

Frequently Asked Questions: Measure Set Review Process 2024 Cycle

Overview

The goal of the Measure Set Review (MSR) process is to inform the continued use of health care quality and efficiency measures, respectively, for use in Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicare quality programs.

The MSR process is implemented through collaboration with interested parties to balance various inputs, resulting in well-informed recommendations regarding the continued use of a measure in a specific CMS reporting program.

Detailed information on PRMR and MSR activities, processes, and timelines can be found in the PRMR & MSR Guidebook at www.p4qm.org.



The **Measure Set Review** process builds recommendations around measure use to optimize the CMS measure portfolio in the quality reporting and value-based programs.



The **Pre-Rulemaking Measure Review (PRMR)** process makes consensus recommendations about measures on the Measures Under Consideration (MUC) List.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

MSR Measure Selection

How were measures selected for the 2024 MSR cycle?

The [Cascade of Meaningful Measures](#) (Cascade) is a tool to help prioritize existing health care quality measures in the CMS measure portfolio, to align or reduce the number of measures, and to identify gaps where new measures may need to be developed. The Cascade priorities are Person-Centered Care, Safety, Chronic Conditions, Seamless Care Coordination, Equity, Affordability and Efficiency, Wellness and Prevention, and Behavioral Health. Every MSR cycle, Battelle proposes a set of measures across programs and populations within a select Cascade priority for review. This selection is informed by conversations with key interested parties such as PRMR committee members, CMS, and other national policymakers. The 2024 MSR cycle will review measures within the Affordability and Efficiency priority. This group of measures addresses the financial and operational aspects of health care delivery. Battelle developed considerations to prioritize 35 measures in the CMS measure portfolio for MSR review in 2024 with input from committee members during the 2024 PQM Measure Strategy Summit held April 11. The selection of the 35 measures was based on the following considerations: whether a measure has:

- Questions surrounding measure actionability
- Opportunity for continued measure impact on performance on established clinical guidelines
- Potentially duplicative measure focus across similar measures in the same or different quality reporting program

The measure set and considerations were posted for a 2-week public comment period May 15-May 31 prior to finalization of the list of measures for the 2024 MSR cycle.

MSR Measure Evaluation

What are the evaluation criteria for MSR?

The MSR approach evaluates the purpose of measures in the context of the entire CMS portfolio and how the purpose might best be achieved. MSR criteria categories include impact, clinician data streams, and patient journey. Within these categories, committee members are asked to consider other elements such as equity, potential unintended consequences, patient safety, and impact at multiple levels. More detail on the criteria is available in Appendix D of the [Guidebook of Policies and Procedures for PRMR and MSR](#).

MSR Committee Selection and Responsibilities

How is the MSR committee selected?

MSR Recommendation Group appointment is on an annual basis. Battelle considers several factors, including the level of engagement as current committee members, roster category, and a member's

particular expertise or perspective as related to the specific set of measures under review. Members appointed to MSR also participate in the PRMR processes. The MSR Recommendation Group has 25 to 30 members and includes representatives across the three different PRMR settings [Hospital, Clinician, and Post-Acute Care/Long-Term Care (PAC/LTC)].

What are the responsibilities of an MSR committee member?

MSR committee members' responsibilities include answering emails regarding availability or other requests in a timely manner, conducting assessments of assigned measures for review, and reviewing all materials in advance of the review meeting. Committee members will also be expected to attend a virtual orientation meeting and the 2-day virtual measure review meeting.

How will you prevent conflicts of interest (COI)?

Each committee member consents to public disclosure of general information about the member's financial or business interests, professional associations, and experiences of interest to the public regarding COI. Each committee member will be required to complete an initial personal and organizational (if organizational seat) Disclosure of Interest (DOI) form during the nomination process as well as an additional "measure-specific DOI" form for each measure, or batch of measures, assigned to the committee. This latter form will contain questions relevant to the specific measure(s) being reviewed. If there is a perceived or actual COI, Battelle requires affected members to recuse themselves from the discussion and any voting regarding the applicable measure or measures and, in some instances, from discussion and voting on competing and related measures.

MSR Activities Timeline

What is the timeline for MSR activities?

Battelle will host three education meetings for CMS program and measure leads, measure stewards and developers, and committee members in fall 2024. These meetings will review the MSR process and inform each group on what to expect as well as their role in the process. Battelle will then host a final preparation meeting for CMS program and measure leads. Battelle will share measure-specific preliminary assessments (PAs) with MSR committee members, along with guidance on how to evaluate measures against the measure evaluation criteria using a Pre-Meeting Initial Evaluation, or PIE, form. Battelle staff will then compile and synthesize the information collected from the public comment process and PIE forms to aid in the facilitation of the MSR Recommendation Group meeting. The virtual MSR Recommendation Group will meet for 1 or 2 full days during which Battelle staff will introduce measures and review the PAs. A CMS representative will then provide a brief overview of the measure under review. Following a discussion, the Recommendation Group members will vote on the measures individually. Battelle will compile the results of the meeting and publish the final recommendations. For the 2024 MSR cycle, the MSR Recommendation Group meeting is scheduled to take place September 30-October 1. A backup meeting is scheduled for October 2. Final recommendations are anticipated to be published on the PQM website by November 12.

Interested Party Involvement

How can stewards and developers contribute to this process?

Measure stewards and developers were asked to review measure PAs for accurate information and discuss any concerns with Battelle during the set review period in July. Any additional concerns outside the review period should be sent to Battelle at PQMSupport@Battelle.org by August 23. Stewards and developers should also be prepared to discuss their measures during the MSR Recommendation Group meeting as well as answer any questions the committee members may have about the measures.

How can CMS program leads contribute to this process?

After measures are prioritized for discussion within an MSR Cycle, Battelle will work with CMS program leads to identify appropriate data sources that might be used to conduct analysis on measure performance. CMS program leads are also asked to communicate any rulemaking (e.g., is the measure already in a proposed rule for removal) or other considerations (e.g., is the measure undergoing endorsement maintenance [E&M] review) that may inform data analysis and committee understanding of the measure. CMS program leads should review the draft measure PAs for accurate information and send any concerns to Battelle in a timely manner. Program leads should also be prepared to introduce the measure/measures from their programs that have been included in MSR during the Recommendation Group meeting. This includes providing contextual background on the measures and answering any questions committee members have.

How can the public contribute to this process?

Members of the public are encouraged to comment on the draft list of MSR measures and, later, the PAs. These comments are reviewed during and inform the MSR Recommendation Group review meeting. Additionally, the MSR Recommendation Group is open to the public to listen in on the discussion. Final recommendations will be published on the PQM website in report and spreadsheet form by November 12. They will also be included in the PQM Newsletter and shared with committee members via email.

For more information on PRMR and MSR and other quality measurement activities, visit www.p4qm.org.
