

Quality Data Model (QDM) v5.3 Release

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Objective

- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has released the latest changes to the Quality Data Model (QDM) specification, version 5.3, for use with Clinical Quality Language (CQL).
- Support for these features and modifications will be implemented in the production version of the Measure Authoring Tool (MAT) scheduled for release in Fall 2017 (version 5.4).

Background

- QDM is an information model that defines relationships between patients and clinical concepts in a standardized format to enable electronic quality performance measurement.
- Previously published versions of the QDM (through version 4.3) included the data model and logic.
- Beginning with the QDM v5.0 Draft for use with CQL testing, the QDM includes only the data model and requires the use of the CQL standard as a separate method for expressing logic.
- CQL is a high-level human readable authoring language that allows measure authors to express data criteria and represent it in a way that is suitable for language processing.

QDM v5.3

- QDM v5.02 and v5.03 included minor changes for use with CQL testing.
- QDM v5.3 represents a significant change from prior production versions as it no longer contains any logic expression.
- Version 5.3 is the production version for CQL-based eCQMs.

QDM v5.3 High-level Changes

- Added clarification and guidance to existing QDM categories and attributes
- Removed
 - Encounter, Active
 - Radiation Dose
 - Radiation Duration
 - Reason attribute for Encounter, Performed
- Remodeled Location attribute for Encounter, Performed
- Created a new QDM datatype for Participation (and attribute Participation Period)
- Assigned cardinality to all QDM attributes

Resources

- QDM v5.0, v5.01, v5.02, and v5.3 are located on the eCQI Resource Center CQL Space
 - <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/cql>
- Past versions of QDM Specifications and QDM User Group meeting information can be found on the eCQI Resource Center QDM Space
 - <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/qdm>
- For questions or comments on the QDM, please contact the ESAC QDM team
 - qdm@esacinc.com
- To submit an issues ticket, please visit the ONC JIRA site
 - <https://oncprojecttracking.healthit.gov/support/projects/QDM/>