

Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Spotlights & Announcements Archive

October 26, 2023

Register for CMS' 2023 CMS Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports Live Q&A

On November 16, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. ET, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) hosted a live Q&A session regarding the Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports released on October 16, 2023. The Q&A session gave participants an opportunity to ask and learn about answers to commonly asked questions regarding the report's methodologies and interpretations from CMS subject matter experts.

Register for the live Q&A session

here: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CgvglG96SLu7BmfXi60j_Q

Already have questions about the Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports? Please send questions to CMSHealthEquityCFRSession@ketchum.com by **November 2, 2023**, for potential inclusion in the Q&A session. Please note that CMS will answer as many questions as time permits and some questions will not be asked verbatim. CMS will post all questions and answers on each of the PAC Training & Education pages sometime after the webinar.

Prepare for the Live Q&A Webinar:

To prepare for the November 16 live Q&A session, please review the October 16, 2023 [Online Webinar recording](#), with slides, a transcript, and a Fact Sheet providing an overview of the Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports available in the **Downloads** section on each of the following PAC Training & Education pages:

- [Home Health Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage

- [Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage
- [Long Term Care Hospital Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage
- [Skilled Nursing Facility Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage

September 22, 2023

NEW RESOURCE AVAILABLE: Understanding Coding for N0415 Explainer Video

A brief explainer video, **Understanding Coding for N0415. High-Risk Drug Classes: Use and Indication** is now available for IRF Providers. This resource can be accessed through the [Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program Training](#) webpage.

September 20, 2023

CMS IRF-PAI Quarterly Q&As, September 2023, Consolidated June 2020 to September 2023

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is publishing the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Patient Assessment Instrument (IRF-PAI) Quarterly Q&As, in September of 2023. The document contains the consolidated Q&As from June 2020 to September 2023 so that all IRF providers have the benefit of the clarifications to existing guidance. Through inquiries to the IRF Post-Acute Care (PAC) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Help Desk, CMS identifies the opportunity to clarify or refine guidance

The Quarterly Q&A document can be accessed via the **Downloads** section of the [IRF-PAI and IRF-PAI Manual](#) webpage.

September 15, 2023

IRF Provider Preview Now Available

The Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Provider Preview Reports have been updated and are now available. These reports contain provider performance scores for quality measures, which will be published on [Provider Data Catalog \(PDC\)](#) during the **December 2023 refresh**.

For more information, please visit the [CMS IRF QRP Public Reporting](#) website.

September 15, 2023

COMING SOON: CMS Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports

Next month, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will release two new Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports to post-acute care (PAC) providers in the Home Health (HH), Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF), Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH), and Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) settings: the Discharge to Community (DTC) Health Equity Confidential Feedback Report and the Medicare Spending Per Beneficiary (MSPB) Health Equity Confidential Feedback Report. The PAC Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports will stratify the DTC and MSPB measures by dual-enrollment status and race/ethnicity.

An educational webinar recording and fact sheet providing an overview of the Health Equity Confidential Feedback Reports will also be released next month.

September 12, 2023

IRF QRP Table for Reporting Assessment-Based QM and Standardized Patient Assessment Data Elements and Final Submission Deadlines Affecting FY 2025 and FY 2026 posted

The FY 2024 Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Prospective Payment System (PPS) Final Rule (88 FR 50956) revised data collection and submission requirements for the IRF Quality Reporting Program (QRP) affecting the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 and FY 2026 QRPs. An update to the IRF QRP Annual Increase Factor (AIF) Table for reporting assessment-based quality measures (QMs) and standardized patient assessment data elements to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) affecting FY 2025 AIF determination has been revised and is now available. The changes to the table reflect the data elements that will be required to meet the AIF minimum data completion threshold for the current and final quarters of FY 2025. The IRF QRP Data Collection and Final Submission Deadlines for the FY 2025 IRF QRP has also been revised and is now available.

Additionally, the IRF QRP AIF Table for reporting assessment-based QMs and standardized patient assessment data elements to CMS affecting FY 2026 AIF determination and the IRF QRP Data Collection and Final Submission Deadlines for the FY 2026 IRF QRP are now available.

The revised FY 2025 IRF QRP AIF Table and the FY 2026 IRF QRP AIF Table can be accessed via the **Downloads** section of the [IRF QRP Measures Information](#) webpage. The revised FY 2025 IRF QRP Data Collection and Final Submission

Deadlines and the FY 2026 IRF QRP Data Collection and Final Submission Deadlines can be accessed via the **Downloads** section of the [IRF QRP Data Submission Deadlines](#) webpage.

September 12, 2023

IRF QRP FAQs for FY 2024

An update to the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document is now available. This document has been updated to reflect the finalized policies for the IRF QRP in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and includes other useful resources available to providers.

The FAQ document can be accessed via the **Downloads** section of the [IRF Quality Reporting FAQs](#) webpage.

September 6, 2023

IRF QRP Quality Measure Calculations and Reporting User's Manual V5.0, Change Table, Risk Adjustment Appendix File, Imputation Appendix File, and HCC ICD-10 Now Available

The Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Quality Measure Calculations and Reporting User's Manual Version 5.0 and accompanying documents are now available. These documents serve as an update to the specifications used to calculate quality measures that are included in the IRF QRP effective October 1, 2023.

For more information, please visit the [CMS IRF QRP Quality Reporting Measures Information](#) website.

August 8, 2023

NEW RESOURCE AVAILABLE: Social Determinants of Health Items Explainer Video

A brief explainer video, **Social Determinants of Health Items: Determining When a Proxy Response is Allowed** is now available for IRF Providers. This resource can be accessed through the [Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program Training](#) page.

August 4, 2023

Reminder of Upcoming Data Submission Deadline

The submission deadline for the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) is approaching. IRF Patient Assessment Instrument (IRF-PAI) assessment data and data submitted via the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) for January March 31 (Q1) of calendar year (CY) 2023 are due with this submission deadline.

All data must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. on August 15, 2023.

It is recommended that the applicable Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Internet Quality Improvement and Evaluation System (iQIES) reports and NHSN analysis reports are run prior to each quarterly reporting deadline to ensure that all required data were submitted. We encourage you to verify all facility information prior to submission, including CMS Certification Number (CCN) and facility name.

View the list of measures required for this deadline in the **Downloads** section on the [IRF Quality Reporting Data Submission Deadlines](#) webpage.

For submission information, visit:

- [iQIES Reference & Manuals](#)
- [CMS Resources for NHSN Users](#)

Swingtech sends informational messages to IRFs that are not meeting Annual Increase Factor (AIF) threshold on a quarterly basis ahead of each submission deadline. If you need to add or change the email addresses to which these messages are sent, please email QRPHelp@swingtech.com and be sure to include your facility name and CCN along with any requested email updates.

July 27, 2023

Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Prospective Payment System (PPS) and Updates to the Quality Reporting Program (QRP) for FY 2024 (CMS-1781-F)

On July 27, 2023, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule (CMS-1781-F) that provides policies for the fiscal year (FY) 2024 Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program (IRF QRP). This rule includes two new measures, one measure modification, and three measure removals. The new measures include the Discharge Function Score measure and the COVID-19

Vaccine: Percent of Patients/Residents Who Are Up to Date measure. CMS is also modifying the COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage among Healthcare Personnel (HCP) measure to report the number of HCP who are up to date with recommended COVID-19 vaccinations per the latest CDC guidance. In addition, CMS is removing three measures including the Application of Percent of Long-Term Care Hospital Patients with an Admission and Discharge Functional Assessment and a Care Plan That Addresses Function; the IRF Functional Outcome Measure: Change in Self-Care Score for Medical Rehabilitation Patients; and the IRF Functional Outcome Measure: Change in Mobility Score for Medical Rehabilitation Patients. Finally, CMS will begin the public reporting of the Transfer of Health (TOH) Information to the Patient-Post-Acute Care (PAC) and TOH Information to the Provider-PAC measures.

The final rule went on display at the Federal Register and will be available at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection>

July 20, 2023

IRF QRP: Non-Compliance Notifications

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is providing notifications to Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRFs) that were determined to be out of compliance with IRF Quality Reporting Program (QRP) requirements for calendar year (CY) 2022, which will affect their fiscal year (FY) 2024 Annual Increase Factor (AIF). Non-compliance notifications will be distributed by the Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) and will be placed into My Reports folders in Internet Quality Improvement and Evaluation System (iQIES) on July 20, 2023. Facilities that receive a letter of non-compliance may submit a request for reconsideration to CMS **via email no later than 11:59 pm, August 18, 2023**. 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 [IRF 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.

July 14, 2023

UPDATED RESOURCE AVAILABLE: BIMS Video Tutorial

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is offering an updated video tutorial for the Brief Interview for Mental Status (BIMS) which is collected on the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Patient Assessment Instrument (IRF-PAI) 4.0. This training asset demonstrates the BIMS interview and associated coding.

This resource can be accessed through the [Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility \(IRF\) Quality Reporting Program \(QRP\) Training](#) page.