



Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP)

Hospice Visits Last Days of Life (HVLDL)

Measure Specifications

This document contains the details for the specifications of the HVLDL measure calculations using administrative data (Medicare claims).

Hospice Visits in the Last Days of Life (HVLDL)

Measure Description:

This measure assesses hospice staff visits to patients at the end of life. This measure is constructed from Medicare hospice claims records.

It indicates the hospice provider's proportion of patients who have received in person visits from a registered nurse or medical social worker on at least two out of the final three days of the patient's life.

Numerator Statement:

The numerator of this measure is the number of patient stays in the denominator in which the patient and/or caregiver received in person visits from registered nurses or medical social workers on at least two of the final three days of the patient's life, as captured by hospice claims records.

Note: Any visits occurring after the time of the patient's death do not count towards the measure score.

Denominator Statement:

All Medicare hospice decedents discharged to death within the time period of the data.

Denominator Exclusions:

- Patient did not die under hospice care as indicated by reason for discharge.
- Patient received any continuous home care, respite care, or general inpatient care in the final three days of life.
- Patient was enrolled in hospice less than three days.

Note: HVLDL looks at visits in the last three days of life; patients must receive hospice services for at least three days to be included in the measure.

Measure Type:

Claims-based.