

**Quality ID #46 (NQF 0097): Medication Reconciliation Post-Discharge**  
– National Quality Strategy Domain: Communication and Care Coordination  
– Meaningful Measure Area: Medication Management

**2019 COLLECTION TYPE:**

**MIPS CLINICAL QUALITY MEASURES (CQMS)**

**MEASURE TYPE:**

Process – High Priority

**DESCRIPTION:**

The percentage of discharges from any inpatient facility (e.g. hospital, skilled nursing facility, or rehabilitation facility) for patients 18 years of age and older seen within 30 days following discharge in the office by the physician, prescribing practitioner, registered nurse, or clinical pharmacist providing on-going care for whom the discharge medication list was reconciled with the current medication list in the outpatient medical record

This measure is submitted as three rates stratified by age group:

- Submission Criteria 1: 18-64 years of age
- Submission Criteria 2: 65 years and older
- Total Rate: All patients 18 years of age and older

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be submitted at an outpatient visit occurring within 30 days of **each inpatient facility discharge date** during the performance period. This measure is appropriate for use in the ambulatory setting only. There is no diagnosis associated with this measure. This measure may be submitted by Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians who perform the quality actions described in the measure based on the services provided and the measure-specific denominator coding. This measure is not to be submitted unless a patient has been discharged from an inpatient facility within 30 days prior to the outpatient visit.

**This measure will be calculated with 3 performance rates:**

- 1) Performance Rate 1: Percentage of discharges from any inpatient facility (e.g., hospital, skilled nursing facility, or rehabilitation facility) for patients 18-64 years of age seen within 30 days following discharge in the office by the physician, prescribing practitioner, registered nurse, or clinical pharmacist providing on-going care for whom the discharge medication list was reconciled with the current medication list in the outpatient medical record
- 2) Performance Rate 2: Percentage of discharges from any inpatient facility (e.g., hospital, skilled nursing facility, or rehabilitation facility) for patients 65 years and older seen within 30 days following discharge in the office by the physician, prescribing practitioner, registered nurse, or clinical pharmacist providing on-going care for whom the discharge medication list was reconciled with the current medication list in the outpatient medical record
- 3) Total Rate (Overall Performance Rate): Percentage of discharges from any inpatient facility (e.g., hospital, skilled nursing facility, or rehabilitation facility) for patients 18 years of age and older seen within 30 days following discharge in the office by the physician, prescribing practitioner, registered nurse, or clinical pharmacist providing on-going care for whom the discharge medication list was reconciled with the current medication list in the outpatient medical record

**Measure Submission Type:**

Measure data may be submitted by individual MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third party intermediaries. The listed denominator criteria are used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator options included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions as allowed by the measure. The quality-data codes listed do not need to be submitted by MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third party intermediaries that utilize this modality for submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those third party intermediaries that utilize Medicare Part B claims data. For more information regarding Application Programming Interface (API), please refer to the Quality Payment Program (QPP) website.

**DENOMINATOR:**

All discharges from any inpatient facility (e.g., hospital, skilled nursing facility, or rehabilitation facility) for patients 18 years of age and older seen within 30 days following discharge in the office by the physician, prescribing practitioner, registered nurse, or clinical pharmacist providing on-going care

***DENOMINATOR NOTE:** This denominator is based on discharges followed by an office visit, not patients. Patients may appear in the denominator more than once if there was more than one discharge followed by an office visit in the performance period.*

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**SUBMISSION CRITERIA 1:** Patients 18-64 years of age on date of encounter

**SUBMISSION CRITERIA 2:** Patients aged 65 years and older on date of encounter

**SUBMISSION CRITERIA 3:** All Patients 18 years of age and older

**AND**

**Patient encounter during the performance period (CPT or HCPCS):** 90791, 90792, 90832, 90834, 90837, 90839, 90845, 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99324, 99325, 99326, 99327, 99328, 99334, 99335, 99336, 99337, 99341, 99342, 99343, 99344, 99345, 99347, 99348, 99349, 99350, 99495, 99496, G0402, G0438, G0439

**AND**

**Patient discharged from an inpatient facility (e.g., hospital, skilled nursing facility, or rehabilitation facility) within the last 30 days**

**AND NOT****DENOMINATOR EXCLUSION:**

**Patient had hospice services any time during the measurement period:** G9691

**NUMERATOR (SUBMISSION CRITERIA 1 & 2 & 3):**

Medication reconciliation conducted by a prescribing practitioner, clinical pharmacists or registered nurse on or within 30 days of discharge

**Definition:**

**Medication Reconciliation** – A type of review in which the discharge medications are reconciled with the most recent medication list in the outpatient medical record. Documentation in the outpatient medical record must include evidence of medication reconciliation and the date on which it was performed. Any of the following evidence meets criteria: (1) Documentation of the current medications with a notation that references the discharge medications (e.g., no changes in meds since discharge, same meds at discharge, discontinue all discharge meds), (2) Documentation of the patient's current medications with a notation that the discharge medications were reviewed, (3) Documentation that the provider "reconciled the current and discharge meds," (4) Documentation of a current medication list, a discharge medication list and notation that the appropriate practitioner type reviewed both lists on the same date of service, (5) Notation that no medications were prescribed or ordered upon discharge; (6) Documentation that patient was seen for post-discharge follow-up with evidence of medication reconciliation or review, (7) Documentation in the discharge summary that the discharge medications were reconciled with the current medications; the discharge summary must be in the outpatient chart.

**NUMERATOR NOTE:** Medication reconciliation should be completed and documented on or within 30 days of discharge. If the patient has an eligible discharge but medication reconciliation is not performed and documented within 30 days, submit **1111F with 8P**.

**Numerator Options:**

**Performance Met:**

Discharge medications reconciled with the current medication list in outpatient medical record (**1111F**)

**OR**

**Performance Not Met:**

Discharge medications not reconciled with the current medication list in outpatient medical record, reason not otherwise specified (**1111F with 8P**)

**RATIONALE:**

Medications are often changed while a patient is hospitalized. Continuity between inpatient and on-going care is essential.

**CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:**

Medication reconciliation post-discharge is an important step to catch potentially harmful omissions or changes in prescribed medications, particularly in elderly patients that are prescribed a greater quantity and variety of medications (Leape, 1991). Although the magnitude of the effect of medication reconciliation alone on patient outcomes is not well studied, there is agreement among experts that potential benefits outweigh the harm (Coleman, 2003; Pronovost, 2003; IOM, 2002; IOM, 2006). Medication reconciliation post-discharge is recommended by the Joint Commission patient safety goals (Kienle, 2008), the American Geriatric Society (Coleman, 2003), Society of Hospital Medicine (Kripalani, 2007; Grennwald, 2010), ACOVE (Assessing Care of Vulnerable Elders; Knight, 2001), and the Task Force on Medicines Partnership (2005). Additionally, measurement of medication reconciliation post-discharge has been cited by the National Quality Forum and the National Priorities Partnership as a measurement priority area (NQF, 2010)

No trials of the effects of physician acknowledgment of medications post-discharge were found. However, patients are likely to have their medications changed during a hospitalization. Estimates suggest that 46% of medication errors occur on admission or discharge from a hospital (Pronovost, 2003). Therefore, medication reconciliation is a critical piece of care coordination post-discharge for all individuals who use prescription medications. Prescription medication use is common among adults of all ages, particularly older adults and adults with chronic conditions. On average, 82% of adults in the U.S. are taking at least one medication (prescription or nonprescription, vitamin/mineral, herbal/natural supplement); 29% are taking five or more. Older adults are the biggest consumers of medications with 17-19% of people 65 and older taking at least ten medications in a given week (Slone Survey, 2006).

One observational study showed that 1.5 new medications were initiated per patient during hospitalization, and 28% of chronic medications were canceled by the time of hospital discharge. Another observational study showed that at one week post-discharge, 72% of elderly patients were taking incorrectly at least one medication started in the inpatient setting, and 32% of medications were not being taken at all. One survey study faulted the quality of discharge communication as contributing to early hospital readmission, although this study did not implicate medication discontinuity as the cause. (ACOVE)

Implementing routine medication reconciliation after discharge from an inpatient facility is an important step to ensure medication errors are addressed and patients understand their new medications. The process of resolving discrepancies in a patient's medication list reduces the risk of these adverse drug interactions being overlooked and helps physicians minimize the duplication and complexity of the patient's medication regimen (Wenger, 2004). This in turn may increase patient adherence to the medication regimen and reduce hospital readmission rates.

First, a medication list must be collected. It is important to know what medications the patient has been taking or receiving prior to the outpatient visit in order to provide quality care. This applies regardless of the setting from which the patient came home, long-term care, assisted living, etc. The medication list should include all medications (prescriptions, over-the-counter, herbals, supplements, etc.) with dose, frequency, route, and reason for taking it. It is

also important to verify whether the patient is actually taking the medication as prescribed or instructed, as sometimes this is not the case.

At the end of the outpatient visit, a clinician needs to verify three questions:

- 1) Based on what occurred in the visit, should any medication that the patient was taking or receiving prior to the visit be discontinued or altered?
- 2) Based on what occurred in the visit, should any prior medication be suspended pending consultation with the prescriber?
- 3) Have any new prescriptions been added today?

These questions should be reviewed by the physician who completed the procedure, or the physician who evaluated and treated the patient.

- If the answer to **all three questions** is “no,” the process is complete.
- If the answer to **any question** is “yes,” the patient needs to receive clear instructions about what to do — all changes, holds, and discontinuations of medications should be specifically noted. Include any follow-up required, such as calling or making appointments with other practitioners and a timeframe for doing so  
Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)

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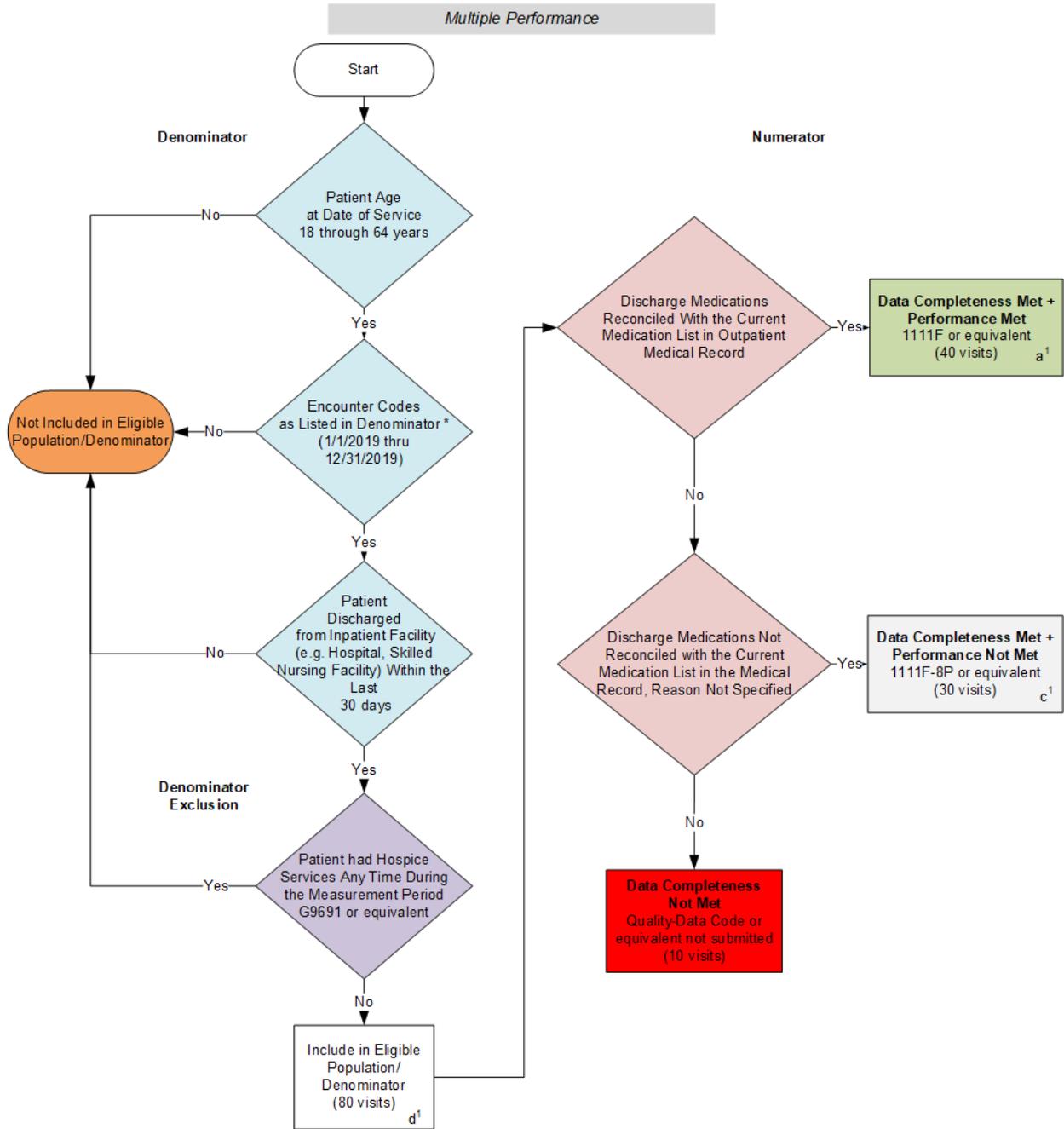
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**2019 Clinical Quality Measure Flow for Quality ID #46 NQF #0097:  
Medication Reconciliation Post-Discharge  
Submission Criteria One**



\* See the posted Measure Specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

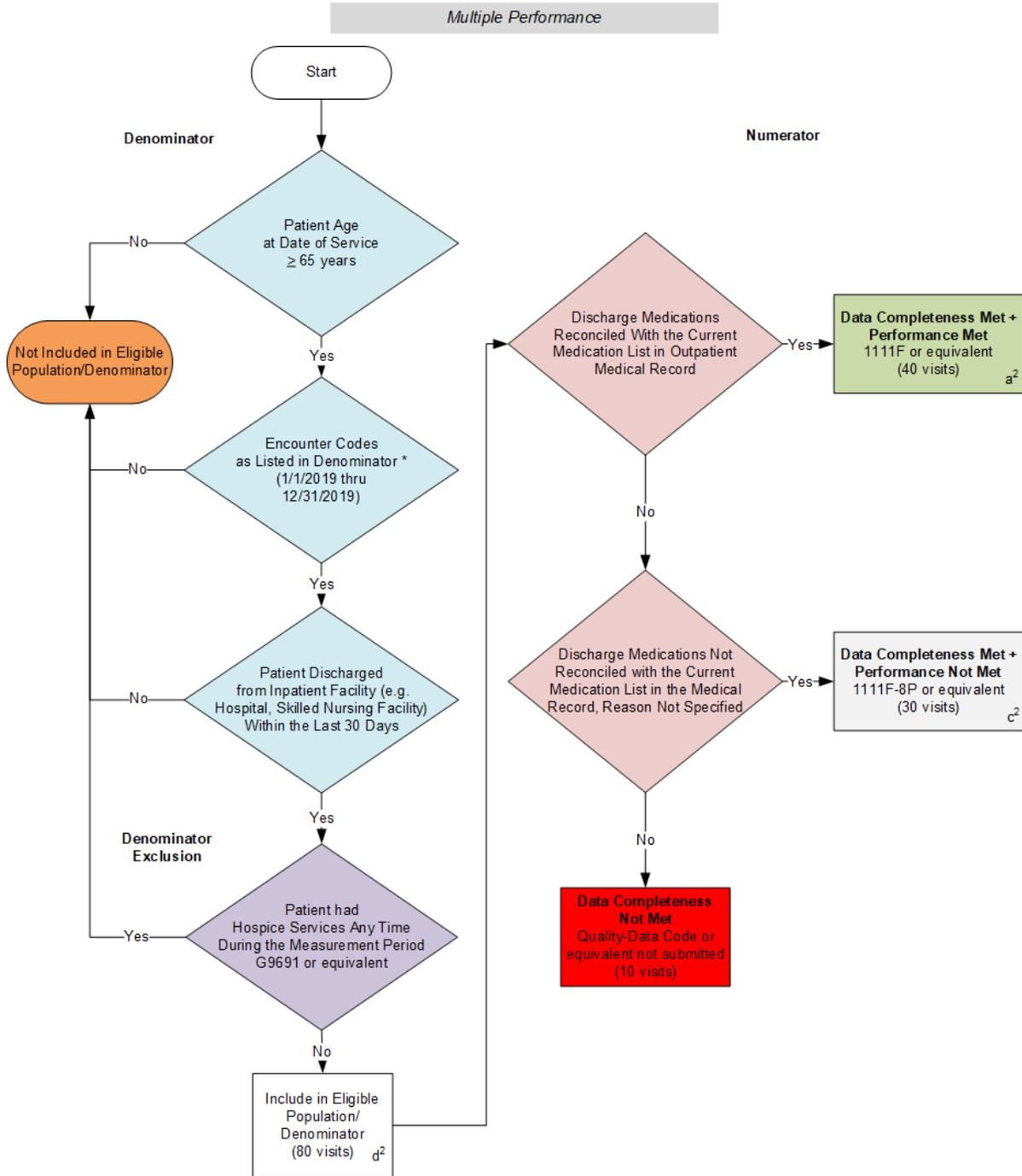
NOTE: Submission Frequency: Visit

\*\*It is anticipated for registry submission that for every performance rate, a data completeness will be submitted. CMS will determine or use the overall data completeness and performance rate

NOTE: Diagram has not been reviewed by the measure steward. This diagram should not be used in place of the measure specification but may be used as an additional resource.

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**2019 Clinical Quality Measure Flow for Quality ID #46 NQF #0097:  
Medication Reconciliation Post-Discharge  
Submission Criteria Two**



\* See the posted Measure Specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

NOTE: Submission Frequency: Visit

\*\*It is anticipated for registry submission that for every performance rate, a data completeness will be submitted. CMS will determine or use the overall data completeness and performance rate

NOTE: Diagram has not been reviewed by the measure steward. This diagram should not be used in place of the measure specification but may be used as an additional resource.

## 2019 Clinical Quality Measure Flow for Quality ID #46 NQF #0097: Medication Reconciliation Post-Discharge

Multiple Performance

### SAMPLE CALCULATIONS: Data Completeness and Performance One

**Data Completeness=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^1=40 \text{ visits)} + \text{Performance Not Met (c}^1=30 \text{ visits)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d}^1=80 \text{ visits)}} = \frac{70 \text{ visits}}{80 \text{ visits}} = 87.50\%$$

**Performance Rate=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^1=40 \text{ visits)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (70 visits)}} = \frac{40 \text{ visits}}{70 \text{ visits}} = 57.14\%$$

### SAMPLE CALCULATIONS: Data Completeness and Performance Rate Two

**Data Completeness=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^2=4 \text{ visits)} + \text{Performance Not Met (c}^2=30 \text{ visits)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d}^2=80 \text{ visits)}} = \frac{70 \text{ visits}}{80 \text{ visits}} = 87.50\%$$

**Performance Rate=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^2=4 \text{ visits)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (70 visits)}} = \frac{4 \text{ visits}}{70 \text{ visits}} = 5.71\%$$

### SAMPLE CALCULATIONS: Data Completeness and Performance Rate Three

**Data Completeness=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^1+a^2=80 \text{ visits)} + \text{Performance Not Met (c}^1+c^2=60 \text{ visits)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d}^1+d^2=160 \text{ visits)}} = \frac{140 \text{ visits}}{160 \text{ visits}} = 87.50\%$$

**Performance Rate=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^1+a^2=80 \text{ visits)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (140 visits)}} = \frac{80 \text{ visits}}{140 \text{ visits}} = 57.14\%$$

\* See the posted Measure Specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

NOTE: Submission Frequency: Visit

\*\*It is anticipated for registry submission that for every performance rate, a data completeness will be submitted. CMS will determine or use the overall data completeness and performance rate

NOTE: Diagram has not been reviewed by the measure steward. This diagram should not be used in place of the measure specification but may be used as an additional resource.

**2019 Clinical Quality Measure Flow Narrative for Quality ID #46 NQF #0097:  
Medication Reconciliation Post-Discharge**

Please refer to the specific section of the specification to identify the denominator and numerator information for use in submitting this Individual Specification. This measure will be calculated with 2 Performance Rates.

**Submission Criteria 1**

1. Start with Denominator
2. Check Patient Age:
  - a. If Patient Age is 18 through 64 Years on Date of Service equals No during the performance period, do not include in Eligible Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Patient Age is 18 through 64 Years on Date of Service equals Yes during the performance period, proceed to check Encounter Performed.
3. Check Encounter Performed:
  - a. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to Check Patient Discharged from Inpatient Facility (eg Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility) Within the Last 30 Days.
4. Check Patient Discharged from Inpatient Facility (e.g. Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility) Within the Last 30 Days:
  - a. If Patient Discharged from Inpatient Facility (e.g. Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility) Within the Last 30 Days as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Patient Discharged from Inpatient Facility (e.g. Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility) Within the Last 30 Days as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to check Patient had Hospice Services Any Time During the Measurement Period.
5. Check Patient had Hospice Services Any Time During the Measurement Period:
  - a. If Patient had Hospice Services Any Time During the Measurement Period equals No, include in Eligible Population.
  - b. If Patient had Hospice Services Any Time During the Measurement Period equals Yes, do not include in Eligible Population. Stop Processing.
6. Denominator Population
  - a. Denominator Population is all Eligible Visits in the Denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d<sup>1</sup> equals 80 visits in the Sample Calculation.
7. Start Numerator
8. Check Discharge Medication Reconciled With the Current Medication List in Outpatient Medical Record:
  - a. If Discharge Medications Reconciled With the Current Medication List in Outpatient Medical Record equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Met.

- b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a<sup>1</sup> equals 40 visits in the Sample Calculation.
  - c. If Discharge Medications Reconciled With the Current Medication List in Outpatient Medical Record equals No, proceed to check Discharge Medications Not Reconciled with Current Medication List in the Medical Record, Reason Not Specified.
9. Check Discharge Medications Not Reconciled with the Current Medication List in the Medical Record, Reason Not Specified:
- a. If Discharge Medications Not Reconciled with the Current Medication List in the Medical Record, Reason Not Specified equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met.
  - b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c<sup>1</sup> equals 30 visits in the Sample Calculation.
  - c. If Discharge Medications Not Reconciled with the Current Medication List in the Medical Record, Reason Not Specified equals No, proceed to check Data Completeness Not Met.
10. Check Data Completeness Not Met:
- a. If Data Completeness Not Met, the Quality Data Code or equivalent was not submitted. 10 visits have been subtracted from the Data Completeness Numerator in the Sample Calculation.

**SAMPLE CALCULATIONS: Data Completeness and Performance One**

**Data Completeness=**  

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^1=40 \text{ visits)} + \text{Performance Not Met (c}^1=30 \text{ visits)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d}^1=80 \text{ visits)}} = \frac{70 \text{ visits}}{80 \text{ visits}} = 87.50\%$$

**Performance Rate=**  

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^1=40 \text{ visits)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (70 visits)}} = \frac{40 \text{ visits}}{70 \text{ visits}} = 57.14\%$$

**2019 Clinical Quality Measure Flow Narrative for Quality ID#46 NQF #0097:  
Medication Reconciliation Post-Discharge**

Please refer to the specific section of the specification to identify the denominator and numerator information for use in submitting this Individual Specification. This measure will be calculated with 2 Performance Rates.

**Submission Criteria 2**

1. Start with Denominator
2. Check Patient Age:
  - a. If Patient Age at Date of Encounter is equal to or greater than 65 Years equals No during the performance period, do not include in Eligible Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Patient Age at Date of Encounter is equal to or greater than 65 Years equals Yes during the performance period, proceed to check Encounter Performed.
3. Check Encounter Performed:
  - a. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to check Patient Discharged from Inpatient Facility (eg Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility) Within the Last 30 Days.
4. Check Patient Discharged from Inpatient Facility (eg Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility) Within the Last 30 Days:
  - a. If Patient Discharged from Inpatient Facility (eg Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility) Within the Last 30 Days as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Patient Discharged from Inpatient Facility (eg Hospital Skilled Nursing Facility) Within the Last 30 Days as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to check Patient had Hospice Services Start Any Time During the Measurement Period.
5. Check Patient had Hospice Services Start Any Time During the Measurement Period:
  - a. If Patient had Hospice Services Start Any Time During the Measurement Period equals No, include in Eligible Population.
  - b. If Patient had Hospice Services Start Any Time During the Measurement Period equals Yes, do not include in Eligible Population. Stop Processing.
6. Denominator Population:
  - a. Denominator Population is all Eligible Visits in the Denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d<sup>2</sup> equals 80 visits in the Sample Calculation.
7. Start Numerator
8. Check Discharge Medications Reconciled With Current Medication List in Outpatient Medical Record:

- a. If Discharge Medications Reconciled With Current Medication List in Outpatient Medical Record equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Met.
  - b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a<sup>2</sup> equals 40 visits in the Sample Calculation.
  - c. If Discharge Medications Reconciled With Current Medication List in Outpatient Medical Record equals No, proceed to check Discharge Medications Not Reconciled with Current Medication List in the Medical Record, Reason Not Specified.
9. Check Discharge Medications Not Reconciled with Current Medication List in the Medical Record, Reason Not Specified:
- a. If Discharge Medications Not Reconciled with Current Medication List in the Medical Record, Reason Not Specified equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met.
  - b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c<sup>2</sup> equals 30 visits in the Sample Calculation.
  - c. If Discharge Medications Not Reconciled with Current Medication List in the Medical Record, Reason Not Specified equals No, proceed to check Data Completeness Not Met.
10. Check Data Completeness Not Met:
- a. If Data Completeness Not Met, the Quality Data Code or equivalent was not submitted. 10 visits have been subtracted from the Data Completeness Numerator in the Sample Calculation.

**SAMPLE CALCULATIONS: Data Completeness and Performance Rate Two**

**Data Completeness=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^2\text{=4 visits) + Performance Not Met (c}^2\text{=30 visits)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d}^2\text{=80 visits)}} = \frac{70 \text{ visits}}{80 \text{ visits}} = 87.50\%$$

**Performance Rate=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^2\text{=40 visits)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (70 visits)}} = \frac{40 \text{ visits}}{70 \text{ visits}} = 57.14\%$$

**SAMPLE CALCULATIONS: Data Completeness and Performance Rate Three**

**Data Completeness=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^1\text{+a}^2\text{= 80 visits) + Performance Not Met (c}^1\text{+c}^2\text{=60 visits)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d}^1\text{+d}^2\text{= 160 visits)}} = \frac{140 \text{ visits}}{160 \text{ visits}} = 87.50\%$$

**Performance Rate=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^1\text{+a}^2\text{=80 visits)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (140 visits)}} = \frac{80 \text{ visits}}{140 \text{ visits}} = 57.14\%$$