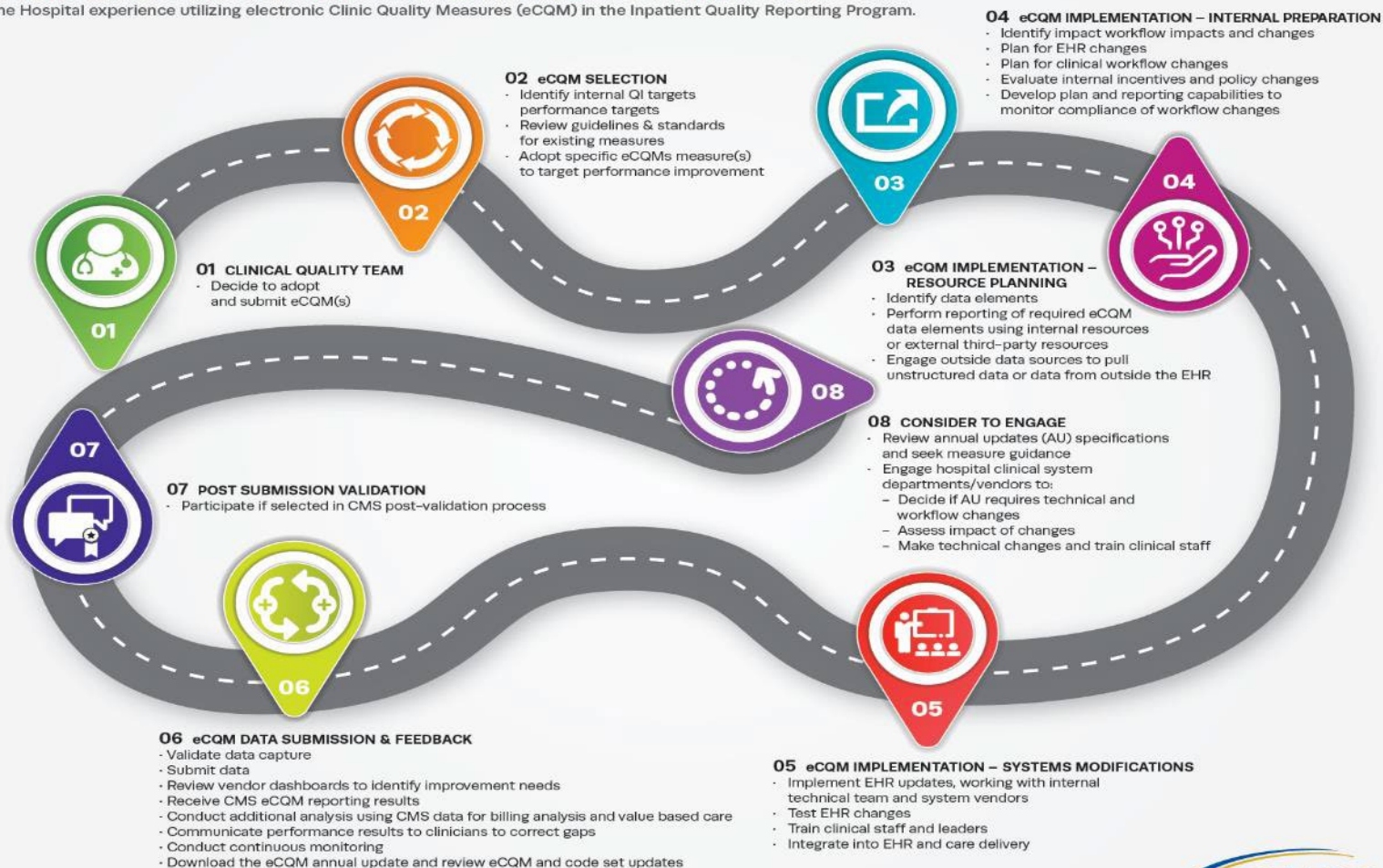
Project Scope

- **Measure Development** process from concept to the Measures Under Consideration (MUC) List
- **Electronic Clinical Quality Reporting** requirements and processes from eCQM implementation to submission
- **Tools for Development and Reporting**

eCQM Strategy Journey Map

Hospital eCQM Inpatient Quality Reporting Journey

The Hospital experience utilizing electronic Clinic Quality Measures (eCQM) in the Inpatient Quality Reporting Program.



eCQM Strategy Recommendations

eCQM STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

ALIGNMENT

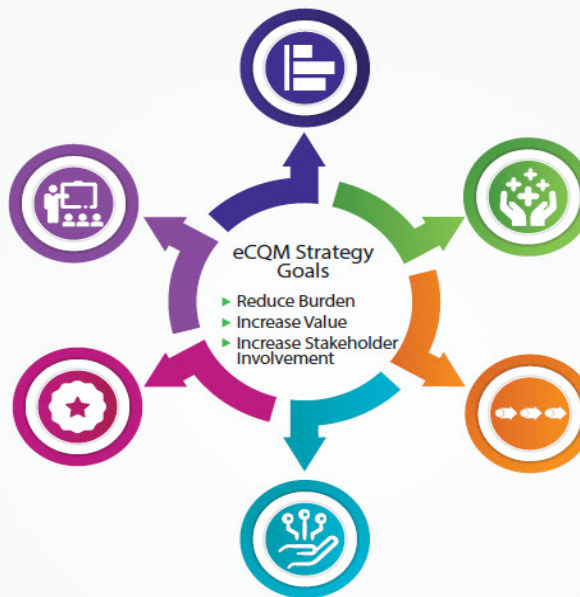
- eCQM reporting requirements across CMS program care settings
- eCQM specifications, value sets, and data collection

COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, AND OUTREACH

- Coordinated education and outreach campaigns to learn from stakeholders and share CMS program information
- Measure-level webinars
- Clear eCQM guidance, plain language, and improved website usability

EHR CERTIFICATION PROCESS

- eCQM certification aligned with CMS reporting requirements



VALUE

- Quality dashboard best practice collaboration between providers and CMS
- Data element definitions

DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- Collaborative Measure Development Workspace
- Data element repository
- Clinically feasible workflow for data capture
- Feasibility testing for new data elements

IMPLEMENTATION AND REPORTING PROCESSES

- Clear eCQM specifications, tools, and resources
- Feasible data elements
- Submission of data elements and eCQMs with FHIR and APIs
- Use of eCQM standards to support interoperability
- Consolidated pre-submission validation testing tools
- eCQM attribution research and pilots

06/2018

eCQI Resource Center

eCQI Resource Center

- The Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement (eCQI) Resource Center: Transforming eCQI through collaboration, education, and standards.
- This website has the most current news, events, and resources related to eCQM tools and standards.
- The website is a place to coordinate people and activities around eCQI.
- www.ecqi.healthit.gov

eCQI Resource Center

The eCQI Resource Center provides the most current resources for electronic clinical quality improvement, such as:

- eQCMs and Supporting Materials
- Tools and Resources
 - eCQM Annual Timeline
 - Education
 - Implementation Resources
 - eCQI Tools & Resources Library
- eCQI Standards
 - Clinical Quality Language (CQL)
 - Quality Data Model (QDM)
 - Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA)
 - HL7 Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources® (FHIR®)
- Measure Collaboration (MC) Workspace
 - eCQM Concepts
 - eCQM Data Element Repository
 - eCQM Testing Opportunities

eCQI Resource Center

<https://ecqi.healthit.gov>

eCQI
RESOURCE CENTER


eCQMs ▾
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Quality Measures

dQMs ▾
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Measures

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& Resources

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Search keyword or phrases (phrase in )

Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement (eCQI) Resource Center

Transforming eCQI through collaboration,
education, and standards

Eligible Clinician eCQMs >

Eligible Hospital / Critical Access Hospital eCQMs >

Outpatient Quality Reporting eCQMs >

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US Core, C-CDA and other Health IT
Standards](#)

ECQM

- Any -

PERIOD

- Any -

eCQM Title or CMSID

May use partial Title or ID

Find an eCQM



Get Started with eCQMs

New to eCQMs? Learn the basics
about eCQMs, development,
certification, and resources to
get started.



Educational Resources

Educational resources available
for eCQMs and eCQI,
Tools, CQL, FHIR, QDM,
and QRDA.



eCQM Standards

Key standards for the electronic
transmission of health
information used to
support eCQMs.



FHIR®

Fast Healthcare Interoperability
Resources® is a standard for
exchanging healthcare
information electronically.



eCQM Annual Timeline

<https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ecqm-annual-timeline>

eCQM Annual Timeline

The eCQM Annual Timeline is a general guide provided for referencing scheduled updates for eCQMs, tools, reporting, rules, public comments and more. The timelines listed are subject to change. [Interactive.pdf](#) (PDF)



eCQI Tools and Key Resources

<https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ecqi-tools-key-resources?qt-teste=0>

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eCQI Tools & Key Resources

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eCQI Tools & Resources Library

eCQM Standards and Tools Versions


Education

The eCQI Tools and Resources Library provides a foundation for electronic quality improvement, and development, testing, certification, publication, implementation, reporting, and continuous evaluation of eCQMs. You can refine the list by selecting a category of interest and/or a role that best describes your needs, or you can also click a specific tool from the list to view additional details.


Filter Tools & Resources

BY TITLE

BY CATEGORY


- Any - 

BY ROLE

- Any - 

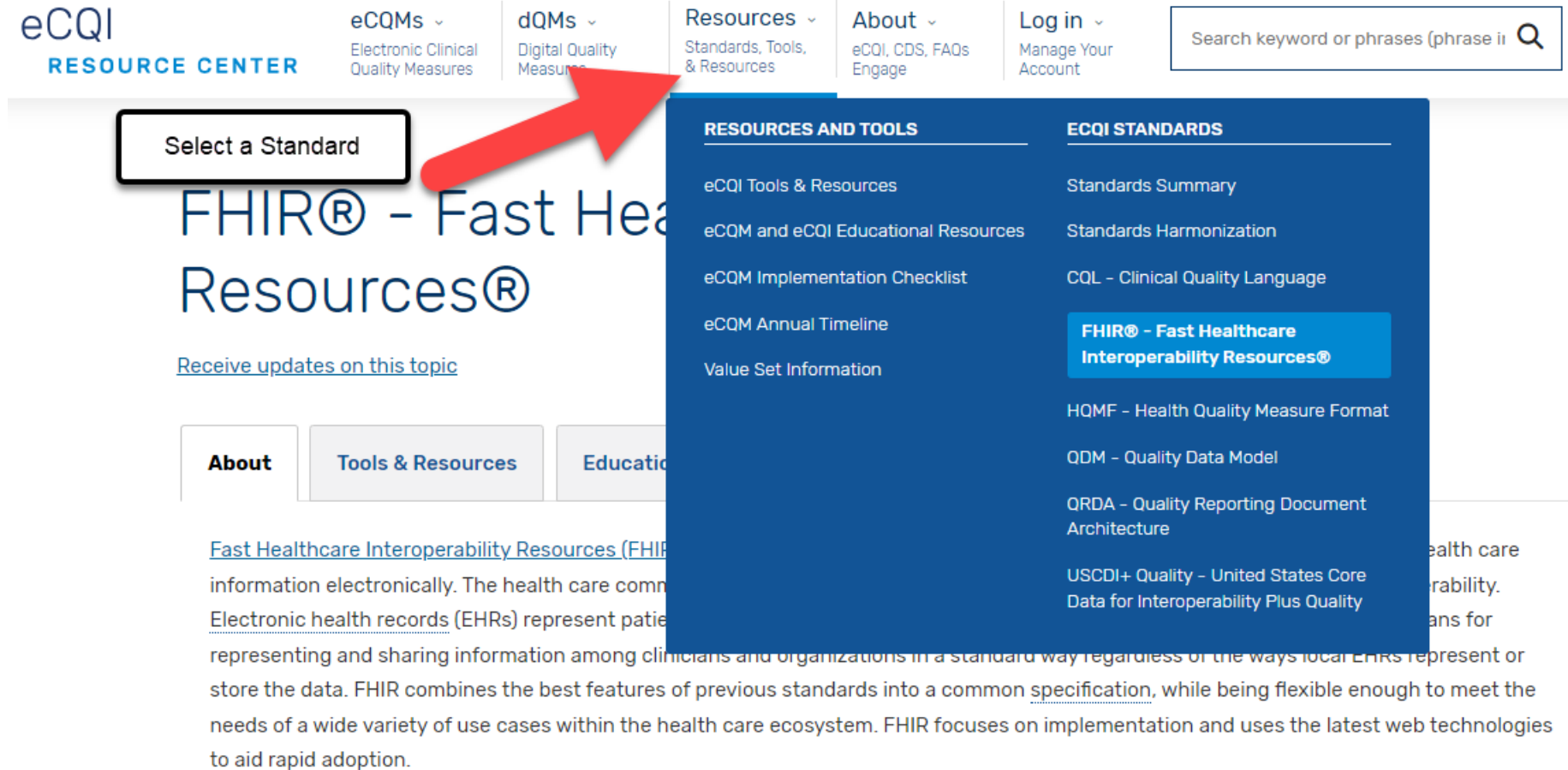
Apply

Reset

Title	Category	Role	Description
Bonnie FHIR 	Development, Implementation, Testing	Health IT Developer/Vendor, Measure Developer/Steward	Bonnie is a software tool that allows eCQM developers to test and verify the behavior of their eCQM logic. The Bonnie Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) application allows eCQM developers to load FHIR measures they have constructed using the Measure Authoring Tool (MAT), which helps measure developers execute the eCQM logic against the constructed patient test deck, and evaluates whether the logic aligns with the intent of the eCQM.

eCQM Standards – FHIR Example

<https://ecqi.healthit.gov/fhir>



The screenshot displays the eCQI Resource Center website. The navigation bar includes links for eCQI, eCQMs, dQMs, Resources, About, and Log in. A search bar is located on the right. The main content area features a large heading for FHIR® - Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources®. A red arrow points to the 'Resources' dropdown menu, which is open, showing a list of resources and standards. The 'FHIR® - Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources®' link is highlighted in blue. Below the heading, there are tabs for 'About', 'Tools & Resources', and 'Education'. The 'Tools & Resources' tab is selected, showing a list of resources and standards. The 'FHIR® - Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources®' link is highlighted in blue.

Select a Standard

FHIR® - Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources®

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Resources and Tools

- eCQI Tools & Resources
- eCQM and eCQI Educational Resources
- eCQM Implementation Checklist
- eCQM Annual Timeline
- Value Set Information

ECQI STANDARDS

- Standards Summary
- Standards Harmonization
- CQL - Clinical Quality Language
- FHIR® - Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources®**
- HQMF - Health Quality Measure Format
- QDM - Quality Data Model
- QRDA - Quality Reporting Document Architecture
- USCDI+ Quality - United States Core Data for Interoperability Plus Quality

About **Tools & Resources** **Education**

[Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources \(FHIR\)](#)

information electronically. The health care community uses FHIR to exchange information. Electronic health records (EHRs) represent patient information. FHIR represents and sharing information among clinicians and organizations in a standard way regardless of the ways local EHRs represent or store the data. FHIR combines the best features of previous standards into a common specification, while being flexible enough to meet the needs of a wide variety of use cases within the health care ecosystem. FHIR focuses on implementation and uses the latest web technologies to aid rapid adoption.

How to Access the eCQMs

The screenshot shows the eCQI Resource Center homepage. A red arrow points to the 'eCQMs' dropdown menu in the top navigation bar, which is expanded to show categories: EC ECQMS, EH/CAH ECQMS, and OQR ECQMS. Another red arrow points to the search bar in the top right corner. A text box with an arrow pointing to the search bar contains the text: 'Select EC, EH/CAH, or OQR eCQMs from the main eCQM drop down at the top or use the search bar on the homepage to find eCQMs'. Below the navigation bar is a search filter section with dropdowns for 'ECQM' and 'PERIOD', a text input for 'eCQM Title or CMSID', and a 'Find an eCQM' button. At the bottom, there are four tiles: 'Get Started with eCQMs', 'Educational Resources', 'eCQM Standards', and 'FHIR®'. A red arrow points to the 'Get Started with eCQMs' tile.

eCQI RESOURCE CENTER

eCQMs Electronic Clinical Quality Measures

dQMs Digital Quality Measures

Resources Standards, Tools, & Resources

About eCQI, CDS, FAQs Engage

Log in Manage Your Account

Search keyword or phrases (phrase in)

EC ECQMS

- Eligible Clinician eCQMs

EH/CAH ECQMS

- Eligible Hospital / Critical Access Hospital eCQMs

OQR ECQMS

- Outpatient Quality Reporting eCQMs

NEW TO ECQMS?

- Get Started with eCQMs
- eCQM Lifecycle

MEASURE COLLABORATION

- Measure Collaboration (MC) Workspace
- eCQM Data Element Repository (DERep)

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Select EC, EH/CAH, or OQR eCQMs from the main eCQM drop down at the top or use the search bar on the homepage to find eCQMs

ECQM

- Any -

PERIOD

- Any -

eCQM Title or CMSID

May use partial Title or ID

Find an eCQM

Get Started with eCQMs

New to eCQMs? Learn the basics about eCQMs, development, certification, and resources to get started.

Educational Resources

Educational resources available for eCQMs and eCQI, Tools, CQL, FHIR, QDM, and QRDA.

eCQM Standards

Key standards for the electronic transmission of health information used to support eCQMs.

FHIR®

Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources® is a standard for exchanging healthcare information electronically.

eCQMs: Eligible Hospital/Critical Access Hospital – Example (1 of 2)



Eligible Hospital / Critical Access Hospital eCQMs

[Receive updates on this topic](#)

Select Period 2024 Filter By eCQMs Apply Filters

Find older eCQM specifications in the [eCQM Standards and Tools Version](#) table.

[eCQM Resources](#)

EH/CAH eCQMs

[About](#)

Select the Reporting Period for EH measures from this drop down

For Eligible Clinicians, select the Performance Period - <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ep-ec>

2024 Reporting Period Eligible Hospital / Critical Access Hospital eCQMs

Total number of EH/CAH eCQMs: 12

Title	Short Name	CMS eCQM ID	NQF Number	Specifications	Notes
Anticoagulation Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter	STK-3	CMS71v13	Not Applicable	CMS71v13.zip (ZIP)	
Antithrombotic Therapy By End of Hospital Day 2	STK-5	CMS72v12	Not Applicable	CMS72v12.zip (ZIP)	
Cesarean Birth	PC-02	CMS334v5	0471e	CMS334v5.zip (ZIP)	

eCQMs: Eligible Hospital/Critical Access Hospital

Access Hospital – Example (2 of 2)



Eligible Hospital / Critical Access Hospital eCQMs

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Select Period 2024 ▾

Filter By eCQMs ▾

Apply Filters

Find older eCQM specifications in the [eCQM Standards and Tools Version](#) table.

eCQM Resources

EH/CAH eCQMs

1. Select the EH/CAH Tab

2024 Reporting Period Eligible Hospital / Critical Access Hospital eCQMs

Total number of EH/CAH eCQMs: 12

2. Select a Measure

Title ▾	Short Measure ID	CMS eCQM ID	NQF Number ▾	Specifications	Notes ▾
Anticoagulation Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter	STK-3	CMS71v13	Not Applicable	CMS71v13.zip (ZIP)	
Antithrombotic Therapy By End of Hospital Day 2	STK-5	CMS72v12	Not Applicable	CMS72v12.zip (ZIP)	
Cesarean Birth	PC-02	CMS334v5	0471e	CMS334v5.zip (ZIP)	

Sample Individual eCQM Page

Find an eCQM

Anticoagulation Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter

[Receive updates on this topic](#)

Specification Tab

Measure Information

Specifications and Data Elements

Release Notes

SELECT eCQM YEARS TO COMPARE

2023 vs 2024

Compare >

Compare Feature

Measure Information

2024 Reporting Period

CMS eCQM ID

CMS71v13

Short Name

STK-3

NQF Number

Not Applicable

eCQM and eCQI Educational Resources

<https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ecqm-and-ecqi-education-resources>

eCQM and eCQI Educational Resources



Get Started with eCQMs

General resources for developing, implementing, updating, and reporting eCQMs

eCQI Tools & Key Resources

Resources available include tools & resources library, standards and tools versions, and education

CQL

Resources available on the Clinical Quality Language (CQL) standard

FHIR

Resources available on the Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources® (FHIR) standard

QDM

Resources available on the Quality Data Model (QDM) standard

QRDA

Resources available on the Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA) standard

Measure Collaboration (MC) Workspace

How to Access the MC Workspace

The screenshot shows the eCQI Resource Center website. The top navigation bar includes links for eCQI, eQMs, dQMs, Resources, About, Log in, and a search bar. A red arrow points to the eCQI link, which opens a dropdown menu. In this menu, the 'MEASURE COLLABORATION' section is highlighted, and the 'Measure Collaboration (MC) Workspace' link is circled in red. Another red arrow points to this link. Below the navigation bar, there are sections for 'Featured News & Events' and a search bar.

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ECQM PERIOD eCQM Title or CMSID

- Any - - Any - May use partial Title or ID Find an eCQM

Overview of the MC Workspace

<https://ecqi.healthit.gov/mcworkspace>



eCQM Concepts (1 of 2)

Measure Collaboration (MC) Workspace

About eCQM Concepts eCQM Testing Opportunities eCQM Data Element Repository

Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Concepts

The Measure Collaboration Workspace Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQM) Concepts module gives users the ability to search for eCQM concepts suggested by others and comment on those suggested eCQM concepts, submit new eCQM concepts, describe the population(s), and assign a care setting. There are hyperlinks to the CMS Measures Inventory Tool (CMIT) and the Partnership for Quality Measurement (PQM) Submission Tool and Repository (STAR) Measure Database to help identify whether similar eCQMs already exist. Feedback provided through the eCQM Concepts Module can help guide an eCQM developer to refine the concept and purpose behind a new eCQM and develop detailed specifications to meet the needs of targeted quality measurement stakeholders.

How to Comment on or Suggest an eCQM Concept

If you have an eCQM concept in mind or want to comment on an eCQM concept someone else has suggested, follow these simple steps to propose your idea:

1. Search the [CMS Measures Inventory Tool](#) and the [PQM STAR](#) to see if your suggested eCQM concept is in progress or already exists.
2. Review the list of suggested eCQMs, click the name of the concept of interest to see if the details of the suggested concept are similar to your idea for an eCQM. If yes, it is similar, offer comments to the submitter in the Add new comment box.
3. If no, suggest your eCQM concept by clicking [Suggest an eCQM Concept](#) and fill out the form.

See the [MC Workspace User Guide \(PDF\)](#) to learn more about how to use the MC Workspace eCQM Concepts Module.

Suggest an eCQM Concept

Create an eCQM Resource Center account to suggest an eCQM Concept.

Create new account >

Create an eCQM Resource Center account to suggest an eCQM Concept

- Allows users to submit eCQM Concepts to CMS for review
- Users can search submitted concepts and comment on them
- Links to existing resources are available for users to research measures in progress
- Create an account

eCQM Concepts (2 of 2)

Suggest an eCQM Concept

Title *

Description *

Place of Care *

Rationale *

Concept Population

Description *

Describe the characteristics of who or what you would include in the eCQM.

B **U** **I** **x²** **x₂** **S** **I_x** |

Format ▾ | Styles ▾ | Source

Text format CK Editor ▾ [About text formats](#)

- Add
 - Description of the eCQM Concept
 - Place of Care that is most relevant to this clinical focus area
 - Rationale for why you think this eCQM concept is important to measure
 - Concept Population for a brief description of the clinical focus area, target population, and relevant background information.

Measure Collaboration (MC) Workspace

About eCQM Concepts eCQM Testing Opportunities eCQM Data Element Repository

Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Testing Opportunities

The eCQM Testing Opportunity module provides stakeholders with available opportunities to participate in eCQM testing. Measure developers use testing for a variety of reasons throughout the Measure Lifecycle. They need pilot sites to:

- assess measure feasibility
- determine the extent to which the required data elements are available and retrievable in the electronic health record (EHR)/health information technology (IT)
- determine the extent to which measured entities can implement without undue burden for performance measurement
- assess measure reliability
- assess measure validity
- reassess after updating specifications
- assess measure usefulness

Are you a stakeholder interested in testing eCQMs?

There are several potential benefits:

- Test site staff will gain insight into quality measurement that could help your organization refine its internal efforts to improve quality.
- Test site staff will help provide insight for a measure that CMS may use in its quality reporting programs.
- Test sites may receive an incentive payment.

eCQM Testing Opportunities

- Provides stakeholders with available opportunities to participate in eCQM testing
- Provides measure developers with forum to announce testing opportunities

eCQM Data Element Repository (1 of 2)

Measure Collaboration (MC) Workspace

[About](#)[eCQM Concepts](#)[eCQM Testing Opportunities](#)[eCQM Data Element Repository](#)

Select the DERep
Tab

Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Data Element Repository (DERep)

The eCQM DERep provides clarification, definitions, and clinical focus for the data elements associated with eCQMs used in CMS quality reporting and incentive programs. Users can filter information by data element, eCQM, Quality Data Model (QDM) attribute, QDM category, QDM datatype, or QDM entities. See the [MC Workspace User Guide \(PDF\)](#) to learn more about how to use the MC Workspace eCQM DERep Module.

Information within the eCQM DERep is derived from the eCQM specifications, QDM, and the Value Set Authority Center (VSAC). Each eCQM data element includes information about the value set or the direct reference code (DRC), the QDM datatype, and the QDM attribute(s) used by that data element. The QDM information displayed for an eCQM reflects the version used in the development of the eCQM for a specific performance/reporting period.

Year

2024

Select a Filter Option

- Any -

Search**Apply****Reset**

eCQM Data Element Repository (2 of 2)

Measure Collaboration (MC) Workspace

[About](#)[eCQM Concepts](#)[eCQM Testing Opportunities](#)[eCQM Data Element Repository](#)

Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Data Element Repository (DERep)

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Year

Select a Filter Option

Search

2024

2024

2023

2022

2021

- Any -

Apply

Reset

The Year Filter Allows Users to Select Between Three Years - Past, Current, and Future

The QDM datatypes filter provides a listing of all QDM datatypes available for use in eCQMs for CMS quality reporting. A QDM datatype is the context in which each QDM category is used to describe a part of the clinical care process. For each QDM category and datatype, the page provides the respective definition along with the available attribute groupings for the selected QDM datatype. Learn more about QDM components by visiting the [About QDM page](#).

Sample eCQM Page

[DERep Home Page](#)

Anticoagulation Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter (STK-3)

CMS Measure ID: CMS71v13

Performance/Reporting Period: 2024

NQF Number: Not Applicable

Description:

Ischemic stroke patients with atrial fibrillation/flutter who are prescribed or continuing to take anticoagulation therapy at hospital discharge

Data Elements and coded QDM Attributes contained within the eCQM

["Assessment, Performed": "History of Atrial Ablation"]

+ Expand all



Value Set Description from VSAC

CLINICAL FOCUS: The purpose of this value set is to represent concepts for a situation of a personal history of an atrial ablation.

DATA ELEMENT SCOPE: This value set may use a model element related to a diagnosis or assessment.

INCLUSION CRITERIA: Includes concepts that identify a situation for a personal history of an atrial ablation.

EXCLUSION CRITERIA: No Exclusions.

Constrained to codes in the History of Atrial Ablation value set ([2.16.840.1.113762.1.4.1110.76](#))

- Displays the measure title and description
- Provides a listing of data elements used in the measure

MC Workspace Link & Feedback

Access the MC Workspace via the
eCQI Resource Center

<https://ecqi.healthit.gov/mc-workspace-2>

Provide questions, suggestions, and
feedback to

ecqi-resource-center@hhs.gov

Disclaimer

This presentation was current as of November 2023. Medicare policy changes frequently. Any links to Medicare online source documents are for reference use only. Content will be updated on a periodic basis to reflect the most current CMS policy, requirements, and content related to the eCQM Strategy.

This presentation was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. Any references or links to statutes, regulations, and/or other policy materials included in the presentation are provided as summary information. No material contained therein is intended to take the place of either written laws or regulations. In the event of any conflict between the information provided by the presentation and any information included in any Medicare rules and/or regulations, the rules and regulations shall govern. The specific statutes, regulations, and other interpretive materials should be reviewed independently for a full and accurate statement of their contents.