



HCAHPS Spotlight

Summer 2008 Preview Period

The Preview Period for Hospital Quality Alliance (HQA) reports is currently underway for the Summer 2008 hospital compare update. The Preview Report will reflect data for:

- The Clinical Process Measures discharge data accepted into the QIO Clinical Warehouse for 4th Quarter 2006 through 3rd Quarter 2007.
- The 30-day Mortality Outcome Measures data based on administrative data from hospitalized, fee-for-service Medicare beneficiaries discharged between 3rd Quarter 2006 and 2nd Quarter 2007 for AMI, HF, and Pneumonia.
- **The HCAHPS Measures based on hospital discharges from 4th Quarter 2006 through 3rd Quarter 2007.**

Important Suppression Information

To withhold publication of data, a provider must contact its QIO Hospital Public Reporting contact with its request to withhold *and* transmit a completed 'Request for Withholding Data from Public Reporting' form to that QIO contact **no later than May 13, 2008 QIO COB**. The QIOs have until 11:59 pm Central Time on May 15, 2008 to complete PRS data entry. In order for their HCAHPS results to be publicly reported, hospitals must have an HQA Pledge on file. If a hospital chooses to suppress HCAHPS, then ALL of its HCAHPS results will be withheld for this public reporting (hospitals may not choose to suppress some HCAHPS results and publicly report others). If a hospital chooses to suppress HCAHPS results, it will receive a footnote in Hospital Compare indicating '*Survey results are not available for this reporting period*'; however, state and national rates will display.

If a hospital had previously submitted 'Request for Withholding Data from Public Reporting' form it is important to note the following: To suppress data, hospitals must complete the [HQA Request for Withholding Data from Public Reporting form](#) and submit it to their QIO hospital reporting contact no later than close of business on May 13, 2008. It is recommended that hospitals alert their QIO Hospital Reporting Contact when faxing the request. **Because a withholding request is applicable only for the current reporting period, HQA hospitals that suppressed data for one or more measures in March 2008 must submit a new form in order to continue suppression of the same measure(s).**

2008 Q1 Data Collection Has Begun

HealthStream has begun the submission process for HCAHPS data for the 1st quarter 2008 data. **The deadline is July 9, 2008.** Please be sure to check your QNet account in July to ensure that you are able to view the files for those months of discharge.

For HCAHPS questions or assistance at HealthStream Research:

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For questions or assistance at Quality Net Exchange:

Quality Net Exchange at qnetssupport@ifmc.sdps.org
1-866-288-8912

Official HCAHPS Website for content, announcements, updates, & reminders:

<http://www.hcahponline.org/>