Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQMs) Annual Update Pre-Publication Document for 2021 Reporting/Performance

Updated October 2020

This document describes the versions of the standards and code systems used in conjunction with the updated eCQMs for potential use in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) programs for 2021 reporting/performance. It is designed to help health information technology (IT)/electronic health record (EHR) developers, Eligible Professionals/Eligible Clinicians, and Eligible Hospitals/Critical Access Hospitals prepare for 2021 reporting through transparent pre-release of the expected standards and code system versions.

Where and when to obtain updated eCQMs for 2021 reporting/performance:

The eCQM annual update for 2021 reporting/performance will be available spring 2020. Please sign up for and follow the Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement (eCQI) Resource Center, CMS, and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) listservs to receive updates and announcements on the eCQM specifications' publication and related content. The updated eCQMs will be posted on the Eligible Professional/Eligible Clinician and Eligible Hospital/Critical Access Hospital pages of the eCQI Resource Center.

Standards related to the updated eCQM specifications for 2021 reporting/performance:

- HQMF R1 Normative – HL7 Version 3 Standard: Representation of the Health Quality Measure Format (eMeasure) Release 1
- HL7 V3 CQL-based HQMF Implementation Guide R1 STU 4 – HL7 Version 3 Implementation Guide: Clinical Quality Language (CQL)-based Health Quality Measure Format (HQMF), Release 1 - US Realm, Standard for Trial Use 4
- CQL R1 STU 4 – Clinical Quality Language Specification, Release 1 STU 4
- QRDA I R1 STU R5.2 – Quality Reporting Document Architecture - Category I Standard for Trial Use Release 5.2 (February 2020)
- QRDA III R1 STU R2.1 – Quality Reporting Document Architecture - Category III Standard for Trial Use Release 2.1 (June 2017)
- QDM v5.5 – Quality Data Model Version 5.5
- CMS QRDA IGs – CMS Quality Reporting Document Architecture Implementation Guides (CMS QRDA I IG for Hospital Quality Reporting Summer 2020 and CMS QRDA III IG for Eligible Clinicians and Eligible Professionals Programs Summer 2020)

Code system versions used in the eCQM specifications for 2021 reporting/performance:

The following code systems will be used:

- **AdministrativeGender HL7V3.0_2019-12** – Administrative Gender Value Set
- **CDT 2020** – Current Dental Terminology
- **CPT 2020** – Current Procedural Terminology
- **CVX 2020-01** – Clinical Vaccine Formulation
- **HCPCS 2020** – Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System
- **ICD-10-CM 2020** – International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification
- **ICD-10-PCS 2020** – International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Procedure Coding System
- **LOINC 2.67** – Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes
- **RxNorm 2020-01** - A normalized naming system for generic and branded drugs
- **SNOMED CT US Edition 2019-09** – A comprehensive and precise health terminology for electronic exchange of clinical health information
- **SOP 9.0** – Source of Payment

The following remains the same:

- **HSLOC 2017** – NHSN Healthcare Service Location Codes
- **CDCREC 1.2** – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Race and Ethnicity Code Set Version
- **ICD-9-CM 2013** – International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification(in use due to look-back periods of some eCQMs)

The Value Set Authority Center will post a final list of code systems and value sets used with the eCQM specifications for 2021 reporting/performance this spring 2020.

Note: CMS may elect to update the eCQM specifications and supporting materials during reporting periods due to code system changes, clinical guidelines, standards enhancements, etc. Visit the eCQI Resource Center for the most current information on code system and standard versions. Measures will not be eligible for 2021 reporting unless and until they are proposed and finalized through notice-and-comment rulemaking for each applicable program.

Please submit questions or comments regarding the standards and/or code system versions used in the upcoming eCQM updates for 2021 reporting/performance to the eCQM Issue Tracker.

Version History

Date	Comments
October 2020	Revised text "Code system versions used in the eCQM specifications for 2020 reporting/performance" to "…eCQM specifications for 2021 reporting/performance".
March 2020	Revised document to reflect appropriate version of the HL7 Implementation Guide in the list standards related to the updated eCQM specifications for 2021 reporting/performance: • Changed: o HL7 V3 CQL-based HQMF Implementation Guide R1 STU 4 – HL7 Version 4 Implementation Guide: Clinical Quality Language (CQL)-based Health Quality Measure Format (HQMF), Release 1 - US Realm, Standard for Trial Use 4 • To: o HL7 V3 CQL-based HQMF Implementation Guide R1 STU 4 – HL7 Version 3 Implementation Guide: Clinical Quality Language (CQL)-based Health Quality Measure Format (HQMF), Release 1 - US Realm, Standard for Trial Use 4 Revised document to reflect publication date of February 2020 for the Quality Reporting Document Architecture - Category I Standard for Trial Use Release 5.2
February 2020	Original publication