
42 C.F.R. § 418.312

Data submission requirements under the hospice quality reporting program.

- (a) *General rule.* Except as provided in paragraph (g) of this section, Medicare-certified hospices must submit to CMS data on measures selected under section 1814(i)(5)(C) of the Act in a form and manner, and at a time, specified by the Secretary.
- (b) *Submission of Hospice Quality Reporting Program data.* (1) Standardized set of admission and discharge items
Hospices are required to complete and submit an admission Hospice Item Set (HIS) and a discharge HIS for each patient to capture patient-level data, regardless of payer or patient age. The HIS is a standardized set of items intended to capture patient-level data.
- (2) Administrative data, such as Medicare claims data, used for hospice quality measures to capture services throughout the hospice stay, are required and fulfill the HQR requirements for § 418.306(b).
- (3) CMS may remove a quality measure from the Hospice QRP based on one or more of the following factors:
- (i) Measure performance among hospices is so high and unvarying that meaningful distinctions in improvements in performance can no longer be made.
- (ii) Performance or improvement on a measure does not result in better patient outcomes.
- (iii) A measure does not align with current clinical guidelines or practice.
- (iv) The availability of a more broadly applicable (across settings, populations, or conditions) measure for the particular topic.
- (v) The availability of a measure that is more proximal in time to desired patient outcomes for the particular topic.

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