NACOR Vendor News
Monday, March 5, 2018

Quality reporting reconciliation process underway

AQI staff has started the quality reporting reconciliation process for practices, in which AQI compares Eligible Clinician (EC) types reported on a practice's order form with information contained in a practice's data file.

For each data file submitted, AQI confirms the membership status of each EC to determine if s/he is eligible to receive the ASA member benefit rate for NACOR Quality Reporting. AQI then counts the number of all EC categories (i.e., ASA Member and non-member physician anesthesiologists, ASA Educational Member and non-member care team staff, and ASA Educational Member and non-member Independent CRNAs) and compares them to information provided in the practice's order form.

A practice will receive an invoice, if applicable, for the difference between the numbers provided on the original orders and data submitted to AQI. Payments must be received by March 16.

Register for 2018 NACOR quality reporting

Quality reporting practices can now begin the enrollment process for 2018 NACOR Quality Reporting by completing the new online order form. AQI's NACOR quality reporting options include Quality Concierge and NACOR Standard. NACOR Basic does not include quality reporting.

2018 QCDR measure specifications approved

The 2018 QCDR Measure Specifications were approved by CMS in January. The booklet includes QCDR measures for 2018 reporting, changes made to AQI's NACOR 2017 measure specifications in preparation for the 2018 performance year, as well as measures that were removed from AQI's 2018 NACOR measure set.

Change in ID number for 2018 measure: New Corneal Injury Not Diagnosed Prior to Discharge

AQI received notification from CMS that the measure ID number for AQI 28 – New Corneal Injury Not Diagnosed Prior to Discharge has been assigned a new ID number for 2018 – AQI 60. Please make the appropriate change for data collection and submission.

2018 XML schema changes

AQI has made modifications to improve the NACOR XML schema for 2018. The changes will allow reporting of a few retired measures that practices wish to track internally, but not send to CMS. AQI has designated those retired measures as Internal Improvement Measures (IIM) and will provide a measure specification booklet in 2nd quarter 2018 to list which measures will be supported.

In 2017, the Committee on Data Definitions focused on defining several comorbidities. It was decided to report those via ICD codes supplemented by registry codes in the PreOpICD node set. To that end, the XML Schema has been updated to permit registry codes with ICD codes.

AQI also has recognized some errors practices receive when submitting files, including sections that were out of order according to the schema. AQI has relaxed some requirements pertaining to the order in which sections of data are listed for each Anesthesia Record.

AQI intends to require all schema changes be made by April 1. Data may be submitted using either format for the first quarter of 2018 for either 2017 or 2018 data. AQI will follow up with another announcement denoting the exact date when 2018 schema may first be used. AQI will update the AQI website shortly with 2018 schema information, as well as an updated XML validation tool. For more information, email askaqi@asahq.org.

2018 quality reporting resources
Updates to 2018 Quality Reporting resources are in process. All updates will be posted no later than March 30, including updates to the Developers Resource page (schema information and the XML validator). Stay tuned for more information.

2017 NACOR Quality Reporting Deadlines

~~01/31/2018~~	~~January – November 2017 Data Submission~~
~~02/19/2018~~	~~All Data Submissions;~~
	~~In NACOR Dashboard:~~
	~~CMS Opt-Out~~
	~~TIN/NPI Reconciliation~~
~~02/28/2018~~	~~Individual Quality Reporting Consent Submission~~
03/16/2018	If a practice does not pay its final invoice in full by this date, the practice's data may not be submitted to CMS.