

The Least You Need to Know:

CMS has updated their Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP) tools and website. CMS has established a multi-faceted quality reporting program. These measures come from the Hospice Item Set, claims measures and the Hospice CAHPS survey feedback. Monitoring these measures, and the future of these measures is vital to the hospice's success.

HOPE Assessment

CMS has updated their HQRP manual with more information regarding the HOPE assessment testing, the formation of a "Special Program" for agencies who need more survey oversight and the updates to the Care Compare Website with your hospice's public data.

February 2023 Care Compare Refresh

The next Care Compare Refresh will take place in February 2023.

This Refresh will include:

- HIS quality measure results from Quarter 2 2021 – Quarter 1 2022.
- CAHPS® Hospice Survey data reflecting Q4 2019 and Q3 2020 – Q1 2022, for updating Star Ratings and measure scores.
- Claims-based measure results reflecting Q3 2019 – Q4 2019 and Q3 2020 – Q4 2021.

Q & As

The HQRP manual updates also include Q&As, which can be very helpful operationally. This quarter's update included this question regarding the HIS and palliative care patients:

Question 3:

Our hospice is now serving Palliative Care patients. Do I need to submit and HIS Admission and Discharge for those patients?

Answer 3:

Per the HIS Manual <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/his-manual-v300022321.pdf> page 1-6, the guidance is as follows.

Please Note: This document is not intended to be used as a guidance document as the information it contains may be time-limited. Please check the HQRP Announcements and Spotlight webpage at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/QualityInitiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Hospice-Quality-Reporting/Spotlight.html> for all updates related to the HQRP.

For the purposes of completing the HIS, a patient is considered admitted to a hospice if the following conditions are met:

- 1 There is a signed election statement (or other agreement for care for non-Medicare patients).
- 2 The patient did not expire before the effective date of the election or agreement for care.
- 3 The hospice made a visit in the setting where hospice services are to be initiated. All three criteria listed above must be met for the patient to be considered admitted for the purposes of HIS reporting. Unless your palliative care patients are being admitted to hospice services, there is no requirement for HIS submission.



Actions of a Prudent Hospice™

ONE. Review and download the CMS HQRP manual and updates.

TWO. Set a reminder for your calendar to ensure you don't miss the next update in April!

THREE. Sign up to receive the CMS Hospice Quality contractor's (Swingtech's) quarterly emails. Add or update the email addresses to which these messages are sent by sending an email to QRPHelp@swingtech.com. Be sure to include your facility name and CMS Certification Number (CCN) along with any requested updates.

Links to More Information

CMS HQRP most recent update:

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/hqrp2022quarter4updatepdf.pdf>

The CMS HQRP website:

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Hospice-Quality-Reporting/HQRP-Requirements-and-Best-Practices>

