

2018 Jan-July SNF Quality Reporting Program Spotlights and Announcements

What's new with Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs)

Visit the [SNF QRP Reconsideration and Exception & Extension](#) webpage for Natural Disaster Protocols

Updates

July 26, 2018

July 31/August 1 SNF QRP Pre-Training Materials Are Now Available

The training materials for the upcoming Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Provider Training in Baltimore, MD, on Tuesday, July 31, and Wednesday, August 1, are now available under the Downloads section of the [SNF Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage. The training will start at 8:30 a.m. EDT and end at 5:00 p.m. EDT on July 31, and start at 8:00 a.m. EDT (this is a new time) and end at 3:00 p.m. EDT on August 1.

July 11, 2018

The **SNF QRP Reporting Requirements for FY2020 Reporting Year Fact Sheet** is now available for download on the [SNF Quality Reporting Program Data Submission Deadlines](#) webpage. This Fact Sheet contains information about requirements for the SNF QRP for the FY 2020 program year, which reflects data collected from 1/1/18–12/31/18.

July 06, 2018

SNF Quality Reporting Program: Non-Compliance Letters

CMS is providing notifications to facilities that were determined to be out of compliance with Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) requirements for CY 2017, which will affect their FY 2019 Annual Payment Update (APU). Non-compliance notifications are in the process of being mailed by the Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) and will be placed into facilities' CASPER folders in QIES on July 9, 2018. Facilities that receive a letter of non-compliance may submit a request for reconsideration to CMS **via email no later than 11:59pm PST, August 7, 2018**. 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](#).

June 07, 2018

SNF QRP Provider In-Person Training Event, July 31 and August 1, 2018 – Agenda Available

The agenda for the upcoming Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Provider Training in Baltimore, MD, on Tuesday, July 31, and Wednesday, August 1, is now available under the Downloads section of the [SNF Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage. The training will start at 8:30 a.m. EDT and end at 4:30 p.m. EDT on July 31, and start at 8:30 a.m. EDT and end at 3:00 p.m. EDT on August 1. [Click here to register for this event](#).

June 1, 2018

SNF Provider Preview Reports- Now Available

Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Provider Preview Reports have been updated and are now available. Providers have until July 1, 2018 to review their performance data prior to public display on the [Nursing Home Compare](#) site. Corrections to the underlying data will not be permitted during this time. However, providers can request a CMS review during the preview period if they believe their data scores displayed are inaccurate.

The SNF Provider Preview Report includes performance data on the following quality measures based on the subsequent Quarterly data:

1. Quarter 1 – 2017 to Quarter 4 – 2017 data
 - Application of Percent of Residents Experiencing One or More Falls with Major Injury (Long Stay) (#0674)
 - Percent of Residents or Patients with Pressure Ulcers That Are New or Worsened (Short Stay) (NQF #0678)
 - Application of Percent of Long-Term Care Hospital Patients with an Admission and Discharge Functional Assessment and a Care Plan That Addresses Function (#2631)
2. Quarter 4 – 2016 to Quarter 3 – 2017 data
 - Medicare Spending Per Beneficiary – Post-Acute Care (PAC) Skilled Nursing Facility Measure
 - Discharge to Community- Post Acute Care (PAC) Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP)

3. Quarter 4 – 2015 to Quarter 3 – 2017 data
 - o Potentially Preventable 30-Days Post-Discharge Readmission Measure for Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP).

May 22, 2018

The SNF QRP Table for Reporting Assessment-Based Measures for the FY 2020 SNF QRP APU is now available for download on the [SNF Quality Reporting Program Measures and Technical Information](#) webpage. This table indicates the MDS data elements that are used in determining the APU minimum submission threshold for the FY 2020 SNF QRP determination.

May 18, 2018

REGISTRATION OPEN – SNF QRP Provider In-Person Training Event, July 31 and August 1, 2018

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will be hosting a 2-day Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) in-person 'Train the Trainer' event for providers on July 31 and August 1, 2018, in Baltimore, MD. See the [SNF Quality Reporting Training](#) webpage for details.

May 01, 2018

SNF QRP Help Desk Q+A Document for the Fourth Quarter of 2017 Now Available

A new Question and Answer (Q+A) document is now available in the "Downloads" section of the [SNF Quality Reporting Program FAQs](#) webpage. The Q+A document reflects frequently asked questions that were received by the SNF QRP Help Desk during the fourth quarter (October - December) of 2017.

April 20, 2018

We are reaching out to remind you of the upcoming submission deadline for the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP). MDS assessment data January-December (Q1-Q4) of calendar year (CY) 2017 are due with this submission deadline.

All data must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on May 15, 2018.

It is recommended that the applicable CMS CASPER validation 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 CCN and facility name.

View the list of measures required for the May 15, 2018 deadline on the [SNF Quality Reporting Program Data Submission Deadlines](#) webpage.

For providers affected by hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, or Nate, or California wildfires: Information on the exceptions can be found on the [SNF Quality Reporting Reconsideration and Exception & Extension](#) webpage.

For more information, download [MDS 3.0 Submission, Submission Status, and Final Validation Reports](#)

[Helpful Hints](#).

April 19, 2018

SNF Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Quality Measure (QM) Reports Available

Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) providers were notified by CMS April 13, 2018, that the SNF QRP reports (SNF QRP Facility- and Resident-Level Quality Measure and SNF Review and Correct) would be unavailable in the CASPER Reporting application while corrections were being made. Duplicate stays were mistakenly being included in the calculations for all three reports when a correction record for a previously accepted record was accepted into the Assessment Submission and Processing (ASAP) system. Additionally, invalid Admission Dates were displaying on the SNF QRP Resident-Level Quality Measure report for the duplicated row.

The three measures affected by the issue are as follows:

- Percent of Residents or Patients with Pressure Ulcers That Are New or Worsened (Short Stay) NQF #0678
- Application of Percent of Residents Experiencing One or More Falls with Major Injury (Long Stay) NQF #0674
- Application of Percent of Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Patients with an Admission and Discharge Functional Assessment and a Care Plan that Addresses Function NQF #2631

Please be advised that this issue has been resolved and the SNF QRP Facility- and Resident-Level Quality Measure and SNF Review and Correct reports are once again available in the SNF Quality Reporting Program report category in the CASPER Reporting application.

A link to the CASPER Reporting application is available on the "Welcome to the CMS QIES Systems for Providers" webpage. Data for the above measures have been recalculated to exclude the duplicated records and the correct Admission Date is displaying on the SNF QRP Resident-Level Quality Measure reports.

If you have questions concerning this information, please contact the QTSO Help Desk at help@qtso.com or 1 (800) 339-9313.

February 23, 2018

Hurricane Nate - Disaster Exceptions/Exemptions for Medicare Certified Providers Affected by Severe Storms and Flooding

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is granting exceptions under certain Medicare quality reporting and value-based purchasing programs to acute care hospitals, inpatient psychiatric facilities, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, long-term care hospitals, renal dialysis facilities, ambulatory surgical centers as well as Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians located in areas affected by Hurricane Nate. These healthcare providers and suppliers will be granted exceptions without having to submit a request if they are located in one of the counties listed in the memo posted on [February 8, 2018](#), all of which have been designated by the [Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#) as a major disaster county.

The scope and duration of the exception under each Medicare quality reporting program is described in the memo as well, however, all of the exceptions are being granted to assist these providers while they direct their resources toward caring for their patients and repairing structural damages to facilities.

If FEMA expands the current disaster declaration to include additional counties, CMS will update this memo to expand the list of providers eligible to receive an exception without submitting a request.

In addition, CMS will continue to monitor the situation and adjust exempted reporting periods and submission deadlines accordingly.

Additional details and materials are available on the [CMS Hurricanes](#) webpage. Please check back frequently for updates.

February 22, 2018

California Wildfires - Disaster Exceptions/Exemptions for Medicare Certified Providers Affected by Severe Storms and Flooding

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is granting exceptions under certain Medicare quality reporting and value-based purchasing programs to acute care hospitals, inpatient psychiatric facilities, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, long-term care hospitals,

renal dialysis facilities, ambulatory surgical centers as well as Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians located in areas affected by the California wildfires (FEMA [DR-4353](#)). These healthcare providers and suppliers will be granted exceptions without having to submit a request if they are located in one of the California counties listed in the memo posted on [February 8, 2018](#), all of which have been designated by the [Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#) as a major disaster county.

The scope and duration of the exception under each Medicare quality reporting program is described in the memo as well, however, all of the exceptions are being granted to assist these providers while they direct their resources toward caring for their patients and repairing structural damages to facilities.

If FEMA expands the current disaster declaration to include additional counties, CMS will update this memo to expand the list of providers eligible to receive an exception without submitting a request.

In addition, CMS will continue to monitor the situation and adjust exempted reporting periods and submission deadlines accordingly.

Additional details and materials are available on the [CMS Wildfires](#) webpage. Please check back frequently for updates.

February 01, 2018

SNF QRP Quality Measure (QM) and Review and Correct Report Data Issues

A calculation error has been identified for the three assessment-based quality measures reported on the SNF QRP Facility- and Resident-Level QM report and the SNF QRP Review and Correct reports (NQF #0678, NQF #0674, and NQF #2631). Duplicate stays and invalid admission dates can appear on these reports. View the PDF on the [SNF Quality Reporting Program Data Submission Deadlines](#) webpage for more information.

January 19, 2018

CMS has extended the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) deadlines for calendar year (CY) 2017. Minimum Data Set (MDS) assessment data for January-December (Q1-Q4) of CY 2017 are due May 15, 2018. However, providers are encouraged to verify their MDS submissions on at least a quarterly basis.

It is recommended that the applicable CMS CASPER validation 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 CCN and facility name.

View the list of measures required for the May 15, 2018 deadline on the [SNF Quality Reporting Program Data Submission Deadlines](#) webpage.

For providers affected by hurricanes Harvey, Irma, or Maria or California wildfires: Information on the exceptions can be found on the [SNF Quality Reporting Reconsideration and Exception & Extension](#) webpage.

For more information, download [MDS 3.0 Submission, Submission Status, and Final Validation Reports](#)

[Helpful Hints](#).

January 12, 2018

SNF QRP Help Desk Q+A Document for the Third Quarter of 2017 Now Available

A new Question and Answer (Q+A) document is now available in the “Downloads” section of the [SNF Quality Reporting Program FAQs](#) webpage. The Q+A document reflects frequently asked questions that were received by the SNF QRP Help Desk during the third quarter (July - September) of 2017.