

KY REC Tip for the Kentucky Medicaid EHR Incentive Program (Promoting Interoperability)

Electronic Clinical Quality Measures

What are Clinical Quality Measures?

Clinical Quality Measures are tools that help measure and track the quality of health care services provided by eligible professionals. CQMs measure health outcomes, clinical process, patient safety, care coordination, adherence to clinical guidelines and more.

Clinical Quality Measures Basics:

CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) is aligning the specific CQMs available to EPs (Eligible Providers) participating in the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program with those available to professionals participating in the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS).

2015 CEHRT

To successfully participate in the Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program, CMS requires EPs to report on eCQMs. These eCQMs are determined by CMS and require the use of a 2015 edition certified electronic health record (CEHRT).





What are the 2021 Stage 3 Promoting Interoperability Requirements for Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQMs)?

- All participating EPs are required to report on any **6 eCQMs** relevant to their scope of practice from the set of 47 available.
- The reporting period for all EPs is **continuous 90-day period within calendar year 2021**.
- Medicaid EPs are required to report on at least one outcome measure.
- If no outcome measures are relevant to that EP, they must report on at least one high-priority measure.
- If there are no outcome or high priority measures relevant to an EP’s scope of practice, they must report on any six relevant measures.

Examples of Outcome Measures

CMS133v9	Cataracts: 20/40 or Better Visual Acuity within 90 Days Following Cataract Surgery
CMS159v9	Depression Remission at Twelve Months
CMS75v9	Children Who Have Dental Decay or Cavities

Examples of High Priority Measures

CMS50v9	Closing the Referral Loop: Receipt of Specialist Report
CMS165v9	Controlling High Blood Pressure
CMS122v9	Diabetes: Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Poor Control (>9%)
CMS68v10	Documentation of Current Medications in the Medical Record

eCQM Reporting Method

If the EP does not have access to a QRDA III file from their EHR vendor for electronic reporting, the Kentucky EHR Incentive Program will allow the EP to manually submit the eCQMs during attestation (same submission method used in prior program years). Therefore, electronic reporting via QRDA III file format is NOT required for the 2021 program year.

Best Practices:

- Prioritize your Clinical Quality Measures.
- Select Clinical Quality Measures early to determine that you have at least 6.
- Identify the outcome and high priority CQMs you will report on.
- Determine the 6 measures you will be reporting on.
- Check with your vendor to make sure the measures you are reporting on are certified with your EHR version.
- Work with your HIT Advisor to learn more about outcome and high priority measures.



- Receive training from your vendor on how to enter data into EHR to reflect correctly on CQM reports.
- Train staff on new procedures that will need to be implemented for the Clinical Quality Measures that you choose.
- Check the ONC Certified Health Product List (CHPL) website to ensure that the CQMs you use are certified.
- Make sure that your CQM report shows all of the necessary information.
- We suggest working with your vendor to ensure that you can create and save a QRDA III file from your EHR and that the information is accurate when being pulled.
- Print out a copy of your eCQM report or save an electronic copy in your attestation folder in case of an audit.

Printable List of eCQMs for EPs 2021

<https://ecqi.healthit.gov/sites/default/files/2021-eCQM-Telehealth-Guidance-Document-With-QRDA-Update-508.pdf>

Online List of eCQMs for EPs 2021

https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ep-ec?qt-tabs_ep=1

eCQI Resource Center

<https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ep-ec-ecqms>

CQM Basics and links to additional resources from CMS

<https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/ClinicalQualityMeasures.html>