



Outpatient Quality Program Systems and Stakeholder Support Team

CY 2023 Hospital OPPTS/ASC Payment System Proposed Rule: Streaming Through the Rule Question & Answer Summary Document

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Subject-matter experts researched and answered the following questions during the live webinar. The questions may have been edited for grammar.



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Question 1: Does the Rural Emergency Hospital Quality Reporting (REHQR) Program apply to critical access hospitals (CAHs)?

The new REHQR Program is being established as mandated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021. In this legislation, Congress established a new Medicare provider type: Rural Emergency Hospitals (REHs). Hospitals eligible to convert to REH status can be: A facility that was a CAH with not more than 50 beds or a subsection (d) hospital with not more than 50 beds that is considered as being located in a rural area. Details regarding these specifications are outlined in the [CY 2023 Outpatient Prospective Payment System \(OPPS\)/ Ambulatory Surgical Center \(ASC\) Payment System Proposed Rule](#), Section XVI.

Question 2: What is the starting date for the mandatory reporting period for OP-40, the ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM)?

The data submission deadline for eCQMs will be May 15th. However, if the submission deadline falls on a nonwork day, that is, occurring on a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday, or on any other day all in part of which is declared to be a nonwork day for Federal employees may be moved to the first day that is not a nonwork day. For example, if May 15th falls on a Saturday, the deadline would be moved to Monday, May 17th. Data submission for the voluntary period for OP-40 will begin with the calendar year (CY) 2023 reporting period with mandatory reporting beginning with CY 2024 reporting period/CY 2026 payment determination.

Question 3: Will CMS publicly report the data submitted during the voluntarily reporting period for OP-37 a–e, Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems Outpatient and Ambulatory Surgery Survey (OAS CARPS), and OP-40?

Yes, CMS may publicly report any data submitted, required or voluntary.

Question 4: What is the website for public comment on REHs?

You can submit comments by clicking the green *Submit a Formal Comment* box on the *Federal Register* page that features the proposed rule: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/07/26/2022-15372/medicare-program-hospital-outpatient-prospective-payment-and-ambulatory-surgical-center-payment>.

Question 5: Where can we obtain specifications for the OP-40 STEMI eCQM?



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Information on this measure can be found on the Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement (eCQI) Resource Center website:

<https://ecqi.healthit.gov/eh-oqr-ecqms>