

New York State Department of Health Nursing Home Quality Pool 2013 Methodology

Updated November 2013

The 2013 Nursing Home Quality Pool will be comprised of three areas: **[1]** quality measures, **[2]** compliance with reporting, and **[3]** potentially avoidable hospitalizations.

Quality Measures (60 points)

Quality measures will be calculated from MDS 3.0 data, the NYS employee flu vaccination data, nursing home cost report data for the annual level of temporary contract/agency staff used, and the CMS five-star quality rating for staffing.

- The allotted 60 points for quality will be distributed evenly for all 14 measures.
- Four quarters of 2012 MDS 3.0 data will be used.
- The quintiles will be based on the same measurement year of the results. Therefore only a certain number of nursing homes will be able to achieve these quintiles for each measure. The results will not be rounded until after determining the quintile for measures. For measures with very narrow ranges of performance, two facilities may be placed in different quintiles and receive different points, but after rounding, the facilities may have the same rate.
- Nursing homes will be rewarded for achieving high performance as well as improvement from previous years' performance. As an example, assuming each quality measure is worth 4.29 points, the distribution of points based on two years of performance is shown below. (This methodology does not apply to the benchmarking 2012 quality pool (QP) because trend data is not available.)

Quality Point grid for Attainment and Improvement

		Year 1 Performance					
		Quintiles	1	2	3	4	5
Year 2 Performance	1 (best)		4.29	4.29	4.29	4.29	4.29
	2		2.56	2.56	3.41	3.41	3.41
	3		0.85	0.85	0.85	1.7	1.7
	4		0	0	0	0	0.85
	5		0	0	0	0	0

Year 1=2013 Year 2=2014

- **Rewarding of improvement will not go into effect until the 2014 quality pool.**
- If 2014 QP performance is in the second quintile, which is an improvement from 2013 when it was in the third quintile, the facility will receive 3.41 points for the measure. This is 2.56 points for attaining the second quintile and 0.85 point for improvement from the third quintile

The 14 proposed quality measures for the 2013 QP are shown in the table below.

Quality Measures for 2013 Quality Pool

Number	Staffing Measures	Notes
1	Annual level of temporary contract/agency staff used	Maximum points will be awarded if the rate is less than 10%, and zero points if the rate is 10% or greater. Staffing hours associated with specialty beds are included in the denominator of this measure because the cost report schedule used for contract staff does not differentiate between geriatric and specialty beds.
2	CMS five-star quality rating for staffing	As of April 1, 2013
NYS-Specific Measure		
3	Percent of employees vaccinated for the flu - annually reported to the Bureau of Immunization*	
MDS 3.0 Quality Measures		
4	Percent of long stay high risk residents with pressure ulcers	Risk adjusted by the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH)
5	Percent of long stay residents assessed and given, appropriately, the pneumococcal vaccine*	Maximum points will be awarded if the rate is 85% or greater, and zero points if the rate is less than 85%
6	Percent of long stay residents assessed and given, appropriately, the seasonal influenza vaccine*	Maximum points will be awarded if the rate is 85% or greater, and zero points if the rate is less than 85%
7	Percent of long stay residents experiencing one or more falls with major injury	
8	Percent of long stay residents who have depressive symptoms	
9	Percent of long stay low risk residents who lose control of their bowel or bladder	
10	Percent of long stay residents who lose too much weight	Risk adjusted by the NYS DOH
11	Percent of long stay residents who received an antipsychotic medication.	In addition to the exclusions put forth by CMS, NYS will exclude the diagnosis of bipolar disorder/manic depression
12	Percent of long stay residents who self-report moderate to severe pain	Risk adjusted by the NYS DOH
13	Percent of long stay residents whose need for help with daily activities has increased	
14	Percent of long stay residents with a urinary tract infection	

*a higher rate is better

Compliance (20 points)

The compliance component will consist of three areas: CMS’ five-star quality rating for health inspections, timely submission of nursing home certified cost reports, and timely submission of employee flu immunization data.

The proposed measures of the compliance component are shown in the table below.

Category	Measure Description	Timeframe	Points
CMS Five-Star Quality Rating for Health Inspections	CMS’ facility ratings for the health inspections domain are based on the number, scope, and severity of the deficiencies identified during the three most recent annual inspection surveys, as well as substantiated findings from the most recent 36 months of complaint investigations. All deficiency findings are weighted by scope and severity. This measure also takes into account the number of revisits required to ensure that deficiencies identified during the health inspection survey have been corrected.	CMS Five-Star for Health Inspection Scores as of April 1, 2013	Ten points will be awarded for obtaining five stars or the top 10 percent (lowest 10 percent in terms of health inspection deficiency score). Seven points for obtaining four stars, four points for obtaining three stars, two point for obtaining two stars, and zero points for one star.
Timely submission of nursing home certified cost reports	Failure to file timely, certified, and complete Nursing Home cost reports for 2012 to the NYS DOH	2012 Nursing Home cost reports	Five points for timely, certified and complete submission of the 2012 cost report.
Timely submission of employee flu immunization data	Failure to submit timely data to the NYS DOH Bureau of Immunization on Employee health worker annual flu immunization.	Nursing Home Employee Flu Immunization data for September 1, 2012 - March 30, 2013	Five points for timely submission of immunization data.

Potentially Avoidable Hospitalizations (20 points)

- NYS DOH has developed a potentially preventable hospitalization quality indicator that is based upon the Nursing Home Value Based Purchasing (NHVBP) demonstration.
- MDS 3.0 data will be utilized.
- Only long stay nursing home episodes (101 days or more) will be used.
- Nursing home episodes will be constructed based on assessments from January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012. Hospitalizations from the nursing home will be identified and the hospital discharge record will be found in SPARCS. The hospitalization will be identified as potentially avoidable or not. Rates will be calculated for each nursing home by dividing the total number of potentially avoidable hospitalizations by the total number of long stay episode days in that nursing home (lower rates are better). Rates will be risk adjusted.

Category	Measure Description	Timeframe	Points
Potentially Avoidable Hospitalizations	The number of potentially avoidable hospitalizations per 10,000 long stay episode days	January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012	20 points will be awarded for obtaining the first quintile. 16 points for obtaining the second quintile, 12 points for the third quintile, four points for the fourth quintile, and zero points for the fifth quintile

Determination of non-eligibility

Facilities that meet at least one of the following two conditions will not be eligible for quality pool distributions in 2013, regardless of their quality score.

1. Level J/K/L Deficiencies

2013 NHQP

- Deficiency data shows a level J/K/L deficiency between January 1 of the measurement year (2012) and June 30 of the payment year (2013).
- Deficiencies will be assessed on October 1, 2013 to allow a three-month window (after the June 30, 2013 cutoff date) for potential Informal Dispute Resolutions (IDR) to process.
- Any **new** J/K/L deficiencies between July 1, 2013 and September 30, 2013 will **not** be included in the 2013 NHQP.

2014 NHQP and later

- Deficiency data shows a J/K/L deficiency between July 1 of the measurement year and June 30 of the payment year.
- Deficiencies will be assessed on October 1 of the payment year to allow a three-month window for potential IDRs to process.
- Any **new** J/K/L deficiencies between July 1 and September 30 of the payment year will **not** be included in the NHQP.

2. Fraud and Abuse Charges

- Facilities that had a determination of fraud and/or abuse from a case that closed in the measurement year (2012) or the payment year (2013) are ineligible for payment
- Determinations of fraud or abuse are made by the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit.

Facilities impacted by Superstorm Sandy – Employee flu immunization data

Superstorm Sandy had an impact on some facilities' ability to immunize their healthcare workers and submit their employee immunization data by the designated deadline. For these facilities, the methodology regarding this measure was changed in both the quality and compliance component.

Quality component

- The employee flu vaccination measure was suppressed if it resulted in a higher overall score for the facility affected. In this case, the quality points were redistributed across the remaining quality measures.

Compliance component

- Facilities that did not submit timely employee flu immunization data were not penalized. In these cases, the points were redistributed to the timely submission of nursing home certified cost reports measure. This measure was worth 10 points instead of five.

Exclusions

The following types of facilities will be excluded from the QP and will not be eligible for payment:

- Non-Medicaid facilities
- Any facility designated by CMS as a Special Focus Facility at any time during the measurement year (2012) or the payment year (2013), prior to the final calculation of the 2013 quality pool
- Specialty facilities
- Specialty units within a nursing home (i.e. AIDS, pediatric specialty, traumatic brain injury, ventilator dependent, behavioral intervention)
- Continuing Care Retirement Communities
- Transitional Care Units

2013 Payment Methodology

A table of the payment methodology is shown below. A facility's per diem quality adjustment will be based on the quintile assignment and its total Medicaid days in 2012. **Facilities in the fourth and fifth quintiles will not receive payment.**

Distribution of Quality Pool and Quality Payments			
Final Quintile	A Facility's Medicaid Revenue Multiplied by Award Factor	B Share of \$50 Million Quality Pool Allocated to Facility	C Facility Per Diem Quality Payment
1 st Quintile	Each facility's 2012 Medicaid days x 2013 Medicaid Rate as	Each facility's column A Divided by Sum of Total	Each facility's column B divided by the facility's

	of January 1, 2013 = Total Medicaid Revenue multiplied by an award factor of 3	Medicaid Revenue, Multiplied by \$50 million	2012 Medicaid days
2nd Quintile	Each facility's 2012 Medicaid days x 2013 Medicaid Rate as of January 1, 2013 = Total Medicaid Revenue multiplied by an award factor of 2	Each facility's column A Divided by Sum of Total Medicaid Revenue, Multiplied by \$50 million	Each facility's column B divided by the facility's 2012 Medicaid days
3rd Quintile	Each facility's 2012 Medicaid days x 2013 Medicaid Rate as of January 1, 2013 = Total Medicaid Revenue multiplied by an award factor of 1	Each facility's column A Divided by Sum of Total Medicaid Revenue, Multiplied by \$50 million	Each facility's column B divided by the facility's 2012 Medicaid days
Total	Sum of Total Medicaid Revenue for all facilities	Sum of quality pool funds: \$50 million	--

Anticipated Schedule for the 2013 QP

- May 1, 2013 – Employee Flu Immunization Data due
- August 16, 2013 – Nursing Home Certified Cost Reports due for calendar year filers
- September 30, 2013 - Nursing Home Certified Cost Reports due for fiscal year filers
- November 2013 – NYS DOH will release the results of the 2013 Nursing Home Quality Pool
- December 2013 – Implementation of rate adjustments as a result of 2013 NH QP findings

For more information about the payment methodology, please contact the Bureau of Finance at nfrates@health.state.ny.us. All email correspondence to the Bureau of Finance should include the facility name in the subject line, along with the operating certificate number, the sender's phone number, and question(s) in the body of the email.

For more information about the quality pool methodology, please contact the Office of Quality and Patient Safety at NHQP@health.state.ny.us.

