

# 2019 Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) Public Reporting Archives

December 12, 2019

Quarterly Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Compare refresh - Now Available

The **December 2019** quarterly Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Compare refresh is now available. This IRF Compare update reflects quality data submitted by IRFs between **Quarter 2 – 2018 and Quarter 1 – 2019**. CMS has additionally included the annual update to the *Discharge to Community* quality measure.

As a reminder, data for the quality measure *Percent of Residents or Patients that have New or Worsened Pressure Ulcers (short stay)*, will continue to reflect data collected between Quarter 4 2017 – Quarter 3 2018. This data will continue to be publicly displayed until such time as the new *Changes in Skin Integrity Post-Acute Care: Pressure Ulcer/Injury*, is publicly displayed in fall 2020, as finalized in the FY 2018 IRF PPS Final Rule.

As of the December 2019 refresh, CMS will no longer publicly display the *National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Facility-wide Inpatient Hospital-onset Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) Bacteremia* outcome measure, as finalized in the FY 2019 IRF PPS Final Rule.

In summary, the following quality measures will be displayed on IRF Compare during the December 2019 refresh:

- Percent of residents or patients with pressure ulcers that are new or worsened (short stay)
  - Q3 2017 – Q2 2018 (7/01/2017 – 6/30/2018)
- Percent of Residents Experiencing One or More Falls with Major Injury (Long Stay)
  - Q2 2018 – Q1 2019 (4/01/18 – 3/31/2019)
- Application of Percent of Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Patients With an Admission and Discharge Functional Assessment and a Care Plan That Addresses Function
  - Q2 2018 – Q1 2019 (4/01/2018 – 3/31/2019)
- National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI) outcome measure
  - Q1 2018 – Q4 2018 (1/01/2018 -- 12/31/2018)
- National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Facility-wide Inpatient Hospital-Onset Clostridium difficile Infection (CDI) outcome measure
  - Q1 2018 – Q4 2018 (1/01/2018 -- 12/31/2018)
- Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Healthcare Personnel
  - Q3 2016 – Q2 2017 (7/01/2016 -- 6/30/2017)
- Percent of residents or patients who were assessed and appropriately given the seasonal influenza vaccine (short stay)
  - Q3 2016 – Q2 2017 (7/01/2016 -- 6/30/2017)
- Potentially Preventable 30-Day Post-Discharge Readmission Measure for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program
  - Q4 2016 – Q3 2018 (10/1/2016 – 9/30/2018)
- Potentially Preventable Within Stay Readmission Measure for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities Quality Reporting Program

- Q4 2016 – Q3 2018 (10/1/2016 – 9/30/2018)
- **New!** Discharge to Community-Post Acute Care (PAC) Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program
  - Q4 2015 – Q3 2017 (10/01/2015 and 09/30/2017)
- Medicare Spending Per Beneficiary Post Acute Care (PAC) Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program
  - Q4 2016 – Q3 2018 (10/1/2016 – 9/30/2018)

Please visit the [IRF Compare website](#) to view the updated quality data.

For additional information related to the annual update of the IRF *Discharge to Community* quality measure, please view the associated [Fact Sheet \(PDF\)](#) and/or [FAQ \(PDF\)](#) documents.

## December 9, 2019

### IRF Provider Preview Reports- Now Available

Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Provider Preview Reports have been updated and are now available. The data contained within the Preview Reports is based on quality data submitted by IRFs between **Quarter 3 – 2018 and Quarter 2 – 2019**, and reflects what will be published on IRF Compare during the **March 2020** refresh of the website. Providers have 30 days (12/9/19 to 1/9/20) to review their performance data. Corrections to the underlying data will not be permitted during this time; however, providers can request CMS review of their data during the preview period if they believe the quality measure scores that are displayed within their Preview Reports are inaccurate.

As a reminder, data for the quality measure Percent of Residents or Patients that have New or Worsened Pressure Ulcers (short stay), will continue to reflect data collected between Quarter 3 2017 – Quarter 2 2018. This data will continue to be publicly displayed until such time as the new *Changes in Skin Integrity Post-Acute Care: Pressure Ulcer/Injury*, is publicly displayed in fall 2020, as finalized in the FY 2018 IRF PPS Final Rule.

As of the March 2020 refresh, CMS will no longer publicly display the measure *Percent of residents or patients who were assessed and appropriately given the seasonal influenza vaccine (short stay)*, as finalized in the FY 2019 IRF PPS Final Rule. This change is reflected in your preview reports.

IRFs can access their preview report by logging in to iQIES at <https://iqies.cms.gov/>. At the main screen, select Reports; then 'My Reports'.

### For more information:

- [IRF Compare](#)

### IRF Compare Quarterly Refresh

The **September 2019** quarterly Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Compare refresh is now available. CMS will be implementing our annual update to the IRF QRP claims-based quality measures during this refresh, which will include the inaugural posting of IRF performance scores on the *Potentially Preventable Readmissions* and *Potentially Preventable Within-Stay Readmissions* measures, as previously communicated. In addition, CMS will no longer be refreshing the data for the measure, *Percentage of Residents/Patients that have New or Worsened Pressure Ulcers (short stay)* (NQF #0678), as IRF data collection for this measure ceased on October 1, 2018. Instead, CMS will continue to display performance scores on this measure based on data collected between Quarter 3 2017 – Quarter 2 2018, until such time as the new quality

measure *Changes in Skin Integrity Post-Acute Care: Pressure Ulcer/Injury*, is publicly displayed, as finalized in the FY 2018 IRF PPS Final Rule.

Due to technical issues, we have decided not to update the IRF *Discharge to Community* measure at this time, and will instead target the December 2019 refresh of IRF Compare to display the annual updates to this measure.

In summary, the following quality measures will be displayed on IRF Compare during the September 2019 refresh:

- Percent of residents or patients with pressure ulcers that are new or worsened (short stay)
  - Q3 2017 – Q2 2018 (7/01/2017 – 6/30/2018)
- Percent of Residents Experiencing One or More Falls with Major Injury (Long Stay)
  - Q1 2018 – Q4 2018 (1/01/2018 – 12/31/2018)
- Application of Percent of Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Patients With an Admission and Discharge Functional Assessment and a Care Plan That Addresses Function
  - Q1 2018 – Q4 2018 (1/01/2018 – 12/31/2018)
- National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI) outcome measure
  - Q4 2017 – Q3 2018 (10/01/2017 -- 9/30/2018)
- National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Facility-wide Inpatient Hospital-Onset Clostridium difficile Infection (CDI) outcome measure
  - Q4 2017 – Q3 2018 (10/01/2017 -- 9/30/2018)
- National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Facility-wide Inpatient Hospital-onset Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) Bacteremia outcome measure
  - Q4 2017 – Q3 2018 (10/01/2017 -- 9/30/2018)
- Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Healthcare Personnel
  - Q3 2016 – Q2 2017 (7/01/2016 -- 6/30/2017)
- Percent of residents or patients who were assessed and appropriately given the seasonal influenza vaccine (short stay)
  - Q3 2016 – Q2 2017 (7/01/2016 -- 6/30/2017)
- **New!** Potentially Preventable 30-Day Post-Discharge Readmission Measure for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program
  - Q4 2016 – Q3 2018 (10/1/2016 – 9/30/2018)
- **New!** Potentially Preventable Within Stay Readmission Measure for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities Quality Reporting Program
  - Q4 2016 – Q3 2018 (10/1/2016 – 9/30/2018)
- Discharge to Community-Post Acute Care (PAC) Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program
  - Q4 2015 – Q3 2017 (10/01/2015 and 09/30/2017)
- **Annual Update!** Medicare Spending Per Beneficiary Post Acute Care (PAC) Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program
  - Q4 2016 – Q3 2018 (10/1/2016 – 9/30/2018)

Please visit the [IRF Compare website](#) to view the updated quality data.

For additional information related to the Potentially Preventable Readmissions Measure, please view the associated [Fact Sheet \(PDF\)](#) and/or [FAQ \(PDF\)](#) documents.

For additional information related to the annual update of the IRF Discharge to Community quality measure, please view the associated [Fact Sheet \(PDF\)](#) and/or [FAQ \(PDF\)](#) documents.

## September 11, 2019

### IRF Provider Preview Reports- Now Available

Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Provider Preview Reports have been updated and are now available. The data contained within the Preview Reports is based on quality data submitted by IRFs between **Quarter 2 – 2018 and Quarter 1 – 2019**, and reflects what will be published on IRF Compare during the **December 2019** refresh of the website. Providers have 30 days (9/11/19 to 10/11/19) to review their performance data. Corrections to the underlying data will not be permitted during this time; however, providers can request CMS review of their data during the preview period if they believe the quality measure scores that are displayed within their Preview Reports are inaccurate.

As a reminder, data for the quality measure Percent of Residents or Patients that have New or Worsened Pressure Ulcers (short stay), will continue to reflect data collected between Quarter 3 2017 – Quarter 2 2018. This data will continue to be publicly displayed until such time as the new *Changes in Skin Integrity Post-Acute Care: Pressure Ulcer/Injury*, is publicly displayed in fall 2020, as finalized in the FY 2018 IRF PPS Final Rule.

As of the December 2019 refresh, CMS will no longer publicly display the *National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Facility-wide Inpatient Hospital-onset Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) Bacteremia* outcome measure, as finalized in the FY 2019 IRF PPS Final Rule. This change is reflected in your preview reports.

#### For more information:

- [IRF Compare](#) and [Preview Report Access Instructions \(PDF\)](#)

## June 10, 2019

### IRF Provider Preview Reports- Now Available

Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Provider Preview Reports have been updated and are now available. The data contained within the Preview Reports is based on quality data submitted by IRFs between **Quarter 4 – 2017 and Quarter 3 – 2018** and reflects what will be published on IRF Compare during the **September 2019** refresh of the website. Providers have until July 10, 2019 to review their performance data. Corrections to the underlying data will not be permitted during this time; however, providers can request CMS review of their data during the preview period if they believe the quality measure scores that are displayed within their Preview Reports are inaccurate.

Beginning with the September 2019 refresh, CMS will publicly display measure results on the IRF Compare website for the following two measures: the Potentially Preventable 30-Day Post-Discharge Readmissions and Potentially Preventable Within-Stay Readmissions measures adopted for the IRF Quality Reporting Program (QRP). We postponed publishing these measures in late 2018 to allow more testing to ensure they provide a reliable, accurate picture of provider performance on quality, in line with CMS's Meaningful Measures Initiative to address high-priority areas for quality measurement with measures that will help improve patient outcomes while minimizing provider burden. We have since completed this additional testing and have refined the method for assigning providers to performance categories, in which their performance level is compared to the national rate. IRF performance data for these measures will be included for the first time on this preview report.

CMS is additionally previewing the Discharge to Community (DTC) measure for the first time, using updated methodology for assigning categorical ratings to each provider based on their performance on this measure (better than, same as, or worse than the national average).

**For more information on:**

- The IRF data referenced in the above messaging, we invite you to view the [IRF Quality Public Reporting](#) webpage, [IRF Compare](#), and/or [Preview Report Access Instructions \(PDF\)](#)
- Potentially Preventable Readmissions measures, we invite you to view our related **Fact Sheet** and **Q & A** documents on the [IRF QRP Public Reporting webpage](#), under the Downloads section
- The newly updated methodology used to assign categorical ratings to providers with respect to their performance on the DTC measure, as referenced above, we invite you to view our related **Fact Sheet** and **Q & A** documents on the [IRF QRP Public Reporting webpage](#), under the Downloads section

**June 05, 2019**

**IRF Compare Quarterly Refresh**

The **June 2019** quarterly Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Compare refresh, including updated quality measure results based on data submitted to CMS between **Quarter 3 2017 – Quarter 2 2018**, is now available.

Please visit the [IRF Compare website](#) to view the updated quality data.

**May 31, 2019**

**Update of the Discharge to Community Measure for the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP)**

The IRF DTC measure was first displayed on the IRF Compare website in fall 2018 and will be refreshed in fall 2019. CMS has refined the statistical methodology for assigning providers to performance categories for public display to align with the Potentially Preventable Readmissions measures in the PAC QRPs and the Hospital-Wide Readmission measure in the Inpatient QRP. This refinement results in greater variation in provider performance categories, allowing better discernment of providers that underperform or overperform considerably compared with the national rate. The refinement will be reflected for the first time in the fall 2019 Quarterly Refresh for the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Compare website, and the related August 2019 IRF Provider Preview Reports.

**Background**

- The Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation Act of 2014 (IMPACT Act) directed the Secretary to specify and publicly report measures reflecting successful discharge to community for use in the IRF QRP.
- The IRF QRP DTC measure was finalized in the Fiscal Year 2017 IRF PPS Final Rule. Confidential feedback reports were distributed to IRF providers in fall 2017 and the measures were first displayed on the IRF Compare website in fall 2018.
- For the fall 2019 public display refresh of the DTC measure, and in future years, CMS has refined the method by which we assign providers to performance categories to align with the claims-based Potentially Preventable Readmissions measures in the IRF QRP and the Hospital-Wide Readmission measure in the Inpatient QRP.
- Our revised methodology results in greater variation in performance categories, allowing better discernment of provider performance, including those that underperform or overperform considerably compared with the national rate. This refinement will be reflected in the fall 2019 Quarterly Refresh of the IRF Compare website, as well as the August 2019 IRF Provider Preview Reports.

**May 30, 2019**

### **Publication of Potentially Preventable Readmission Measures for the Post-Acute Care Quality Reporting Programs (QRPs)**

Beginning fall 2019, CMS will publicly display measure results on the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Compare website for the following two measures: the Potentially Preventable 30-Day Post-Discharge Readmissions and Potentially Preventable Within-Stay Readmissions measures adopted for the Inpatient

Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP). We postponed publishing these measures in late 2018 to allow more testing to ensure they provide a reliable, accurate picture of provider performance on quality, in line with CMS's Meaningful Measures Initiative to address high-priority areas for quality measurement with measures that will help improve patient outcomes while minimizing provider burden. We have since completed this additional testing and have refined the method for assigning providers to performance categories, in which their performance level is compared to the national rate.

#### **Background**

- The Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation (IMPACT) Act of 2014 directs the Secretary to specify a measure that reflects all-condition risk-adjusted potentially preventable hospital readmission rates for use in the IRF QRP. The IMPACT Act also requires the Secretary to publicly report provider performance on resource use and other measures, including measures to reflect all-condition risk-adjusted potentially preventable hospital readmission measures.
- CMS developed a potentially preventable 30-day readmission measure for the IRF QRP to meet the resource use and other measures domain as mandated by the IMPACT Act. CMS also developed a potentially preventable within-stay measure for the IRF QRP.
- Since potentially preventable readmission rates are relatively low, we conducted additional testing to ensure that these measures reliably assess a provider's performance on quality. We postponed publishing these measures while we were conducting this additional testing.
- We have since completed our additional testing and will publish these measures on the IRF Compare website for the September 2019 IRF Compare Quarterly Refresh.
- As a result of the additional testing, we have refined our method for assigning providers to performance categories, which indicate their level of performance compared to the national rate. This refinement will also be reflected in both the September 2019 IRF Compare Quarterly Refresh and the June 2019 Provider Preview Reports.

**March 6, 2019**

#### **IRF Compare Quarterly Refresh**

The March 2019 quarterly Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Compare refresh, including updated quality measure results based on data submitted to CMS between Quarter 2 2017 – Quarter 1 2018, is now available.

Please visit the [IRF Compare website](#) to view the updated quality data.

**March 4, 2019** IRF Provider Preview Reports- Now Available

Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Provider Preview Reports have been updated and are now available. The data contained within the Preview Reports is based on quality data submitted by IRFs between Quarter 3 – 2017 and Quarter 2 – 2018, and reflects what will be published on IRF Compare during the June 2019 refresh of the website. Providers have until April 3, 2019 to review their performance data. Corrections to the underlying data will not be permitted during this time; however, providers can request CMS review of their data

during the preview period if they believe the quality measure scores that are displayed within their Preview Reports are inaccurate.

**For more information:**

- [IRF Compare](#) and [Preview Report Access Instructions \(PDF\)](#)