
Center for Clinical Standards and Quality

Ref: QSO-21-23-OPO

DATE: September 30, 2021

TO: State Survey Agency Directors

FROM: Directors, Quality, Safety & Oversight Group (QSOG) and Survey & Operations Group (SOG)

SUBJECT: Public Reporting of Organ Procurement Organizations' (OPO) Performance Measures

Memorandum Summary

- **OPO Performance Outcome Measures:** New outcome measures for OPO performance were effective March 30, 2021, under the Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Organ Procurement Organizations Conditions for Coverage: Revisions to the Outcome Measure Requirements for Organ Procurement Organizations Final Rule published on December 2, 2020: (<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-12-02/pdf/2020-26329.pdf>)
- **Public Reporting:** The OPO rule requires CMS to publicly report OPO performance outcomes, annually.

Background

Public reporting is a known incentive for health care entities to improve their performance. Performance information allows users (patients and insurers) to choose higher-performing providers and spurs competition. CMS will publish OPO performance outcomes, based on national thresholds, for the first time in September 2021. The annual assessments and a data users guide will be posted on the Quality, Certification, and Oversight Reports (QCOR) web page at <https://qcor.cms.gov/main.jsp>.

Discussion

The report will list outcome scores and tier status for each OPO.

- The highest performing OPOs are those that are ranked in the top 25 percent. Any OPO whose performance is not statistically different than the lowest performer in the top 25 percent will be assigned to Tier 1.
- Tier 2 OPOs are the next highest performing OPOs, where performance on both measures meets or exceeds the median but does not reach Tier 1.
- Tier 3 OPOs are the lowest-performing OPOs that have one or both measures below the median.

Contact: QSOG_OPO@cms.hhs.gov

Effective Date: Immediately. This information should be communicated with all survey and certification staff, their managers, and the State/CMS Location training coordinators within 30 days of this memorandum.

Karen L. Tritz
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/s/
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Director, Quality, Safety & Oversight Group