

2021 MIPS Quality Measures Impacted by ICD-10 Updates Effective October 1, 2021

What is the Policy for Identifying Impacted Quality Measures?

In the calendar year (CY) 2021 Quality Payment Program final rule (85 FR 84898 through 84900), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) finalized a process to stabilize measure data throughout the performance period when a measure is impacted by International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10) updates mid-performance period. For each measure that is impacted by significant changes to ICD-10 codes, performance is based on data for 9 consecutive months of the applicable CY performance period. ICD-10 code updates are effective annually on October 1st but quality measure specifications cannot be updated until the next MIPS program year. An annual review process was established to analyze and assess the quality measures to determine which measures are significantly impacted (determined by a 10% threshold) by ICD-10 code changes during the performance period.

CMS determines if a quality measure is significantly impacted by ICD-10 code updates by comparing the posted 2021 measure specifications with the ICD-10 codes that were deleted or added during the annual ICD-10 code updates, which will occur on October 1st of the performance period. If a quality measure is impacted by 10% or more ICD-10 code changes, the performance period and subsequent performance score for the affected quality measure will be based only on the first 9 months of the 12-month performance period. The criteria to suppress performance data includes:

- Greater than 10% code changes in the measure numerator, denominator, exclusions, and exceptions.
- Clinical guideline changes, new products, or procedures reflected in ICD-10 code changes.
- Feedback on a measure received from measure developers and stewards.


Which Quality Measures are Impacted for the 2021 Performance Period?

CMS has not identified any MIPS quality measures requiring performance data to be suppressed for the last quarter of the 2021 performance period due to the annual ICD-10 code update.

Where Do I Go for Assistance?

For additional questions related to the ICD-10 impact analysis, please contact the Quality Payment Program at QPP@cms.hhs.gov or 1-866-288-8292 (Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. ET). To receive assistance more quickly, please consider calling during non-peak hours—before 10 a.m. and after 2 p.m. ET.



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