Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Spotlights and Announcements Archive

July 30, 2020

NHC Quarterly Refresh with SNF QRP Data

The July 2020 Nursing Home Compare (NHC) refresh, including quality measure results based on Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) data submitted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), is now available.

For further information please visit the [SNF Quality Reporting Program Public Reporting](#) webpage.

July 24, 2020

SNF QRP COVID-19 PHE Tip Sheet is Available

The Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Tip Sheet is now available. This tip sheet is designed to assist SNF providers in understanding the status of the SNF QRP during the COVID-19 PHE. Also provided is practical guidance to address SNF quality data submission requirements starting July 1, 2020, now that the temporary SNF QRP exemptions from the COVID-19 PHE have ended. Please navigate to the [SNF QRP Training](#) webpage to download this document.

JULY 13, 2020

SNF QRP: Non-Compliance Notifications. Reconsiderations are due by August 18, 2020.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is providing notifications to Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) that were determined to be out of compliance with SNF Quality Reporting Program (QRP) requirements for calendar year (CY) 2019, which will affect their fiscal year (FY) 2021 Annual Payment Update (APU). Non-compliance notifications will be distributed by the Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) and will also be placed into facilities' Certification and Survey Provider Enhanced Reports (CASPER) folders in Quality Improvement and Evaluation System (QIES) on July 13, 2020. Either notification is official notice of non-compliance. Facilities that receive a letter of non-compliance may submit a request for reconsideration to CMS **via email no later than 11:59:59 EST, August 18, 2020.** If you receive a notice of non-compliance and would like to request a reconsideration, see the instructions in your notification letter and on the [SNF Quality Reporting Reconsideration and Exception & Extension](#) webpage.

Please note: Any reconsideration containing protected health information (PHI) will not be processed. All PHI must be removed in order for a reconsideration to be reviewed.

June 25, 2020

Update: Release of Revised FY 2022 SNF QRP APU Table for Reporting Assessment-Based Measures and SPADES

See the [SNF Quality Reporting Program Measures and Technical Information](#) webpage for additional information.

June 23, 2020

Reminder:

- **Provider QRPs are expected to resume reporting their quality data to meet requirements starting Quarter 3, which begins July 1, 2020.**

The March 27, 2020 Medicare Learning Network Newsletter (MLN) Exceptions and Extensions for Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Requirements that includes Skilled Nursing Facilities, Home Health Agencies, Hospices, Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities, and Long-Term Care Hospitals (hereafter referred to as post-acute care (PAC) programs) applies only to Quarter 4 of 2019 (October 1-December 31, 2019) and Quarters 1 and 2 of 2020 (January 1-June 30, 2020). Providers are expected to report data and meet the QRP requirements beginning with Quarter 3, 2020 that starts July 1, 2020.

As stated in that March 27, 2020 MLN Newsletter, "In some instances, these exceptions and extensions are granted because the data collected may be greatly impacted by the response to COVID-19 and therefore should not be considered in the quality reporting program. CMS is closely monitoring the situation for potential adjustments and will update exception lists, exempted reporting periods, and submission deadlines accordingly as events occur."

Starting with Quarter 3 that begins July 1, 2020, CMS expects providers to report their quality data. CMS will analyze the data for each program recognizing that the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) remains in effect and could impact the quality data submitted. CMS will closely monitor the situation for public reporting of the data and provide any updates.

June 05, 2020

Q&A from the May 7 and 8, 2019 and August 13 and 14, 2019 SNF QRP Provider Trainings Are Available.

A Question and Answer (Q&A) document supporting the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Provider Trainings that took place May 7 and 8, 2019 and August 13 and 14, 2019 are now available in the Downloads section of the [SNF QRP Training](#) webpage.

May 08, 2020

Delayed: Release of Updated Versions of Post-Acute Care Assessment Instruments (and Supporting Training)

See the [Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Training](#) webpage for additional information:

March 19, 2020

NEW Video Tutorials Available to Assist with Coding Specific Section GG Items

Accessible from the following webpage:

- [Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Training](#)

March 19, 2020

Delayed: Release of the MDS 3.0 v1.18.1

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is delaying the Minimum Data Set (MDS) 3.0 v1.18.1 release, which had been scheduled for October 1, 2020, in response to stakeholder concerns. The MDS item sets are used by Nursing Home and Swing Bed providers to collect and submit patient data to CMS. This MDS data informs payment, quality, and the survey process.

In December of 2019, CMS posted a draft of the MDS 3.0 item set v1.18.0 and received feedback from our stakeholders. We would like to thank the stakeholders for sharing their concerns regarding the proposed changes to the MDS 3.0 item sets and more specifically the removal of the Section G items from OBRA assessments.

The MDS changes CMS planned for October 1, 2020 will now be delayed. CMS staff are actively engaged in discussions with various stakeholders, regarding the various changes, the impacts of these changes, as well as the compressed timeline to educate and train facility staff and update software and IT systems.

Please direct any comments or questions regarding the above information to MDSCodinganswers@cms.hhs.gov mailbox.

March 16, 2020

TRAINING EVENT – Introduction to the SNF QRP Web-Based Training

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is offering a web-based training course for those who are new to the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP). It can be accessed via the SNF Quality Reporting Program Training webpage.

February 11, 2020

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2021 and FY 2022 Quick Reference Guides Available

Quick Reference Guides for FY2021 and FY2022 are now available in the Downloads section of the SNF Quality Reporting Data Submission Deadlines webpage. The Quick Reference Guides provide high-level information on the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP), including frequently asked questions and helpful links.

January 30, 2020

Publication of FY 2022 SNF APU Overview Table

The Skilled Nursing Facility (**SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Table for Reporting Assessment-Based Measures and Standardized Patient Assessment Data Elements (SPADEs) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 SNF QRP Annual Payment Update (APU)** is now available for download on the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program Measures and Technical Information webpage. This table indicates the Minimum Data Set (MDS) data elements that are used in determining the APU minimum submission threshold for the FY 2022 SNF QRP determination.