



Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP)



Help Desk Questions and Answers: Quarter 1, 2024

Word cloud reflects frequency of keywords for questions received during the quarter.

The HQRP Help Desk responded to 88 questions in the first quarter of 2024. This quarter covers questions received between January 1 and March 31, 2024. The questions below reflect newer and/or more frequent questions.

Question 1:

Change in Diagnosis after Hospice Admission

Do you need to submit a HIS record modification if the terminal diagnosis changed from one benefit period to the next?

Answer 1:

This change does not necessarily warrant any modification since it is not “correction” of an erroneous record. Section I. of the HIS asks for one of three diagnoses, 01. Cancer; 02. Dementia/Alzheimer’s; or 99. None of the above.

Based on the HIS Manual, Item-Specific Instructions, this item should be completed based on the patient’s principal diagnosis at the time of admission to hospice.

Question 2:

February Hospice Provider Preview Report

It seems like the claims-based measure [Hospice care Index (HCI)] information did not update from our previous Provider Preview Report. Can you explain why?

Answer 2:

For the claims-based measures such as HCI and Hospice Visits last Days of Life (HVLDL) these are only updated annually, each November. The data will not change again until November, 2024.

Question 3:

Hospice-Level Quality Measure Report

I am able to print the Hospice-Level Quality Measure Report monthly in CASPER to show me the updated information for the HIS quality measure, Hospice and Palliative Care Composite Process Measure – Comprehensive Assessment at Admission (CBE #3235).

However, for the claims-based begin and end date, the default is 2017-2019 and I am not able to change this date to anything more recent than 2022. How can I search for the most up to date results?

Answer 3:

The system will only allow you to change the date to 2022. This is because these data for claims-based measures are delayed since they are derived from the Medicare claims data that hospices submit. Claims-based measures cover a two-year period and are only updated each year in November; thus, you will not see updated data for these measures until November 2024.

Information about the refresh dates for each type of measure is located here:

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/quality/hospice/public-reporting-key-dates-providers>.