

eCQM Implementation Checklist

April 17, 2017

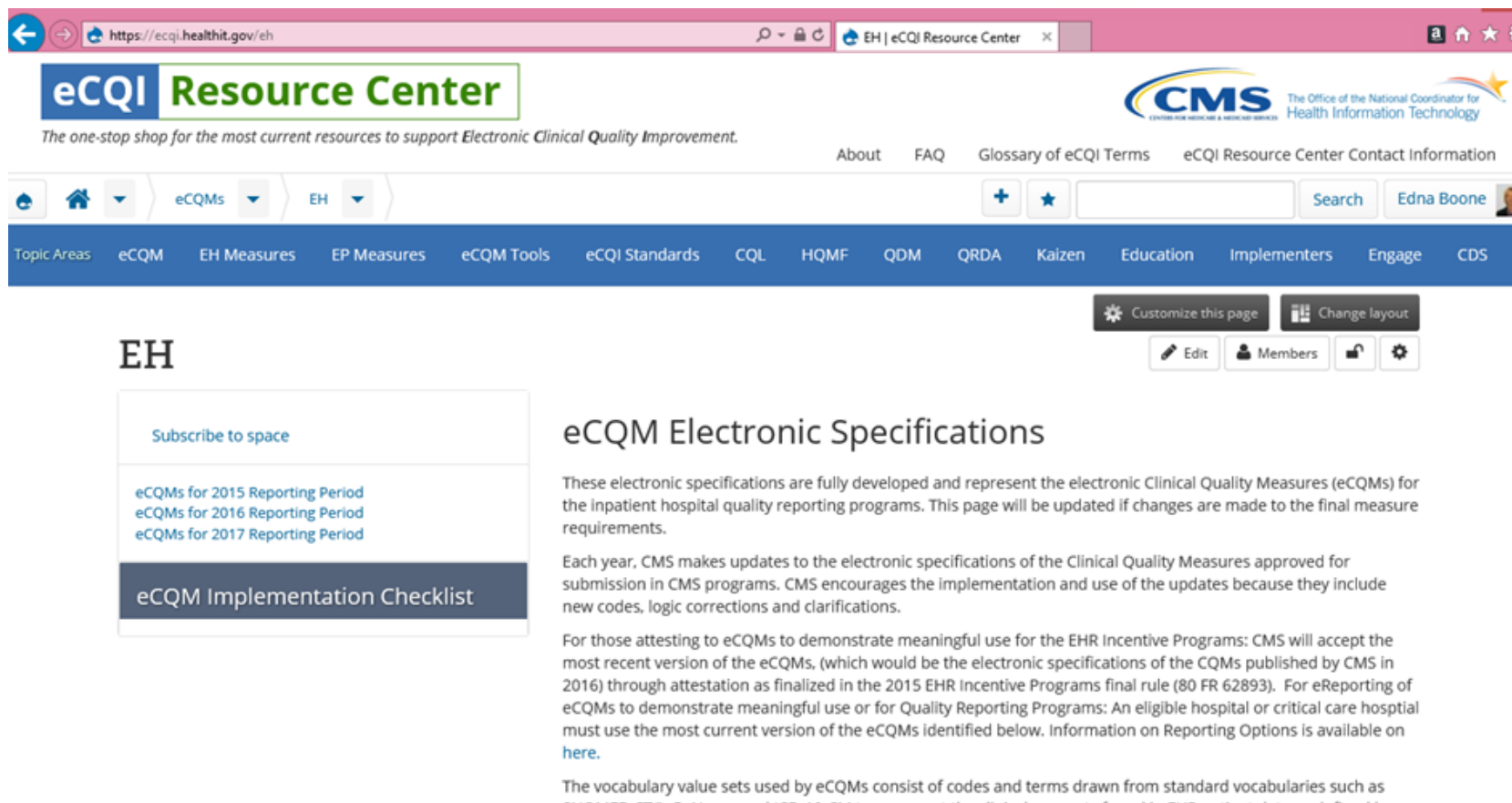
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eCQM Implementation Checklist Location



The screenshot shows the eCQI Resource Center website. The browser address bar displays <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/eh>. The page title is "eCQI Resource Center" with the tagline "The one-stop shop for the most current resources to support Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement." The CMS logo and "The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology" are in the top right. Navigation links include "About", "FAQ", "Glossary of eCQI Terms", and "eCQI Resource Center Contact Information". A search bar contains "Edna Boone". A blue navigation bar lists "Topic Areas" such as eCQM, EH Measures, EP Measures, eCQM Tools, eCQI Standards, CQL, HQMF, QDM, QRDA, Kaizen, Education, Implementers, Engage, and CDS. On the right, there are buttons for "Customize this page", "Change layout", "Edit", "Members", and a settings icon. The main content area is titled "EH" and features a "Subscribe to space" button. Below this, there are links for "eCQMs for 2015 Reporting Period", "eCQMs for 2016 Reporting Period", and "eCQMs for 2017 Reporting Period". A prominent dark blue button labeled "eCQM Implementation Checklist" is highlighted. The main article is titled "eCQM Electronic Specifications" and contains the following text:

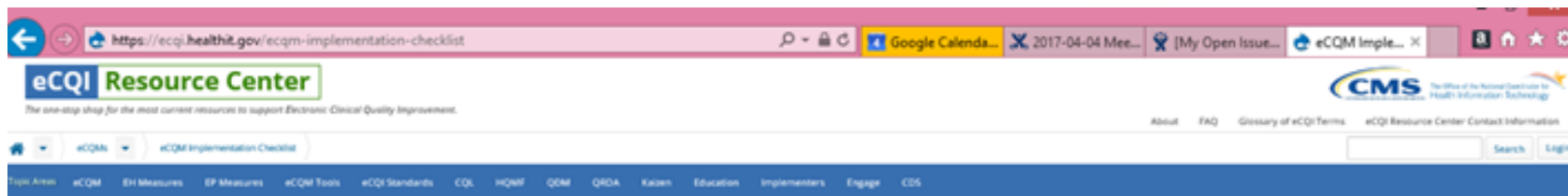
These electronic specifications are fully developed and represent the electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQMs) for the inpatient hospital quality reporting programs. This page will be updated if changes are made to the final measure requirements.

Each year, CMS makes updates to the electronic specifications of the Clinical Quality Measures approved for submission in CMS programs. CMS encourages the implementation and use of the updates because they include new codes, logic corrections and clarifications.

For those attesting to eCQMs to demonstrate meaningful use for the EHR Incentive Programs: CMS will accept the most recent version of the eCQMs, (which would be the electronic specifications of the CQMs published by CMS in 2016) through attestation as finalized in the 2015 EHR Incentive Programs final rule (80 FR 62893). For eReporting of eCQMs to demonstrate meaningful use or for Quality Reporting Programs: An eligible hospital or critical care hospital must use the most current version of the eCQMs identified below. Information on Reporting Options is available on [here](#).

The vocabulary value sets used by eCQMs consist of codes and terms drawn from standard vocabularies such as

eCQM Implementation Checklist



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ecqm-implementation-checklist>. The page header includes the eCQI Resource Center logo and navigation links such as About, FAQ, Glossary of eCQI Terms, and eCQI Resource Center Contact Information. A search bar and a login button are also visible. The main navigation menu includes links for eCQM, EH Measures, EP Measures, eCQM Tools, eCQI Standards, CQL, HQM, QDM, QROA, Kazen, Education, Implementers, Engage, and CDS.

eCQM Implementation Checklist

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requires an Eligible Professional (EP), Eligible Clinician, Eligible Hospital (EH) or Critical Access Hospital (CAH) to use the most current version of the eCQMs for quality reporting programs.

This checklist assumes that a health care practice/organization has determined which measures to report on. It provides the necessary technical steps health information technology (IT) developers, implementers and health care organizations must take to update their systems and processes with the eCQM Annual Update for the upcoming reporting and performance periods. The 2017 eCQM Annual Update should be applied to your system for use in electronic quality reporting.

For a pdf of the Pre-Check and Checklist below, click [here](#).

[Subscribe to space](#)

There is no content in this space.

Pre-Check

- 1) Signup for a Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) account
- 2) Signup for a JIRA account
- 3) Signup for eCQM page change notifications on the eCQI Resource Center
- 4) Review the code versions used in the Annual Update
- 5) Review the standards, tools, and documents used in the Annual Update

Checklist

- 1) Access the appropriate eCQM Annual Update
- 2) Secure detailed information about each measure
- 3) Download value sets

Using the Checklist

eCQI Resource Center

The one-stop shop for the most current resources to support Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement.

Pre-Check

1) Signup for a Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) account

This account will allow you to access the National Library of Medicine's (NLM) Value Set Authority Center (VSAC) to view all codes included in eCQM value sets.

2) Signup for a JIRA account

This account allows you to submit issues regarding eCQM implementation and receive feedback. Key topic areas include the CQM Issue Tracker, Quality Data Model (QDM) Issue Tracker, Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA) Issue Tracker, Bonnie Issue Tracker and Cypress Issue Tracker. Review [JIRA instructions](#).

3) Signup for eCQM page change notifications on the eCQI Resource Center

4) Review the code versions used in the Annual Update

5) Review the standards, tools, and documents used in the Annual Update

Suggested Pre-Check Items

Pre-Check

- ▶ 1) Signup for a Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) account
- ▶ 2) Signup for a JIRA account
- ▶ 3) Signup for eQIM page change notifications on the eQI Resource Center
- ▶ 4) Review the code versions used in the Annual Update
- ▶ 5) Review the standards, tools, and documents used in the Annual Update

Suggested Checklist Items

Checklist

▶ 1) Access the appropriate eCQM Annual Update

▶ 2) Secure detailed information about each measure

▶ 3) Download value sets

▶ 4) Prepare to implement the updates by understanding changes to the eCQM

▶ 5) Prepare to report the updated eQMs

▶ 6) Reach out for help

Checklist in PDF Format

Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) Annual Update Implementation Checklist May 2017

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requires an Eligible Professional (EP), Eligible Clinician, Eligible Hospital (EH) or Critical Access Hospital (CAH) to use the most current version of the eCQMs for quality reporting programs.

This checklist assumes that a health care practice/organization has determined which measures to report on. It provides the necessary technical steps health information technology (IT) developers, implementers and health care organizations must take to update their systems and processes with the eCCM Annual Update for the upcoming reporting and performance periods. The 2017 eCQM Annual Update should be applied to your system for use in electronic quality reporting.

Pre-Check

- 1) Sign up for a [Unified Medical Language System \(UMLS\) account](#). This account will allow you to access the National Library of Medicine's (NLM) Value Set Authority Center (VSAC) to view all codes included in eCQM value sets.
- 2) Sign up for a [JIRA account](#). This account allows you to submit issues regarding eCQM implementation and receive feedback. Key topic areas include the CQM Issue Tracker, Quality Data Model (QDM) Issue Tracker, Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA) Issue Tracker, Bonnie Issue Tracker and Cypress Issue Tracker. Review [JIRA instructions](#).
- 3) Sign up for eCQM page change notifications on the eCQI Resource Center. Signing up for an [eCQI Resource Center account](#) and subscribing to the [Eligible Professional/Eligible Clinician](#) and/or [Eligible Hospital](#) pages will provide you with alert when the EP or EH page has been updated.
- 4) Review the code versions used in the Annual Update (for example, SNOMED CT 2016-09) by reviewing the [eCQM Pre-Publication documents](#) and the [VSAC download maps](#).
 - Work with your coding department and health IT vendor to ensure your systems have been updated to the latest code versions.
 - Some value sets contain "legacy codes." These codes will be inactive in the current code system version but will be considered active in one of the prior code system versions noted in the file.
- 5) Review the [eCQM Pre-Publication document](#) and [Standards and Tool versions](#) used in the Annual Update.
 - Work with your health IT vendor to ensure your systems are using updated technical standards and testing tools.

Checklist

- 1) Access the appropriate eCQM Annual Update: [Eligible Professionals/Eligible Clinicians](#) or [Eligible Hospitals](#).
 - a. Review the updated eCQMs used in CMS quality programs for the current reporting/performance period in the sortable table on the [Eligible Hospital](#) or [Eligible Professional/Eligible Clinician](#) webpages
 - b. Download the eCQM annual update zip files and corresponding artifacts on the [Eligible Hospital](#) or [Eligible Professional/Eligible Clinician](#) webpages
- 2) Secure detailed information about each measure
 - a. Click into an eCQM on the online table to view detailed human-readable information on the measure
 - b. Download and open zip files for the individual eCQM your organization uses
 - c. Open the Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML) document that contains the measure specification description

May 2017

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Checklist Locations

- » Eligible Hospital Measure Page
 - <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/eh>
- » Eligible Professional and Eligible Clinician Measure Page
 - <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ep>
- » Direct URL
 - <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ecqm-implementation-checklist>

Feedback

- » Send feedback and suggestions regarding the eCQM Implementation Checklist to ecqi-resource-center@hhs.gov