

Component 11: Configuring EHRs

Unit 2: Meaningful Use of the Electronic Health Record (EHR) Lecture 3

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Quality Measure Terminology

- NQF – National Quality Forum
- HQA – Hospital Quality Alliance
- CMS PQRI – Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Physician Quality Reporting Initiative
- AQA – Ambulatory Care Quality Alliance
- EH – Eligible Hospitals
- RHQDAPU - Reporting Hospital Quality Data for Annual Payment Update
- EP – Eligible Professionals

Component 11/Unit 2-3

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2

Quality Measures Definition

- Measures of processes, experience, and/or outcomes of patient care, observations or treatment that relate to one or more quality aims for health care such as effective, safe, efficient, patient-centered, equitable, and timely care.

Component 11/Unit 2-3

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Version 2.0/Spring 2011

3

Stage 1 Meaningful Use 2011 payment year

- Infrastructure for electronic exchange of structured data not currently available
- Low threshold requirements for lab data in structured format
- Not anticipated that HHS will have the capability to accept data on quality measures from EHRs for the 2011 payment year

Component 11/Unit 2-3

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4

2012 Payment Year

- Expected that EPs will be required to submit clinical quality measures electronically
- Important to the overall goal of the HITECH Act to improve quality of care

Component 11/Unit 2-3

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5

Selection of Quality Measures

- HITECH Act requires preference given to measures through an organization contracted by HHS and those selected for the RHQDAPU program
- HHS awarded contract to NQF
- Preference given to quality measures endorsed by NQF
 - For EPs includes measures previously selected for PQRI program
 - For EHRs includes measures selected for the RHQDAPU program

Component 11/Unit 2-3

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Version 2.0/Spring 2011

6

Clinical Quality Measures EP and EH Compliance

- Eligible professionals will need to be comply with 44 clinical quality measures including the PQRI measures beginning in 2011
- Eligible Hospitals will need to comply with 15 clinical quality measures including Reporting Hospital Quality Data for Annual Payment Update (RHQDAPU) beginning in 2011

Component 11/Unit 2-3

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Version 2.0/Spring 2011

7

Future Expansion

- For 2013 payment year and beyond the measures are expected to rapidly expand
- Likely to include:
 - Pediatric measures
 - Long-term care measures
 - Obstetrics measures
 - Dental care/oral health measures
 - Mental health and substance abuse measures

Component 11/Unit 2-3

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Version 2.0/Spring 2011

8

Reporting Methods

- In 2011 use attestation that the data elements are captured within a certified EHR
 - Attest to the accuracy and completeness of the numerators, denominators and exclusions
- In 2012 submit summary information (not personally identifiable) on the clinical quality measures using certified EHR technology

Component 11/Unit 2-3

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Version 2.0/Spring 2011

9
