

Expanded Home Health Value-Based Purchasing (HHVBP) Model

HHVBP Newsletter – June 2023

Special Feature:

The July 2023 Interim Performance Report (IPR)

The HHVBP Newsletter provides home health agencies (HHAs) with the latest information about the expanded HHVBP Model as well as important tools, news, and timely insights from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the HHVBP Model Technical Assistance (TA) Team. Please consider sharing this newsletter within your organization.

This edition of the newsletter focuses on the Interim Performance Report (IPR) and includes the following information:

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Interim Performance Report (IPR) Highlights

The expanded HHVBP Model quarterly Interim Performance Reports (IPRs) provide HHAs with information on their measure performance in the expanded Model, based on the 12 most recent months of data available. The IPR provides feedback to HHAs about performance relative to quality measure achievement thresholds, benchmarks, and improvement thresholds. Using the IPRs, HHAs can assess and track their performance relative to peers in their respective cohort throughout the expanded Model performance year.

Register today for the upcoming live learning event, **Overview of the Interim Performance Report (IPR): The July 2023 IPR**
Thursday, July 27th at 2:00 PM ET

When will HHAs receive the first IPR? In July 2023, CMS will publish the first quarterly IPR of the expanded HHVBP Model. Only CMS Certification Numbers (CCNs) with a Medicare-certification date prior to January 1, 2022, will receive a July 2023 IPR.

How can HHAs access the July 2023 IPR? Expanded HHVBP Model reports are available to HHAs via [iQIES](#), in the “HHA Provider Preview Reports” folder, by the CCN assigned to the HHA. If a provider has more than one (1) CCN, a report will be available for each CCN. Only iQIES users authorized to view an HHA’s reports can access the expanded HHVBP Model reports. [Access instructions](#) are available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#).

What data will the July 2023 IPR report? The July 2023 IPR will report 12 months of data ending March 31, 2023, for quality measure performance scores on OASIS-based measures and 12 months of data ending December 31, 2022, for the claims-based measures and HHCAHPS Survey-based measures. **Exhibit 1** shows the calendar year (CY) 2023 performance year IPRs and the respective performance year data period.

Exhibit 1. CY 2023 Performance Year: IPRs and Performance Year Data Periods

Report Title	OASIS-based Measures	Claims-based and HHCAHPS Survey-based Measures
July 2023 Interim Performance Report (IPR)	4/1/2022 – 3/31/2023	1/1/2022 – 12/31/2022
October 2023 IPR	7/1/2022 – 6/30/2023	4/1/2022 – 3/31/2023
January 2024 IPR	10/1/2022 – 9/30/2023	7/1/2022 – 6/30/2023
April 2024 IPR	1/1/2023 – 12/31/2023	10/1/2022 – 9/30/2023
July 2024 IPR	4/1/2023 – 3/31/2024	1/1/2023 – 12/31/2023
Annual Performance Report (APR) (Aug 2024)	1/1/2023 – 12/31/2023	1/1/2023 – 12/31/2023

In addition, the IPR will include 1) the HHA’s interim measure performance scores and an interim Total Performance Score (TPS), 2) Improvement, Achievement, and Care Points reflecting the HHA’s performance relative to the performance of other HHAs in their cohort, including the achievement thresholds and benchmarks for the HHA’s cohort, 3) a Total Normalized Composite (TNC) Change Reference tab to assist HHAs in understanding their performance on the individual OASIS items included in the two (2) TNC measures, and 4) measure scorecard information to support HHAs with understanding how each individual measure contributes to their interim TPS. Please note, an agency’s final TPS for the CY 2023 performance year will be available in the August 2024 Annual Performance Report (APR).

What if an HHA cannot access or find the IPR on iQIES? Only authorized iQIES users for an HHA will have access to expanded Model reports. Should you need to register as an iQIES user, experience difficulty locating the expanded HHVBP Model reports, or experience difficulty downloading a report, please contact the iQIES Service Center at 1-800-339-9313, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-8:00 PM ET, or by email (iqies@cms.hhs.gov). To create a ticket online or track an existing ticket, please go to [CCSQ Support Central](#).

What if HHAs have questions about the content of the July 2023 IPR? Please contact the HHVBP Model Help Desk at HHVBPquestions@lewin.com.

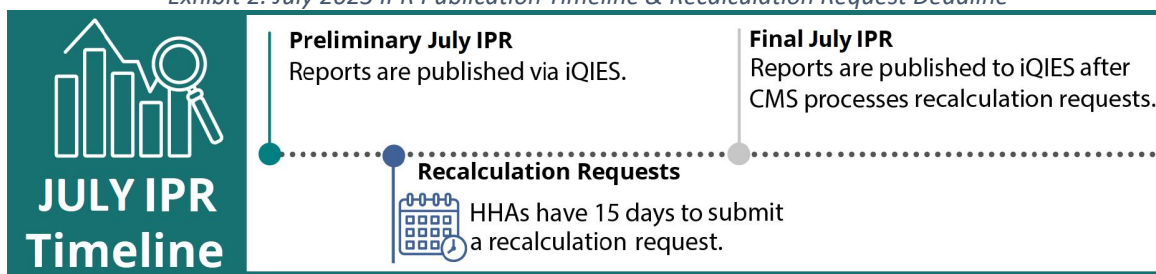
How can an HHA dispute data in a report? Publication of quarterly IPRs occurs in two (2) stages: 1) a Preliminary IPR, and 2) a Final IPR. As cited in the [CY 2022 HH PPS final rule](#) (p. 62331) and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) [§484.375](#), the Preliminary IPR provides an HHA with an opportunity to submit a **recalculation request** for applicable measures and interim performance scores if the agency believes there is evidence of a discrepancy in the calculation (e.g., the HHA did not receive achievement points for the OASIS-based Dyspnea applicable measure even though the HHA’s achievement score/points exceeded the cohort’s achievement threshold for this applicable measure).

Please note, the recalculation request does not apply to errors in data submission since submission requirements for the expanded Model align with the current CFR. HHAs must electronically report all OASIS data collected in accordance with the Medicare Conditions of Participation (CoPs) ([§484.55](#)), and

as a condition for payment ([§484.205\(c\)](#)). HHAs are required to submit HHCAHPS Survey-based measure data for the Home Health Quality Reporting Program (HH QRP) under [§484.245\(b\)\(1\)\(iii\)\(B\)](#).

When can an HHA submit a recalculation request? To dispute the calculation of the performance scores in the Preliminary IPR, an HHA must submit a recalculation request **within 15 calendar days after publication** of the Preliminary IPR. The Final IPR will reflect any changes resulting from an approved recalculation. **Exhibit 2** illustrates the publication timeline for the July 2023 IPR and deadline to submit a recalculation request.

Exhibit 2. July 2023 IPR Publication Timeline & Recalculation Request Deadline



How does an HHA submit a recalculation request? HHAs may submit requests for recalculation by emailing hhvbp_recalculation_requests@abtassoc.com. Recalculation requests must contain the following information, as cited in the [CY 2022 HH PPS final rule](#) (p. 62331) and CFR [§484.375](#):

- The provider's name, address associated with the services delivered, and CCN.
- The basis for requesting recalculation to include the specific data that the HHA believes is inaccurate or the calculation the HHA believes is incorrect.
- Contact information for a person at the HHA with whom CMS or its agent can communicate about this request, including name, email address, telephone number, and mailing address (must include physical address, not just a post office box).
- A copy of any supporting documentation, not containing Protected Health Information (PHI), the HHA wishes to submit in electronic form.



Resource Spotlight

The following resources, available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#), are designed to support HHAs with accessing, navigating, and interpreting expanded Model performance feedback reports:

- ["Expanded HHVBP Model Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)"](#) – Section VI. Reports
- ["Expanded HHVBP Model Guide"](#) – Section VII. Performance Feedback Reports - Overview
- ["HHVBP Model: Quality Measures Used in the Expanded Model"](#) – [Recording](#), [Slides](#), [Transcript](#)
- ["How Measure Performance Becomes Care Points"](#) – Instructional Video Recording
- ["How Care Points Become the Total Performance Score \(TPS\)"](#) – [Recording](#), [Slides](#), [Written Resource](#)

Updates to Home Health Quality Reporting Program Measures

CMS published updates to technical documentation for quality measures used in the HH QRP. Updates are effective for CY 2023 home health quality episodes. Updates include changes associated with the transition to OASIS-E and measure-specific hospice exclusions applied to select OASIS-based measures effective January 1, 2023. These updates can be found on the [Home Health Quality Measures](#) website under “Downloads.”

Contact Us

Please **do not reply to this email**. This is an unmonitored inbox. If you require assistance, use the following options:

- For program questions about the expanded HHVBP Model, contact the **HHVBP Model Help Desk** at HHVBPquestions@lewin.com.
- For support with registration for the Internet Quality Improvement and Evaluation System ([iQIES](#)), please contact the **QIES/iQIES Service Center** by phone at **(800) 339-9313** or by email at iqies@cms.hhs.gov. You may also refer to the *iQIES Onboarding Guide* posted to QTSO for registration support: <https://qtso.cms.gov/software/iqies/reference-manuals>.
- To receive email updates about the expanded Model, please subscribe to the [Expanded HHVBP Model listserv](#). Enter your email address in the contact form, then select “Home Health Value-Based Purchasing (HHVBP) Expanded Model” from the Innovations list.
- Please contact the **Home Health Quality Reporting Program (HH QRP) Help Desk** at homehealthqualityquestions@cms.hhs.gov for questions about the following: Home Health Quality, including Care Compare (excluding HHCAHPS), OASIS coding and OASIS documentation, quality reporting requirements & deadlines, data reported in quality reports, measure calculations, Quality of Patient Care Star Rating (excluding suppression requests), public reporting, risk adjustment, and Quality Assessment Only (QAO)/Pay for Reporting (P4P).
- Please contact the **Home Health CAHPS Help Desk** at hhcahps@rti.org for questions related to the HHCAHPS Survey or Patient Survey Star Ratings.

Not sure which help desk to use? Check out the [Guide to Home Health Help Desks!](#)