The Hospital OQR Times Newsletter

In This Issue

Data Deadlines
August 1, 2023
Q1 2023 Clinical Data
August 15, 2023
Q1 2023 COVID-19
Vaccination Among HCP

Abstraction Guidance Spotlight: Changes to the Sex Data Element
How to abstract sexual orientation and/or gender identity to begin July 2023

OPPS/ASC 2024 Proposed Rule
Scheduled for release in July 2023

Program Support & Resources
The Outpatient Quality Reporting Program Support Team is available by calling **866-800-8756** weekdays from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET.

You can also contact the OQR Program Support Team online and browse FAQs using the [QualityNet Q&A Tool](#), and choosing *Program*: **OQR – Outpatient Quality Reporting**. More tools and resources can be found on [QualityReportingCenter.com](#). You can also view past webinars by visiting the QRC's [Archived Events](#) page.

Data Submission Deadlines

Reminder! The **submission deadline** for **Quarter 1 2023** reporting period (January 1—March 31, 2023) clinical data [including **OP-2**: Fibrinolytic Therapy Received Within 30 Minutes of ED Arrival; **OP-3**: Median Time to Transfer to Another Facility for Acute Coronary Intervention; **OP-18**: Median Time from ED Arrival to ED Departure for Discharged ED Patients; and **OP-23**: Head CT or MRI Scan Results for Acute Ischemic Stroke or Hemorrhagic Stroke Patients who Received Head CT or MRI Scan Interpretation Within 45 Minutes of ED Arrival] into the **Hospital Quality Reporting (HQR) system** is **August 1, 2023, 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time (PT)**. Submission of Hospital OQR Program Population and Sampling data is voluntary.

The **submission deadline** for **Quarter 1 2023** reporting period (January 1—March 31, 2023) **OP-38**: COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Among Healthcare Personnel (HCP) measure data into the **National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) system** is **August 15, 2023, 11:59 p.m. PT**. More information on data submission is on the Measure Deadlines and Tools page of the [Quality Reporting Center Measure Deadlines and Tools web page](#).

Abstraction Guidance Spotlight: Changes to the Sex Data Element

The data element, **Sex**, has been updated to capture additional information to help evaluate health equity. This update is effective **beginning with July 1, 2023, encounters**. *The Description of Changes* are as follows:

- **Definition**: The patient's documented sexual orientation and/or gender identity.
- **Suggested Data Collection Question:** What is the patient's sexual orientation and/or gender identity?
- **Format:** *Change Type To*: Alphanumeric, *Change Occurs To*: 1 – 5.
- **Allowable Values:** Select all that apply: 1. Male, 2. Assigned/Designated Male at Birth, 3. Female, 4. Assigned/Designated Female at Birth, 5. LGBTQ, 6. Unknown.

For details on additional updates to the sex data element refer to the Hospital OQR Specifications Manual version 16.0a, Section 2, [Alphabetical Data Element List and Data Dictionary](#).

Coming Soon: CY 2024 Proposed Rule

The Calendar Year (CY) 2024 Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS)/Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Proposed Rule is scheduled to be published in the *Federal Register* in July. An email notification will be released when the proposed rule is available. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) urges the Hospital OQR community to participate in the Proposed Rule comment process, as public comments are vital. The **60-day comment period** will open once the proposed rule is published. Comments can be submitted at [www.regulations.gov](#), or through mail if postmarked by the last day of the comment period.

Program Support and Resources

To find additional information—such as the data submission checklist to meet Hospital OQR Program deadlines—visit [QualityNet.cms.gov](#).