

Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQM) Annual Update Pre-Publication Document for 2019 Reporting/Performance

February 2018

This document describes the versions of the standards and code systems used in conjunction with the updated eQMs for potential use in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) programs for 2019 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 2019 reporting through transparent pre-release of the expected standards and code system versions.

What is new for 2019 eCQM reporting/performance:

eQMs for 2019 reporting will be expressed using the new Clinical Quality Language (CQL) standard for logic expression and will continue to use the Quality Data Model (QDM) as the conceptual model to express clinical concepts contained within quality measures. Refer to the [QDM v5.3 Annotated version](#) and current version of the [CQL standard](#) to better understand how they work together to provide eQMs that are human readable, yet structured for electronic processing.

Where and when to obtain updated eQMs for 2019 reporting/performance:

The eCQM annual update for 2019 reporting/performance will be available spring 2018. 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 measure specifications' publication and related content. The updated eQMs will be posted on the [Eligible Professional/Eligible Clinician](#) and [Eligible Hospital](#) pages of the [eCQI Resource Center](#).

Standards related to the updated eCQM specifications for 2019 reporting/performance:

- [C-CDA R2.1](#) – HL7 CDA R2 Implementation Guide: Consolidated Clinical Document Architecture Templates for Clinical Notes (US Realm) DSTU Release 2.1 (with errata)
- [HQMF R1 Normative](#) – Health Quality Measures Format R1 Normative

- [CQL-based HQMF Implementation Guide R2.1](#) – Clinical Quality Language-based Health Quality Measures Format Implementation Guide Release 1, Standard for Trial Use 2.1
- [CQL R1 STU 2](#) – Clinical Quality Language Specification, Release 1 STU 2
- [QRDA-I R1 STU R5](#) – Quality Reporting Document Architecture - Category I Standard for Trial Use Release 5 (December 2017)
- [QRDA-III R1 STU R2.1](#) – Quality Reporting Document Architecture - Category III Standard for Trial Use Release 2.1 (June 2017)
- [QDM v5.3](#) – Quality Data Model Version 5.3 Annotated
- [CMS QRDA IGs](#) – CMS Quality Reporting Document Architecture Implementation Guides (publication of CMS QRDA-I IG for Hospital Quality Reporting expected May 2018 and CMS QRDA-III IG for Eligible Clinicians and Eligible Professionals Programs expected July 2018)

Code system versions used in the eCQM specifications for 2019 reporting/performance:

The following code systems will be used:

- AdministrativeGender HL7V3.0_2017-07 – Administrative Gender Value Set Version 3.0
- CDCREC 1.1 – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Race and Ethnicity Code Set Version 1.1
- CDT 2018 – Current Dental Terminology 2018
- CPT 2018 – Current Procedural Terminology 2018
- CVX 2017-11 – Clinical Vaccine Formulation 2017-11
- HCPCS 2017 – Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System 2017
- ICD-10-CM 2018 – International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification, 2018
- ICD-10-PCS 2018 – International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Procedure Coding System, 2018
- LOINC 2.63 – Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes 2.63
- RxNorm 2018-01 - A normalized naming system for generic and branded drugs
- SNOMED CT US Edition 2017-09 – A comprehensive and precise health terminology for electronic exchange of clinical health information
- SOP 7.0 – Source of Payment 7.0

The following remains the same:

- ICD-9-CM 2013 – International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification, 2013 (in use due to look-back periods of some eQMs)

The [Value Set Authority Center](#) will post a final list of code systems and value sets used with the eCQM specifications for 2019 reporting/performance this spring 2018.

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 2019 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 2019 reporting/performance to the [eCQM Issue Tracker](#).