



## July 13, 2021 - Dialysis Facility Data on Medicare.gov National Provider Call Questions and Answers

The questions below were received during the July 13 Dialysis Facility Data on Medicare.gov National Provider Call. Questions were submitted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) via the chat box and answered either over the phone during the webinar or subsequent to the webinar by CMS subject matter experts, as part of the question and answer commitment for the remaining submitted questions not answered during the webinar.

Question: Is it correct that a facility's star rating will not be updated in Spring 2022?

Response: That is correct.

Question: When will the facility star ratings be reset to the bell curve distribution?

Response: As of now, the earliest they would be reset is October 2022, but that date may change in the future.

Question: Will the Standardized Hospitalization Ratio (SHR) revision include incident comorbidities from the CMS-2728?

Response: Yes, the SHR will continue to include the incident comorbidities on the 2728.

Question: Will the Standardized Mortality Ratio (SMR) revision include incident comorbidities from the CMS-2728?

Response: Yes, the SMR will continue to include the incident comorbidities on the 2728.

Question: Am I to understand that patients with Medicare Advantage plans are not to be entered into CROWNWeb?

Response: The successor to CROWNweb is the End-stage Renal Disease Quality Reporting System (EQRS), and all dialysis patients should have their data entered into EQRS. The reason that Medicare Advantage patients don't show up in some measures is because they relies on claims and data that are outside of the EQRS/CROWNweb system, and that's why the measures can't be fully calculated. But all patients should be entered into EQRS regardless of their insurance coverage.



Question: What are the "three distinct groups" of patients used in the Standardized Hospitalization Ratio (SHR) model based on time spent in a skilled nursing facility?

Response: The three groups that are evaluated by the nursing home metric are:

1. Those patients that have no nursing home exposure in the prior 365 days before the beginning of the observation period
2. Those patients that have 90 days or less nursing home exposure in the 365 days prior to the beginning of the observation period
3. Those patients that have greater than 90 days nursing home exposure in the 365 days prior to the observation period

Question: Will patient experience Star Ratings (from the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems [CAHPS] survey) also not be released in April 2022, or does that only apply to clinical star ratings?

Response: Star Ratings from the In-Center Hemodialysis (ICH) CAHPS Survey will be released in April 2022.

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