

QCDR FAQ's of the Week

4/20/2015

PQRS Measure 193 and ASA Measure 18 can both be reported for 2015. The difference between the 2 measures is that ASA 18 lowers the acceptable threshold to 35.5 degrees but removes the option of passing the measure by documenting efforts to maintain temperature in the OR. The new temperature threshold is more consistent with the clinical literature.

4/17/2015

AQI ran a Physician Quality Reporting in 2015 webinar last week. We received many questions that have been answered in the attached document. If you missed the webinar last week you can view it [here](#). You can find the slides from the webinar attached as well.

4/6/2015-none, webinar occurred on 4/9/2015.

4/2/2015

For 2015 there are a total of 36 measures available to report through QCDR – 9 PQRS measures and 27 non-PQRS measures. Details about the measures can be found on the AQI website on the QCDR page. When selecting 9 measures to report you may choose from the PQRS and non-PQRS measures.

3/30/2015-none

3/16/2015

The 2015 QCDR non-PQRS measures specifications will be posted publicly on the AQI website Monday, March 27, 2015.

3/10/2015

If I already participate in submitting data to AQI, do I still need an agreement with ASA?

Yes, you must sign a purchase agreement with ASA outlining the memberships and QCDR services you are purchasing for your practice. There is also an AQI QCDR agreement authorizing AQI to send your data to CMS. If you have not signed the ASA QCDR agreement AND the AQI QCDR agreement then your group is not participating in PQRS reporting to CMS for 2015. [Visit asahq.org/qcdr](http://asahq.org/qcdr) for more information on how to begin the process for reporting via the QCDR for 2015.

If you begin submitting data to AQI but still have not signed the QCDR agreements for ASA and AQI, your data will not be submitted to CMS.

3/2/2015

What are the requirements for successful participation in PQRS using a QCDR?

To successfully participate in 2015 PQRS (to avoid a -2% penalty adjustment in 2017) using a QCDR, an individual eligible professional must report on 9 measures across 3 National Quality Strategy domains, including two outcomes measures, for 50% of all patient cases related to the measure. Measures reported can be a combination of PQRs and non-PQRS measures.

2/23/2015

Our group is reporting claims and PQRS data to NACOR. Does the AQI consider them to be a participant in your QCDR service?

Participating in AQI does not constitute QCDR or PQRS reporting through the AQI to CMS. Groups must sign up with the ASA QCDR in order to participate in PQRS reporting through AQI. Groups need to sign up for PQRS reporting through the ASA QCDR service - <http://www.asahq.org/qcdr>. ASA is offering this as a member benefit (free to members). Groups who wish to report on EP's who are not ASA members would buy this service from ASA. AQI then collects the data from the group, provides feedback to the group, and submits the data to CMS on behalf of the group and EP's.

2/16/2015

A QCDR (Qualified Clinical Data Registry) is a CMS-approved entity that collects quality measures across multiple payers (Medicare and non-Medicare) for PQRS (Physician Quality Reporting System). QCDR is one of the reporting mechanisms available within PQRS. Other methods of reporting PQRS measures are:

- [Claims](#)
- [Qualified Registry](#)
- [Direct EHR](#) (Electronic Health Record) Product or EHR Data Submission Vendor Product
- [Group Practice Reporting Option](#) (GPRO) via GPRO Web Interface
- Group Practice Reporting Option (GPRO) via Qualified Registry or EHR

2/10/2015

There are two components to consider when selecting PQRS/QCQR measures to report:

- Denominator – describes the eligible cases for a measure or the eligible patient population. Denominators are identified by CPT Category I and HCPCS codes, as well as patient demographics (i.e. age or gender) and place of service (if applicable).
- Numerator – describes the specific clinical action required by the measure for performance. PQRS measure numerators are quality-data codes (QDCs) consisting of specific CPT Category II codes and/or temporary G-codes. For the non-PQRS measures (included in QCQR) the numerators are outcome values of A,B,C or D.

2/4/2015

ASA/AQI is offering PQRS reporting through the ASA's QCQR (Qualified Clinical Data Registry). AQI is approved as a QCQR not a Qualified Registry and is unable to submit GPRO reporting to CMS. Self-nomination to CMS is only required for GPRO reporting. The CMS Self-Nomination registration period is April 1, 2015-June 30,2015.

1/26/2015

The PQRS measures are aligned with NQS (National Quality Strategy) domains. The four domains that apply to anesthesia are: Person and Caregiver Centered Experience, Patient Safety, Communication and Care Coordination and Effective Clinical Care. Click [here](#) to view a list of measures by domain.

1/19/2015

A cross cutting measure refers to measures that span patient conditions, populations and settings of care. If an eligible professional sees at least 1 Medicare patient in a face to face encounter they must report on at least one cross cutting measure if reporting PQRS via claims or Qualified Registry. A cross cutting measure is NOT required if reporting through the [ASA QCQR](#).

For further questions on the ASA QCQR or where your practice stands in the process please contact [Annette Antos](#) or [Lance Mueller](#).

1/13/2015

My practice is signed up with AQI/NACOR so that is all I need to do to use AQI for PQRS reporting correct?

No, just because your practice is signed up with AQI does **NOT** mean that your data will be submitted to CMS at the end of the year for PQRS reporting. Please see below for the entire process of signing up to report via the ASA QCDR.

If you are currently an AQI participant and would like to report through the [ASA QCDR](#):

You must:

- Contact ASA at QCDR@asahq.org and an ASA representative will contact you to assist you in the process of signing up for QCDR reporting.
- Self-nominate with AQI for QCDR reporting at the beginning of 2015. Contact [Annette Antos](#) to self-nominate.
- Attend regular phone calls/meetings to ensure that AQI is receiving the proper data.
- Sign off on the regular monthly data reports that AQI will send to the practice.
- Approve the final transmission of EP performance data to CMS.

If you believe you are signed up to do QCDR reporting with AQI for 2015 but have not completed the steps above, please contact [Annette Antos](#) or [Lance Mueller](#) for assistance on ensuring you are properly signed up to report via the ASA QCDR for 2015.