



# NACOR Vendor News

Monday, December 18, 2017

## **2018 XML schema changes announced**

AQI has made a few modifications to improve the NACOR XML schema for 2018. The intention for these changes is to 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 has also 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, 2018. 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](mailto:askaqi@asahq.org).

## **For practices yet to enroll in 2017 MIPS, it's not too late to avoid the 4 percent penalty**

The 2017 Pick Your Pace, one measure/one patient, MIPS reporting option is available through NACOR's Quality Concierge (QC). Now through January, practices may enroll in QC's specially designed 2017 Pick Your Pace app, an attractive offering to practices unable to meet the standard NACOR data submission process. The service is limited to the group reporting option, and pricing will vary depending on sign-up date and ongoing contracting with QC. For more information, email [askaqi@asahq.org](mailto:askaqi@asahq.org).

## **First quality reporting deadline January 31**

Quality data from January through November 2017 must be submitted to AQI's NACOR by Wednesday, January 31, 2018.

## **Quality reporting reconciliation to begin soon**

As noted in the NACOR Standard Quality Reporting order form completed by practices at enrollment, AQI will soon begin reconciling purchased Eligible Clinician (EC) counts against actual data submitted. Please inform your practices that AQI will begin sending invoices where applicable in January, and all payments must be received by March 16, 2018.

For example, if a practice ordered quality reporting services for 10 CRNAs, but submitted data for 12 CRNAs, AQI will invoice for two additional CRNAs. If AQI does not receive payment for the two additional CRNAs by March 16, 2018, data may not be submitted to CMS.

## AQI resources available

Visit [AQI's developer resources](#) for information on quality reporting and 2017 MIPS measures. For information on technical questions, email [askaqi@asahq.org](mailto:askaqi@asahq.org). For information about regulatory and measure-related questions, email [gra@asahq.org](mailto:gra@asahq.org).

### 2017 NACOR Quality Reporting Deadlines

<b>12/15/2017</b>	<b>Enrollment in Merging and/or Formatting Services</b>
<b>01/31/2018</b>	January – November 2017 Data Submission
<b>02/01/2018</b>	Fully Executed Participation Agreement for 2017 Pick Your Pace Limited Service (i.e., NACOR Quality Concierge 90-day or 1 measure/1 case option, determined on a case-by-case basis, depending on complexity of the practice)
<b>02/15/2018</b>	All Data Submissions;  In NACOR Dashboard:  CMS Opt-Out  TIN/NPI Reconciliation  Improvement Activity Attestation
<b>02/28/2018</b>	Individual Quality Reporting Consent Submission
<b>03/16/2018</b>	If a practice does not pay its final invoice in full by this date, the practice's data may not be submitted to CMS.