

MBQIP Measure Change Summary

Revised EDTC Measure

April 2019

Update to MBQIP Measure

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) is announcing that a revised version of the Emergency Department Transfer Communication (EDTC) measure will be utilized as part of MBQIP starting with Q1 2020 data collection. Updated specifications and data collection tools will be available in Fall 2019 to help state Flex programs and critical access hospitals (CAHs) prepare for the changes in the measure.

CAHs are expected to continue to collect the EDTC measure, using [current data specifications](#) through Q4 2019 discharges (due January 31, 2020). Data submission throughout will be considered in determining whether a hospital has met [MBQIP eligibility requirements](#).

Starting with Q1 2020 transfers, CAHS must utilize the revised specifications for the EDTC measure for data collection and submission in order to meet MBQIP requirements.

Background

In the Spring of 2018, Stratis Health and the University of Minnesota Rural Health Research Center convened a national technical expert panel (TEP) to review the EDTC measure and make recommendations to modernize and streamline the measure.

Details on the TEP process and recommendations can be found below:

[*Emergency Department Transfer Communication \(EDTC\) Measure \(NQF #291\), 2018 Technical Expert Panel Summary Brief: Background, Process, and Recommendations*](#) (6-page PDF)

Updates to the measure are currently under review through the National Quality Forum (NQF) endorsement process.

Next Steps (See timeline below)

- Flex programs should encourage their CAHs to continue to report EDTC measure data using the [current specifications](#) through Q4 2019 (data submission deadline of January 31, 2020). Suggested wording regarding the forthcoming measure change is provided at the end of this document.
- Stratis Health will be recruiting CAHs to voluntarily participate in a pilot test to provide feedback on the revised specifications. Data from the pilot will also be used to support the NQF re-endorsement process. Participation in the voluntary pilot will be promoted via MBQIP Monthly in the Spring of 2019. CAHs that opt to participate in the pilot will commit to:
 - Submit a small sample of abstracted EDTC data and associated medical records utilizing the revised data specifications. Educational materials will be provided.
 - Participate in an inter-rater reliability review to provide feedback and input on clarity of the measure specifications.
 - Continue to collect and submit EDTC data using the current data specifications.

- Stratis Health will utilize the submitted data and feedback from CAHs participating in the pilot to refine the data specifications as needed. Inter-rater reliability data and results will be used in support of the NQF re-endorsement process.
- A final version of the revised data specifications will be available in Fall 2019
- Stratis Health will be revising, testing, and releasing a new version of its EDTC data collection tool as well. The updated tool will be available in Fall 2019.
- Stratis Health will make every effort to be in direct contact with known consulting groups and/or vendors that offer an EDTC data collection tool to provide information about the revised measure specifications and give them the opportunity to revise tools prior to the January 2020 roll-out of the revised measure. State Flex programs are encouraged to share this information with their subcontractors and/or vendors as well.
- A multi-prong communication strategy will be implemented in the coming months to help ensure awareness and understanding of the revised measure, and the timing for roll-out of the updated specifications and data collection tools.

Timeline

<u>Spring 2019</u>	<u>Summer 2019</u>	<u>Fall 2019</u>	<u>January 1, 2020</u>
Communicate timeline and changes with Flex programs and vendors	CAHS participating in pilot submit up to five records with abstraction using the revised measure specifications	Updated EDTC data specifications, data collection tools, and related education resources made available	All CAHs begin using revised measure specifications for submission of EDTC as part of MBQIP
Recruit CAHS to pilot revised measure specifications	EDTC Measure specifications refined based on pilot results		
Through December 31, 2019: All CAHS continue to collect EDTC quarterly using current data specifications			

Suggested Wording for Communicating with CAHs

State Flex programs can use the draft wording below to communicate forthcoming changes to EDTC with CAHs.

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) is announcing that a revised version of the Emergency Department Transfer Communication (EDTC) measure will be utilized as part of MBQIP starting with Q1 2020 data collection. Updated specifications, data collection tools, and training will be available in Fall 2019 to help critical access hospitals (CAHs) prepare for the changes in the measure. Starting with Q1 2020 transfers, CAHS must utilize the revised specifications for the EDTC measure for data collection and submission in order to meet MBQIP requirements.

CAHs are expected to continue to collect the EDTC measure, using [current data specifications](#) through Q4 2019 discharges (due January 31, 2020).