

# Expanded Home Health Value-Based Purchasing (HHVBP) Model

## HHVBP Newsletter – November 2022

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.

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### HHVBP Model Highlights

#### Expanded HHVBP Model’s First Performance Year Begins on January 1, 2023

1 MONTH UNTIL



PERFORMANCE YEAR 1,  
CY 2023 BEGINS

Medicare-certified HHAs that receive payments from CMS within the Medicare Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS) are required to participate in the expanded HHVBP Model. Under the expanded Model, CMS will apply a reduction or increase of up to five percent (5%) of an HHA’s Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) payments based on their performance against a set of quality measures relative to peer performance in the same cohort. **During calendar year (CY) 2023, CMS will assess the performance of HHAs certified prior to January 1, 2022, to determine the payment adjustment amount applied during the first payment year, CY 2025.**

For additional information, the HHVBP TA Team encourages HHAs to review and download resources available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#) to assist in understanding the expectations of the

expanded Model. For questions about the expanded Model, please email the Expanded HHVBP Model Help Desk at [HHVBPquestions@lewin.com](mailto:HHVBPquestions@lewin.com).

### **CMS Published the CY 2023 Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS) Final Rule**

On October 31, 2022, CMS published the [CY 2023 HH PPS final rule](#) on the Federal Register. This final rule set forth the changes to the expanded HHVBP Model's Model baseline year and HHA baseline year, stemming from an analysis of national trends in expanded HHVBP Model quality measures and the continued impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE).

CMS finalized the following updates for the expanded HHVBP Model:

- Replaced the term “baseline year” with the terms “HHA baseline year” and “Model baseline year.”
  - HHA baseline year: The calendar year used to determine the improvement threshold for each measure for each individual competing HHA.
  - Model baseline year: The calendar year used to determine the benchmark and achievement threshold for each measure for all competing HHAs.
- Determined the calendar years for the HHA baseline year and the Model baseline year.
  - Designated CY 2022 as the **HHA baseline year** for HHAs certified by Medicare prior to January 1, 2022. For HHAs certified after January 1, 2022, the HHA baseline year will be the first full calendar year of services beginning after the date of Medicare certification. An HHA must have sufficient data to establish a baseline year for a particular quality measure.
  - Changed the **Model baseline year** from 2019 to 2022.
- Summarized stakeholder input for future approaches to health equity in the expanded HHVBP Model.

Additional information about the expanded HHVBP Model baseline years is available in the *Expanded HHVBP Model Guide – November 2022*. This resource and others designed to support HHAs with implementation of the expanded Model are available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#).

## Prepare for the First Performance Year: Resources Available on the Expanded HHVBP Model Webpage

Please review the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#) to prepare for the first performance year, which begins January 1, 2023. The webpage (**Exhibit 1**) houses over 30 resources designed to help HHAs prepare to implement the expanded Model. Resources such as webinar recordings, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), a Model Guide, and monthly newsletters can be instrumental in helping HHAs gain an understanding of the expanded Model.

The webpage also features a variety of content-specific resources focused on topics such as quality measures, quality improvement, and the Total Performance Score (TPS) and payment adjustment. CMS and the HHVBP TA Team designed each resource to support HHAs with understanding the expectations under the expanded Model and to provide tools to inform staff development and quality improvement efforts.

*Exhibit 1. Screenshot of Expanded HHVBP Model webpage*

The screenshot displays the following content:

- HHVBP Resources**
  - Expanded HHVBP Model YouTube Playlist
    - Expanded HHVBP Model Playlist - all recorded content for the expanded HHVBP Model is posted here
- Model Overview**
  - Webinar: HHVBP Model Expansion 101 - Thursday, February 10 2:00 pm ET
    - Recording | Slides (PDF) | Transcript (PDF)
- FAQs & Model Guide**
  - Expanded HHVBP Model Frequently Asked Questions (PDF)
  - Expanded HHVBP Model Guide - November 2022 (PDF)
  - Making the Most of HHVBP Resources Instructional Recording
- Model Reports**
  - Expanded HHVBP Model Reports – Access Instructions (PDF)
  - Webinar: Navigating Performance Feedback Reports: Interim Performance Report (IPR) and Annual Performance Report (APR) – Thursday, August 25, 2022, 2:00 pm ET
    - Recording | Slides (PDF) | Transcript (PDF) | Q&A (PDF) | Sample IPR (Excel) | Sample APR (Excel)
  - Webinar: Encore Presentation: Navigating Performance Feedback Reports: Interim Performance Report (IPR) and Annual Performance Report (APR) – Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 2:00 pm ET
    - Recording | Slides (PDF) | Transcript (PDF) | Q&A (PDF) | Sample IPR (Excel) | Sample APR (Excel)
  - Webinar: Introduction to the Pre-Implementation Performance Report (PIPR) - November 17, 2022, 11:00 am ET
    - Recording (MP4) | Slides (PDF) | Transcript (PDF) | Written Resource (PDF) | Event Registration



### ICYMI (In Case You Missed It)

#### November 2022 Pre-Implementation Performance Reports are Available on iQIES!

As the expanded HHVBP Model prepares to start the first performance year on January 1, 2023, CMS issued the November Pre-Implementation Performance Report (PIPR) to competing HHAs. The PIPRs provide HHAs with data on their quality measure performance used in the expanded HHVBP Model, with comparison to HHAs nationally within peer cohorts.

***The November 2022 PIPR is available to download from the [Internet Quality Improvement Evaluation System \(iQIES\)](#).***

Instructions on how to access the PIPRs are available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#), under Model Reports.

A November 2022 PIPR is available to HHAs on the current iQIES active provider list.

To assist HHAs in understanding the purpose, content, and use of the PIPRs, the HHVBP TA Team has provided an on-demand video and downloadable resource, “Introduction to the Pre-Implementation Performance Report (PIPR)”, available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#) under Model Reports.

For questions, please email the Expanded HHVBP Model Help Desk at [HHVBPquestions@lewin.com](mailto:HHVBPquestions@lewin.com).

### **Recording Available! Encore Presentation – Navigating Performance Feedback Reports: Interim Performance Report (IPR) and Annual Performance Report (APR)**

On Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, the HHVBP TA Team hosted the live encore of the August 25<sup>th</sup> webinar: *Navigating Performance Feedback Reports: Interim Performance Report (IPR) and Annual Performance Report (APR)*. During this event, the TA Team, using the sample reports available on the Expanded HHVBP Model webpage, introduced the two (2) types of expanded HHVBP Model performance feedback reports: IPRs and APRs. Content included a review of the purpose, availability, timing, and location of the reports, followed by a walkthrough of each report type and the content on each tab in the reports.

Understanding key details for each report type and navigating the reports are essential skills for an HHA to accurately and efficiently track, trend, and identify report information to interpret their Total Performance Score and potential payment adjustments, and inform Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) initiatives.

An audio recording, slides, and the transcript of the live encore are available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#), in addition to the materials from first webinar on August 25<sup>th</sup>. The sample reports have been moved from iQIES to the Expanded HHVBP Model webpage under “Model Reports.” The HHVBP TA Team encourages HHAs to view these on-demand resources and share with other HHA staff as they prepare for the first performance year, CY 2023, of the expanded Model.

For questions, email the Expanded HHVBP Model Help Desk at [HHVBPquestions@lewin.com](mailto:HHVBPquestions@lewin.com).



### **Resource Spotlight**

#### **Where to Start? Expanded HHVBP Model Quality Measure Resources**

In addition to the Expansion 101 live event, FAQs, and Model Guide highlighted in the October 2022 Newsletter, the following introductory resources are available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#).

<b>Title</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Product Type</b>
<b>HHVBP Model: Quality Measures Used in the Expanded Model</b>	Quality Measures	Recording
<b>How Measure Performance Becomes Care Points</b>	Total Performance Score & Payment Adjustment	Instructional Video
<b>How Care Points Become the Total Performance Score (TPS)</b>	Total Performance Score & Payment Adjustment	Recording/Slides/Written Resource
<b>How the Total Performance Score (TPS) Becomes the Final Payment Adjustment</b>	Total Performance Score & Payment Adjustment	Recording/Slides/Written Resource

## New Edition! Expanded HHVBP Model Guide

An updated edition of the “*Expanded Model Guide – November 2022*” is available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#). The Model Guide includes an overview of the expanded Model, information on eligibility and cohorts, quality measures used in the expanded Model, Total Performance Score (TPS) methodology and payment adjustment methodologies, and an overview of the performance feedback reports.

## Quality Improvement Resource

The HHVBP TA Team is pleased to announce the availability of the resource, “*Quality Measure Category-Focused Performance Improvement*” on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#) under the “Quality Improvement” section. This resource provides a brief, self-guided, performance improvement exercise designed for HHA teams, based on structured review of expanded HHVBP Model performance data by measure category. Included in this resource is a template that will help teams create data visualizations that will highlight patterns in measure performance by category. Teams can use results for planning performance improvement activities.

## Expanded HHVBP Model YouTube Playlist

The [Expanded HHVBP Model YouTube playlist](#) includes podcasts, instructional videos, and on-demand recordings to help HHAs understand the expanded Model, as well as strategies for improving care delivery in home health. Subscribe to the [CMS HHS YouTube channel](#) to receive updates when new videos are available. Links to videos included in the playlist are also available on the [Expanded HHVBP Model webpage](#).

## 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 Help Desk** at [HHVBPquestions@lewin.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 expansion, 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](mailto: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).