

## Overview of Malnutrition Quality Measures

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) employ quality measures in a variety of quality incentive programs to publicly report data, including the **Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (HIQR) Program** and track of the Quality Payment Program (QPP), the **Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)**. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics serves as measure steward to the below Malnutrition Quality Measures in order to document standardized malnutrition care as well as support RDN participation in CMS quality incentive programs.

### Electronic Clinical Quality Measures – Inpatient Reporting

The four (4) malnutrition eQMs have been adopted by numerous health systems and hospitals throughout the nation as a part of the Malnutrition Quality Improvement Initiative (MQii) Learning Collaborative. The four malnutrition measures were reviewed by the National Quality Forum (NQF) and remain on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Measures under Consideration List (MUC List) for consideration into the **CMS Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (HIQR) Program**.

- **NQF #3087/MUC16-294:** Completion of a Malnutrition Screening within 24 hours of Admission
- **NQF #3088/MUC16-296:** Completion of a Nutrition Assessment for Patients Identified as At-Risk for Malnutrition within 24 hours of a Malnutrition Screening
- **NQF #3089/MUC16-372:** Nutrition Care Plan for Patients Identified as Malnourished after a Completed Nutrition Assessment
- **NQF #3090/MUC16-344:** Appropriate Documentation of a Malnutrition Diagnosis

### Global Malnutrition Composite Score Measure – Inpatient Reporting

The Global Malnutrition Composite Score Measure (composite measure) focuses on adults 65 years and older admitted to inpatient service who receive care appropriate to their level of malnutrition risk/and or malnutrition diagnosis if properly identified. The Academy continues to pursue the adoption of the composite measure into the **CMS Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (HIQR) Program** and is seeking endorsement from the NQF Prevention and Population Health Portfolio Standing Committee.

### Malnutrition Measures Approved for Inclusion in QCDRs – Outpatient Reporting

New Malnutrition Quality Measures included in two Qualified Clinical Data Registries (QCDRs) provides physicians and RDNs who bill **outpatient** Medicare Part B, increased opportunity to participate in the **Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)**. The Premier Clinician Performance Registry and the U.S. Wound Registry offer Quality Measures for MIPS reporting, plus additional non-MIPS Malnutrition Quality Measures for internal Quality Improvement (QI) projects.

#### Premier Clinician Performance Registry Measure Specifications for MIPS Reporting

- [PINC 55: Appropriate Documentation of a Malnutrition Diagnosis](#)
- [PINC 56: Assessment of Nutritionally At-Risk Patients for Malnutrition and Development of Nutrition Recommendations/Interventions by a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist](#)

#### Premier Clinician Performance Registry Measure Specifications for QI (non-MIPS)

- Completion of a Screening for Malnutrition Risk and Follow-Up Referral to a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist for At-Risk Patients
- Nutrition Care Plan Communicated to Post-Discharge Provider

#### U. S. Wound Registry Measure Specifications for MIPS Reporting

- [USWR 27: Assessment of Nutritionally At-Risk Patients for Malnutrition and Development of Nutrition Intervention Recommendations](#)
- [USWR 28: Obtaining Nutritional Recommendations from a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist in Nutritionally At-Risk Surgical Patients](#)

#### U. S. Wound Registry Measure Specifications for QI (non-MIPS)

- Completion of a Screening for Malnutrition Risk and Follow-Up Referral to Registered Dietitian Nutritionist for At-Risk Patients
- Appropriate Malnutrition Diagnosis

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The malnutrition measures approved for inclusion in QCDRs **do not** replace the four (4) eQMs or Global Malnutrition Composite Score measure (composite measure).

In 2020, the Academy and Avalere is pursuing composite measure review and adoption pathways within CMS and NQF.