

Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Spotlights & Announcements Archive

November 3, 2023

Reminder of Upcoming Data Submission Deadline

The submission deadline for the Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) is approaching. LTCH Continuity Assessment Record and Evaluation (CARE) Data Set (LCDS) assessment data and data submitted via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) for April 1 – June 30 (Q2) of calendar year (CY) 2023 are due with this submission deadline.

All data must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. on November 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 on the [LTCH Quality Reporting Data Submission Deadlines](#) webpage.

For submission information, visit:

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

Swingtech sends informational messages to LTCHs that are not meeting Annual Payment Update (APU) 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.

September 27, 2023

Care Compare September Refresh of LTCH QRP Data – Now Available

The September 2023 Refresh of the Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) data is now available on [Care Compare](#) and [Provider Data Catalog \(PDC\)](#).

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

September 26, 2023

NEW RESOURCE AVAILABLE: BIMS and BIMS Summary Score Explainer Video

A brief explainer video, **BIMS and BIMS Summary Score: Stopping and Coding an Incomplete Interview** is now available for LTCH Providers. This resource can be accessed through the [Long-Term Care Hospital Quality Reporting Program Training](#) page.

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 LTCH Providers. This resource can be accessed through the [Long-Term Care Hospital Quality Reporting Program Training](#) page.

September 20, 2023

CMS LCDS Quarterly Q&As, September 2023, Consolidated September 2020 to September 2023

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is publishing the Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Continuity Assessment Record and Evaluation (CARE) Data Set (LCDS) Quarterly Q&As, in September of 2023. The document contains the consolidated Q&As from September 2020 to September 2023 so that all LTCH providers have the benefit of the clarifications to existing guidance. Through inquiries to the LTCH 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 [LTCH CARE Data Set and LCDS Manual](#) webpage.

September 19, 2023

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

The FY 2024 Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Prospective Payment System (PPS) Final Rule (88 FR 58640) revised data collection and submission requirements for the LTCH Quality Reporting Program (QRP) affecting the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 and FY 2026 QRPs. An update to the LTCH QRP Annual Payment Update (APU) 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 APU determination has been revised and is now available. The changes to the table reflect the data elements that will be required to meet the APU minimum data completion threshold for the current and final quarters of FY 2025. The LTCH QRP Data Collection and Final Submission Deadlines for the FY 2025 LTCH QRP has also been revised and is now available.

Additionally, the LTCH QRP APU Table for reporting assessment-based QMs and standardized patient assessment data elements to CMS affecting FY 2026 APU determination and the LTCH QRP Data Collection and Final Submission Deadlines for the FY 2026 LTCH QRP are now available. We also note that the FY 2024 LTCH PPS final rule (88 FR 58640) finalized the requirement for LTCHs to report 100 percent of the required quality measures data and standardized patient assessment data collected using the LCDS on at least 85 percent of all assessments submitted beginning with the FY 2026 QRP (1/1/2024 through 12/31/2024).

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

September 15, 2023

LTCH Provider Preview Reports – Now Available

The Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Provider Preview Reports have been updated and are now available. These reports contain provider performance scores for quality measures, which will be published on [Care Compare](#) and [Provider Data Catalog \(PDC\)](#) during the **December 2023** refresh.

For more information, please visit the [CMS LTCH 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 14, 2023

LTCH QRP FAQs for FY 2024

An update to the Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document is now available. This document has been updated to reflect the finalized policies for the LTCH 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 [LTCH Quality Reporting FAQs](#) webpage.

September 6, 2023

LTCH QRP Quality Measure Calculations and Reporting User's Manual V5.0, Change Table, Risk Adjustment Appendix File, and Imputation Appendix File – Now Available

The Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) 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 LTCH QRP effective October 1, 2023.

For more information, please visit the [CMS LTCH 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 LTCH Providers. This resource can be accessed through the [Long-Term Care Hospital Quality Reporting Program Training](#) page.

August 4, 2023

Reminder of Upcoming Data Submission Deadline

The submission deadline for the Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) is approaching. LTCH Continuity Assessment Record and Evaluation (CARE) Data Set (LCDS) assessment data and data submitted via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) for January 1 – 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 on the [LTCH Quality Reporting Data Submission Deadlines](#) webpage.

For submission information, visit:

- [iQIES Reference & Manuals](#)
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August 1, 2023

Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Prospective Payment System (PPS) and Updates to the Quality Reporting Program (QRP) for FY 2024 IPPS/LTCH PPS Final Rule (CMS-1785-F)

On August 1, 2023, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule (CMS-1785-F) that provides policies for the fiscal year (FY) 2024 Long-Term Care Hospital Quality Reporting Program (LTCH QRP). This final rule includes two new measures, one measure modification, and two 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 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 of two 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. Furthermore, we are changing to the data completion thresholds for the LCDS data items and to begin the public reporting of the Transfer of Health Information to the Patient-Post-Acute Care and Transfer of Health Information to the Provider-PAC measures. Finally, we provide a summary of the comments received for selecting and prioritizing LTCH QRP quality measures and concepts and the update on CMS' continued efforts to close the health equity gap.

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

July 20, 2023

LTCH QRP: Non-Compliance Notifications

CMS is providing notifications to Long-Term Care Hospitals (LTCHs) that were determined to be out of compliance with LTCH Quality Reporting Program (QRP) requirements for calendar year (CY) 2022, which will affect their fiscal year (FY) 2024 Annual Payment Update (APU). Non-compliance notifications will be distributed by the Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) and will be placed into facilities' My Reports folders in the 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 [LTCH 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

NEW RESOURCE AVAILABLE: BIMS Video Tutorial

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) is offering a new video tutorial for the Brief Interview for Mental Status (BIMS) which is now collected on the LTCH Continuity Assessment Record and Evaluation (CARE) Data Set (LCDS) 5.0. This training asset demonstrates the BIMS interview and associated coding.

This resource can be accessed through the [Long-Term Care Hospital \(LTCH\) Quality Reporting Program \(QRP\) Training](#) page.