



RQRS DATA VALIDATION

Requisite Data Requirements

Every case submitted to the Rapid Quality Reporting System (RQRS) undergoes an assessment to ensure all required data items are complete and all fields contain valid codes. All data items included in submitted cases must be coded following the principles set forth in the FORDS manual (<http://www.facs.org/cancer/coc/fordsmanual.html>). Data submissions are expected to be accurate, complete and timely. Timely abstracting and case reporting allows for a rapid assessment of data accuracy and increased confidence in the validity of the calculated measure performance rates. RQRS checks for acceptable codes and logical relationships between data items to ensure cases are analyzed based on interpretable data. The validity of requisite data items is necessary to determine measure applicability, ascertain whether cases qualify for the denominator of a measure, satisfy the numerator criteria, and ultimately the measure concordance status of each submitted case.

Data Quality Checks and Flags

Cases submitted to RQRS with invalid codes or illogical code combinations are flagged as either having 'Data Quality Problems' or as having been 'Rejected', depending upon either the breadth or the severity of the issues identified. On-line reports are provided to prompt registry review of these cases.

If data items required to assess denominator eligibility of a case contain missing, unknown or invalid codes, these cases are flagged as 'Incomplete' and stored in a folder in the RQRS *Case Lists* tab, pending registry review, reconciliation and re-submission. Re-submitted cases are re-assessed and attributed, as appropriate, to the measures reported in RQRS. Case reviews must be performed at the registry level and resubmitted to RQRS to ensure that all appropriate validation checks are applied. 'Incomplete' cases should be reviewed and reconciled to ensure that measure rate calculations accurately reflect the number of cases in the measure denominator. RQRS does not support the ability to edit case content directly.

Cases pending adjuvant treatment within the time-to-treatment threshold of a specific measure will impact computed performance rates either as information documenting the initiation of therapy becomes known and reported to RQRS, or as the time-to-treatment threshold expires and RQRS presumes the standard of care adjuvant therapy was not administered. Participating programs must actively monitor the treatment status of all cases to ensure that documented treatment information is updated in their cancer registry in a timely and accurate manner and re-submitted to RQRS to ensure that calculated performance rates accurately reflect the clinical management of their patients.



Performance Rate Calculations

Year to date performance rates displayed in the RQRS dials are re-calculated and updated on a nightly basis. These rates allow programs the opportunity to quickly gauge their approximate current performance. Case corrections or updates included in data file submissions from participating programs will be included in these nightly recalculations. Case corrections or updates may result in the re-designation of cases after edits are completed and treatment information is re-assessed. Additionally, the nightly rate recalculation incorporates information from newly reported cases as they are included in submission files received from participating programs. All cases where the treatment window lapses without a report of either the administration of anticipated adjuvant treatment, or its consideration, will be designated as non-concordant, and may negatively affect a program's computed performance rates. Discovered treatment information can be reported for cases designated as non-concordant, and the concordance status may be changed, as appropriate, based on the measure specifications.

PCHQR Specific Information*

Nightly rate re-calculation will have the potential to impact the measure rates up until the published Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) submission deadlines. PCHQR programs must allow sufficient time to complete case reviews and execute file submissions in advance of the published CMS submission deadlines. Once each CMS submission deadline passes the rates for all applicable measures will be locked-down and will not be impacted by the (re)submission of cases to RQRS. CMS will receive the measure denominators, numerators and performance rates in RQRS on the morning of the CMS submission deadline.

**All items referenced in the PCHQR section are in accordance with Section 3005 of Public Law 111-148, which provides for the establishment of a quality reporting program for PPS-Exempt cancer hospitals with respect to FY 2014 and for subsequent program years (Federal Register, Vol. 77 (170), 8/31/2012, p. 53271).*

*RQRS Data Validation
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