



End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Quality Reporting System (EQRS)

ESRD Outreach, Communication, and Training (EOCT)

EOCT June 2023 Town Hall Question and Answer Summary Document

Speaker

Jane Chaine, MSN, RN, CNN, RD
Communications Director, EOCT

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This Q&A summary was modified to reflect the most up-to-date information pertaining to EQRS features and functions. As of the posting date, this document will not be updated any further. This document was modified for grammar. It answers provider questions submitted during the event. Subject-matter experts developed the responses during and after the event.

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General Webinar Questions

Question 1: **How do I obtain the slides from the June 29, 2023, Town Hall event?**

The June 2023 Town Hall event materials including the slides, recording, and transcript, are available on the Events page of the MyCROWNWeb website: <https://mycrownweb.org/events/>.

Calendar Year (CY) 2024 ESRD Prospective Payment System (PPS) Proposed Rule Questions

Question 2: **Will the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provide more information on the Social Drivers of Health (SDOH) measure requirements?**

If finalized, CMS will add two new SDOH reporting measures to the ESRD Quality Incentive Program (QIP) measure set beginning in Payment Year (PY) 2024. These include the Screening for SDOH measure and the SDOH Screen Positive Rate measure. For more information on these measure proposals, refer to the CY 2024 ESRD PPS proposed rule, available on the *Federal Register website*. Additionally, on August 10, 2023, CMS will present a webinar on the CY 2024 ESRD PPS proposed rule to discuss the SDOH proposed measures in detail. Register for the August proposed rule webinar [here](#).

ESRD QIP Measure Questions

Question 3: **What are the data sources for the Standardized Hospitalized Ratio (SHR), Standardized Readmission Ratio (SRR), and Standardized Transfusion Ratio (STrR) measures?**

Refer to the table below for the data sources for the SRR, SHR, and STrR measures according to the CY 2023 ESRD Technical Measure Specification document on the CMS.gov [website](#).

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Measure	Data Sources
SHR	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medicare Claims 2. EQRS Enrollment Data Base (EDB) and other CMS ESRD administrative data
SRR	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medicare Claims 2. EQRS EDB and other CMS ESRD administrative data
STrR	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medicare Claims 2. EQRS EDB, Long Term Care Minimum Data Set and other CMS ESRD administrative data

Peritonitis Infections Module Questions

Question 4: Are facilities required to retroactively report peritonitis infection data to EQRS?

No. Facilities are not expected to retroactively report peritonitis infection data in EQRS. As of Monday, June 26, 2023, facilities are expected to submit peritonitis infection data to CMS using the Infections module in EQRS for peritonitis infections occurring on June 26, 2023, or later.

Question 5: Where can I find references for peritonitis data surveillance definitions and criteria?

The *CMS Infection Event Data Submission Requirements document* provides information and details about reporting peritonitis infection data in EQRS. This document is available on the [Education](#) page on www.MycrownWeb.org and can be downloaded using this link: https://mycrownweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Infection-Event-Data-Submission-Requirements_vFINAL508_07172023.pdf.

Question 6: What constitutes a peritonitis infection event when reporting peritonitis infection data in the Infections module in EQRS?

A peritonitis infection event is when at least two of the following are present or the patient has a documented medical diagnosis of peritonitis:

- Abdominal pain or cloudy peritoneal dialysis effluent
- Peritoneal dialysis effluent white blood cell (WBC) count above 100 cells per microliter or with over 50% WBCs that are neutrophils
- Positive peritoneal dialysis effluent culture

Li PK-T, et al. ISPD peritonitis guideline recommendations: 2022 update on prevention and treatment. *Peritoneal Dialysis International*. March .2022;42(2):110-153. Available at: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/08968608221080586>. Accessed on July 31, 2023.

Question 7: What is the definition for the Event Date in the Infections module?

The Event Date is the exact day, month, and year that peritonitis symptoms were first identified.

Question 8: If the patient recently transferred to another facility or is now on hemodialysis, which facility should report the peritonitis event information to EQRS?

The facility where the patient was admitted when the infection event occurred is the facility responsible for reporting the peritonitis infection data in EQRS. Facilities are expected to report as much data as possible and to submit infection data within 90 days of the event date. For infection events which occurred at another provider or via self-report, facilities must report as much detail as is available in EQRS.

Question 9: Is there a penalty for not submitting peritonitis infection data to EQRS?

No. Currently peritonitis infection data reporting does not impact a QIP score. Although facilities are strongly recommended to report peritonitis infection data to EQRS, it is not required at this time.

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Question 10: **How will CMS use the peritonitis data?**

Reporting peritonitis infection data in EQRS allows CMS to capture data related to peritonitis infection rates in dialysis patients.

Question 11: **Are the reporting fields for *What cultures were detected?* and *What antibiotics were administered?* free text or drop-down menus?**

These reporting fields are equipped with a drop-down menu to select your answer. Additionally, the field for *What antibiotics were administered* is broken into categories to help select the correct antibiotic. For a complete list of cultures and/or antibiotics to select from within EQRS, refer to the *CMS Infection Event Data Submission Requirements document*, which provides information and details about reporting peritonitis infection data in EQRS. This document is available on the [Education](#) page on www.MyCROWNWeb.org and can be downloaded using this link: https://mycrownweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Infection-Event-Data-Submission-Requirements_vFINAL508_07172023.pdf.

Question 12: **Does EQRS have peritonitis infection reports that can be downloaded and used for data analysis and trending?**

No. Currently EQRS does not have a peritonitis infection report. CMS will work to include a peritonitis infections report in EQRS in the future.

Question 13: **Is there a comprehensive list of invasive procedures that EQRS users can reference when completing the peritonitis infection data entry in EQRS?**

According to the *CMS Infection Event Data Submission Requirements document*, the current invasive procedures/incidents to select from within the Infections module in EQRS include colon surgery, colonoscopy, gynecological procedures, recent abdominal injury, and dental procedures. The document is available on the [Education](#) page on www.MyCROWNWeb.org and can be downloaded using this link: https://mycrownweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Infection-Event-Data-Submission-Requirements_vFINAL508_07172023.pdf

Question 14: **Do we enter the peritonitis infection data in the EQRS Infections module manually or can we submit the data electronically?**

You can submit peritonitis infection data electronically to CMS if your organization's software is configured to do so. However, if your facility does not electronically submit these data, you should submit the data manually using the EQRS user interface until electronic submission is available. Please consult your organization on how these data should be submitted to the system.

Question 15: **Is this Peritonitis Infections training available online, other than in the Town Hall slides and recording?**

No. CMS is actively working on posting a standalone EQRS training on the Infections module on www.MyCROWNWeb.org.

Transplant Dashboard for Dialysis Facilities Questions

Question 16: **Does the Transplant Dashboard for dialysis facilities in EQRS only display patients that are listed as active on a transplant waitlist?**

No. The Transplant Dashboard displays all patients that are waitlisted with one or more transplant centers regardless of waitlist status. The Transplant Dashboard displays patients with the following waitlists statuses: Active, Inactive, Removed, and Unknown. Additionally, you can filter the Transplant Dashboard information by the four different waitlists statuses, as well as by Patient or EQRS ID, and/or by the Transplant Center name.

Question 17: **Is this Transplant Dashboard training available other than in the June Town Hall event materials?**

No. CMS is actively working on posting a standalone EQRS training on the Transplant Dashboard feature on www.MyCROWNWeb.org.