

# 2022 MACRA Ready™ Manual

(v04/14/2022)

**Please note:** This guide was prepared for informational purposes only and isn't intended to grant rights or impose obligations. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It isn't intended to take the place of the written law, including the regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations, and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

This manual covers the "Traditional MIPS" pathway of the Quality Payment Program (<https://qpp.cms.gov>).



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## I. Quality Payment Program ([qpp.cms.gov](http://qpp.cms.gov))

### Overview

The Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) is one way to participate in the Quality Payment Program (QPP). The program describes how CMS reimburses MIPS eligible providers (EPs) for Part B covered professional services and rewards them for improving the quality of patient care and outcomes.

Under MIPS, CMS evaluates your performance across multiple performance categories that lead to improved quality and value in our healthcare system.

Key points:

1. **Payment Adjustment:** Each Eligible Provider (EP) - defined as any unique NPI + TIN combination - will ultimately be given a Payment Adjustment on Medicare claims ranging from a max penalty of -9% to a theoretical max bonus of +9% (but much more likely max is lower). The final payment adjustment is a function of the NPI's **Composite Performance Score (CPS)**.
2. **Composite Performance Score:** The EP's Composite Performance Score ranges from 0 to 100 with 0 resulting in the max penalty and a CPS of 100 resulting in the max bonus. The CPS is determined by a complex formula consisting of weighted averages from **Four Performance Categories**.
3. **Four Performance Categories:** Specific weighted averages of the following four performance categories produce your final Composite Performance Score (0-100): **Quality, Promoting Interoperability, Improvement Activities, and Cost**.

CMS designed MIPS to update and consolidate previous programs, including: Medicare Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Program for Eligible Clinicians, Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS), and the Value-Based Payment Modifier (VBM).

MIPS was designed to tie payments to quality and cost efficient care, drive improvement in care processes and health outcomes, increase the use of healthcare information, and reduce the cost of care.

The **MIPS Performance Year** begins on January 1 and ends on December 31 each year. Program participants must report quality data on all cases during one calendar year by March 31 of the following calendar year. For example, program participants who collected data in 2022 will eventually have their data sent to CMS by March 31, 2023 to be eligible for a payment increase and to avoid a payment reduction for claims filed in 2024.

## Payment Adjustment

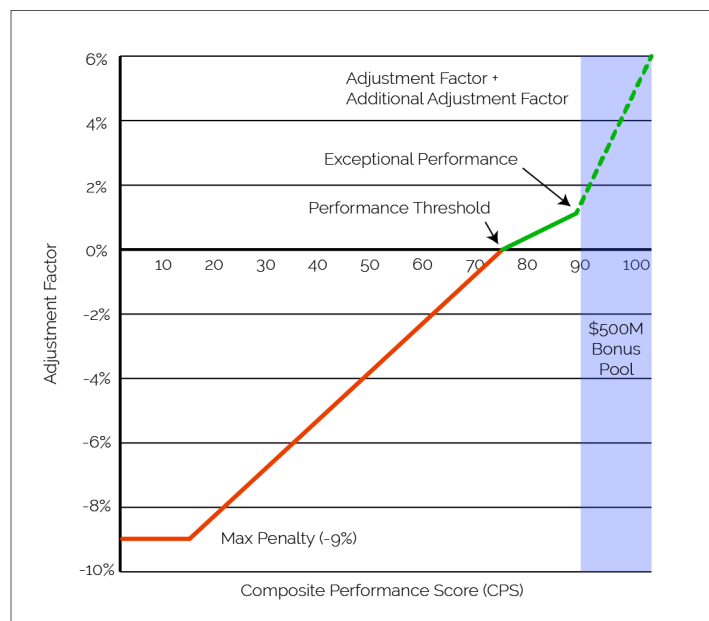
The EP's Payment Adjustment, which may be either negative (i.e. penalty) or positive (i.e. bonus). This percent change will be recognized on Medicare claims filed by the NPI + TIN combination, two years after the reporting period.

Keep in mind, EPs are defined by their unique NPI + TIN combination, meaning any NPI may have several Payment Adjustments, depending on how many TINs they bill under. For example, if a given NPI files claims with CMS using 4 different TINs, they will receive 4 separate Payment Adjustments. This provides segregation between employers, such that the payment adjustment from one TIN will not affect another TIN's future claims.

The Payment Adjustment is determined by the EP's Composite Performance Score. This is a nonlinear relationship across the entire CPS range (see chart below). While predicting any specific Payment Adjustment is difficult, the table below illustrates some helpful "mile markers", connecting specific payment adjustments to specific Composite Performance Scores.

Payment Adjustment	Composite Performance Score	Common Name
-9%	0	Maximum Penalty
0%	75 (was 60 in 2021)	Performance Threshold
2%	89 (was 85 in 2021)	Exceptional Performer
+9% (theoretical max)*	100	Maximum Bonus

\*Theoretical max bonus is a function of the amount raised from the EPs paying a penalty via negative payment adjustments. Estimates for max bonus will likely be less than 9%.



## Composite Performance Score

A CPS ranges from 0 to 100 for each Performance Year.

The CPS is determined by a complex formula consisting of weighted averages from 4 Performance Categories: Promoting Interoperability, Cost, Improvement Activities, and Quality. For "Non-Patient Facing" EPs, the weighted significance of each Performance Category is shown in the table below.

Performance Category	Weight	Notes
Promoting Interoperability	0%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Re-weighted to 0% for non-patient facing Eligible Providers (e.g. Anesthesiologists and CRNAs)</li></ul>
Cost	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unclear how this will be determined by CMS</li><li>• No additional data submission required</li></ul>
Improvement Activities	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Annual attestation of activities performed over the reporting period</li></ul>
Quality	55%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No limit on number of measures submitted</li><li>• CMS will only count your top 6 measures</li></ul>

These 4 Performance Categories are used to determine a Composite Performance Score which is then used to determine the Payment Adjustment for each unique NPI + TIN. Let's take a deeper dive into each of the Performance Categories.

## Four Performance Categories

### 1. Promoting Interoperability (0% of CPS)

Most clinicians must collect data using certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT) on the required measures for the same continuous 90 (+)-day in the current performance period. This performance category replaced the Medicare EHR Incentive Program for EPs, commonly known as "Meaningful Use".

In years past, CMS has re-weighted this category to 0% for all anesthesia providers based on their status as "non-patient facing". There is no requirement for anesthesia EPs to use CEHRTs. Instead, the weight for this category is transferred to the Quality category (see below).

### 2. Cost (30% of CPS)

This performance category replaces the VBM. The cost of the care you provide will be calculated by CMS based on your Medicare claims. MIPS uses cost measures to gauge the total cost of care during the year or during a hospital stay. This is a bit of a black box, in that there is no current way to track or review this component score. Fortunately, there is no additional data submission requirement either.

### 3. Improvement Activities (15% of CPS)

This category includes an inventory of activities that assess how you improve your care processes, enhance patient engagement in care, and increase access to care. The inventory allows you to choose the activities appropriate to your practice from categories such as, enhancing care coordination, patient and clinician shared decision-making, and expansion of practice access.

This entails a single end-of-year attestation of the following available activities to verify to CMS that the data collected is being used to improve patient care. **These are subject to CMS audits. Please be diligent in the selection for your providers.** (For more detailed information for required validation documentation: <https://qpp.cms.gov/mips/improvement-activities>)

The IA category accounts for 15% of the Final CPS. To earn full credit in this category, participants must attest to one of the following combinations of activities (each activity must be performed for 90 days or more during the reporting period):

- 2 high-weighted activities
- 1 high-weighted activity and 2 medium-weighted activities
- At least 4 medium-weighted activities

#### 4. Quality (55% of CPS)

This category covers the quality of the care you deliver, based on performance measures created by CMS, as well as medical professional and stakeholder groups. CMS will only use a maximum of 6 measures to determine your quality of care. You must report on at least 70% of your eligible patients for the entire year.

**NOTE:** While Graphium Health will report quality data for all 13 MACRA measures described below, CMS will only consider the top 6 measures. So leaving a question blank will NOT necessarily negatively impact your Payment Adjustment, *assuming there are another 6 applicable measures being recorded.*

#### Category Maximum Points

Each of the 6 MACRA measures is worth a max of 10 points, giving this category a maximum score of 60 points. For example, if you earn a total of 25 points from your top 6 MACRA measures, then you will have earned 41.7% (=25/60) of the Quality category.

Because the Quality Performance Category is worth 70% of the CPS, the total amount of points from this category towards CPS is 41.7% of 70 = 29.7pts.

#### Points per Measure

Each MACRA measure is assigned a score ranging from 0 to 10, depending on how your Performance Met for a given measure compares with the measure's national benchmark. That is, after all quality data has been collected across the country, CMS will divide a given measure's Performance Met rates into decile categories in order to create the measure's benchmark as seen in the table below for QID 430 (Prevention of PONV - Combo Therapy).

Decile 3	Decile 4	Decile 5	Decile 6	Decile 7	Decile 8	Decile 9	Decile 10
31.65 - 87.82	87.83 - 96.42	96.43 - 99.25	99.26 - 99.97	99.98 - 99.99	--	--	100

In this example, if your EP's Performance Met for MIPS 430 was 98.6%, then they would fall in Decile 5, thus earning a total of 5 pts for this measure.

**NOTE:** A Performance Rate of 69% for MACRA Measure A may actually be worth more CPS points compared to a 98% Performance Met for MACRA Measure B because the number of points earned for each measure is a function of BOTH your Performance Met AND how it compares to the measure's national benchmark.



## Performance Met Percentage

In calculating any individual MACRA measure's Performance Met rate, all anesthesia cases for a given EP during the Reporting Periods are individually evaluated for all the elements required to score the MACRA measure. The individual criteria for each MACRA measure are described on the pages that follow.

Each measure for a given anesthetic case is assigned one of the following states based on the data provided by the EP:

**Performance Met:** Case is eligible for this measure (based on denominator criteria), and evaluation of numerator criteria resulted in successful performance

**Performance Not Met:** Case is eligible for this measure (based on denominator criteria), but evaluation of numerator criteria resulted in failed performance

**Data Completeness Not Met:** Case is eligible for this measure (based on denominator criteria) but is missing data required for numerator evaluation

**Ineligible:** Case is ineligible for this measure due to Denominator Exclusion criteria or because of missing fields. Denominator Exclusion criteria is specifically defined in each measure. For example, an ASA Physical Status of 5 may mean a given measure does not apply to a given case. "Performance Met" rate for this measure will not be affected by this case. Please review the measure definition for further details.

**Denominator Exception:** Based on denominator criteria for this measure, case was eligible, but it was ultimately excluded because it met certain additional criteria as defined by the measure. "Performance Met" rate for this measure will not be affected by this case. Please review the measure definition for further details.

*Performance Met rate =*

$$\frac{\text{\# of Performance Met Cases}}{\text{\# of Performance Met Cases} + \text{\# of Performance NOT Met Cases}}$$

*Data Completeness rate =*

$$\frac{\text{\# of Performance Met Cases} + \text{\# of Performance NOT Met Cases}}{\text{\# of Performance Met Cases} + \text{\# of Performance NOT Met Cases} + \text{\# of Data Completeness NOT Met Cases}}$$

## Reporting Thresholds, Participation Status, & Reporting Options

### Reporting Thresholds

For the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS), CMS reviews past and current Medicare Part B Claims and Provider Enrollment, Chain, and Ownership System (PECOS) data for clinicians and practices twice for each Performance Year (each review is called a determination segment). Data from the two segments is then reconciled and released as the final eligibility determination. (<https://qpp.cms.gov/mips/how-eligibility-is-determined>)

Clinicians and practices must exceed the low-volume threshold during both review periods to be eligible for MIPS.

You must participate in MIPS (unless otherwise exempt) if, in both 12-month segments of the MIPS Determination Period, you:

- Bill more than \$90,000 for Part B covered professional services, and
- See more than 200 Part B patients, and;
- Provide more than 200 covered professional services to Part B patients.


### Participation Status

There are different ways to become a MIPS eligible clinician, depending on whether you're reporting as an individual or part of a group.

#### MIPS Eligible as an Individual


MIPS Eligibility:  **INDIVIDUAL**

In order to be MIPS eligible as an individual clinician, you must:

- Be identified as a [MIPS eligible clinician type](#) on Medicare Part B claims,
- Have enrolled in Medicare before 2020,
- Not be a [Qualifying Alternative Payment Model Participant](#)  (QP), and
- Exceed the [low-volume threshold](#) as an individual.



If you're MIPS eligible as an individual, you're required to report for MIPS.

## MIPS Eligible as Part of a Group

MIPS Eligibility:  GROUP

In order to be MIPS eligible as part of a group, you must:

- Be identified as a [MIPS eligible clinician type](#) on Medicare Part B claims,
- Have enrolled in Medicare before 2020,
- Not be a QP, and
- Be associated with a practice which exceeds the [low-volume threshold](#).

If you're MIPS eligible in your group, you'll receive a score and [payment adjustment](#)  based on [group reporting](#)  when the group reports.

**NOTE:** If CMS determines a given EP is "Individual Exempt" and the EP elects to reports as an Individual, then no Payment Adjustment will be assigned, regardless of data submitted. **It is much more common for EPs to report as a Group because their group volume exceeds the low-volume threshold making them eligible to receive a positive Payment Adjustment.**

Find any EP's Participation Status at: <https://qpp.cms.gov/participation-lookup>

### Reporting: Group vs Individual

Each TIN may report as either a "Group", "Individual", or "Both". Recall "MACRA Exempt" status is evaluated for each NPI on both an *individual* and *group* basis. That is, the "MACRA Exempt" criteria are applied at the NPI level (i.e. all cases for an NPI) and to the TIN level (i.e. all cases for a TIN). If a given NPI is deemed "Individual MACRA Exempt" by CMS and the elect to report as an Individual, then they will not receive a penalty or a bonus. Rather, CMS will label them as a "Voluntary Submitter" and while they still will receive a CPS, it will provide no financial adjustment - negative or positive.

#### *Report as an Individual*

If reporting only as an individual, the NPI's measures and activities for the given TIN will be reported to the QCDR. Composite Performance Scores will be based on individual EP's performance.

#### *Report as a Group*

If reporting as a group, all NPIs' measures and activities for the given TIN will be reported to the QCDR. The group's performance data across the 4 Performance Categories for a single TIN will be evaluated in aggregate. Each EP in the TIN group will then receive the same CPS based on the group's performance.

**If reporting as a Group, it is important to ensure you report quality data for ALL NPIs within a given TIN.** For a complete list of all NPIs within your TIN please check your CMS portal at <https://portal.cms.gov>

## II. Improvement Activities

### **Provide 24/7 Access to MIPS Eligible Clinicians or Groups Who Have Real-Time Access to Patient's Medical Record**

#### **Activity Description:**

Provide 24/7 access to MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or care teams for advice about urgent care (e.g., MIPS eligible clinician and care team access to medical record, cross-coverage with access to medical record, or protocol- driven nurse line with access to medical record) that could include one or more of the following:

- Expanded hours in evenings and weekends with access to the patient medical record (e.g., coordinate with small practices to provide alternate hour office visits and urgent care);
- Use of alternatives to increase access to care team by MIPS eligible clinicians and groups, such as e-visits, phone visits, group visits, home visits and alternate locations (e.g., senior centers and assisted living centers); and/or
- Provision of same-day or next-day access to a MIPS eligible clinician, group or care team when needed for urgent care or transition management.

#### **Activity ID:**

IA\_EPA\_1

#### **Subcategory Name:**

Expanded Practice Access

#### **Activity Weighting:**

High

## **Use of QCDR for feedback reports that incorporate population health**

### **Activity Description:**

Use of a QCDR to generate regular feedback reports that summarize local practice patterns and treatment outcomes, including for vulnerable populations.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_PM\_7

### **Subcategory Name:**

Population Management

### **Activity Weighting:**

High

## **Regular Review Practices in Place on Targeted Patient Population Needs**

### **Activity Description:**

Implement regular reviews of targeted patient population needs, such as structured clinical case reviews, which include access to reports that show unique characteristics of MIPS eligible clinician's patient population, identification of underserved patients, and how clinical treatment needs are being tailored, if necessary, to address unique needs and what resources in the community have been identified as additional resources. The review should consider how structural inequities, such as racism, are influencing patterns of care and consider changes to acknowledge and address them. Reviews should stratify patient data by demographic characteristics and health related social needs to appropriately identify differences among unique populations and assess the drivers of gaps and disparities and identify interventions appropriate for the needs of the sub-populations.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_PM\_11

### **Subcategory Name:**

Population Management

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **Implementation of documentation improvements for practice/process improvements**

### **Activity Description:**

Implementation of practices/processes that document care coordination activities (e.g., a documented care coordination encounter that tracks all clinical staff involved and communications from date patient is scheduled for outpatient procedure through day of procedure).

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_CC\_8

### **Subcategory Name:**

Care Coordination

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **PSH Care Coordination**

### **Activity Description:**

Participation in a Perioperative Surgical Home (PSH) that provides a patient-centered, physician-led, interdisciplinary, and team-based system of coordinated patient care, which coordinates care from pre-procedure assessment through the acute care episode, recovery, and post-acute care. This activity allows for reporting of strategies and processes related to care coordination of patients receiving surgical or procedural care within a PSH. The clinician must perform one or more of the following care coordination activities:

- Coordinate with care managers/navigators in preoperative clinic to plan and implementation comprehensive post discharge plan of care;
- Deploy perioperative clinic and care processes to reduce post-operative visits to emergency rooms;
- Implement evidence-informed practices and standardize care across the entire spectrum of surgical patients; or
- Implement processes to ensure effective communications and education of patients' post-discharge instructions.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_CC\_15

### **Subcategory Name:**

Care Coordination

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium



**Tracking of clinician’s relationship to and responsibility for a patient by reporting MACRA patient relationship codes.**

**Activity Description:**

To receive credit for this improvement activity, a MIPS eligible clinician must attest that they reported MACRA patient relationship codes (PRC) using the applicable HCPCS modifiers on 50 percent or more of their Medicare claims for a minimum of a continuous 90-day period within the performance period. Reporting the PRC modifiers enables the identification of a clinician’s relationship with, and responsibility for, a patient at the time of furnishing an item or service. See the CY 2018 PFS final rule (82 FR 53232 through 53234) for more details on these codes.

**Activity ID:**

IA\_CC\_19

**Subcategory Name:**

Care Coordination

**Activity Weighting:**

High

## **Collection and follow-up on patient experience and satisfaction data on beneficiary engagement**

### **Activity Description:**

Collect and follow up on patient experience and satisfaction data. This activity also requires follow-up on findings of assessments, including the development and implementation of improvement plans. To fulfill the requirements of this activity, MIPS eligible clinicians can use surveys (e.g., Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems Survey), advisory councils, or other mechanisms. MIPS eligible clinicians may consider implementing patient surveys in multiple languages, based on the needs of their patient population.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_BE\_6

### **Subcategory Name:**

Beneficiary Engagement

### **Activity Weighting:**

High

**Regularly assess the patient experience of care through surveys, advisory councils and/or other mechanisms.**

**Activity Description:**

Regularly assess the patient experience of care through surveys, advisory councils and/or other mechanisms.

**Activity ID:**

IA\_BE\_13

**Subcategory Name:**

Beneficiary Engagement

**Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **Improved Practices that Engage Patients Pre-Visit**

### **Activity Description:**

Implementation of workflow changes that engage patients prior to the visit, such as a pre-visit development of a shared visit agenda with the patient, or targeted pre-visit laboratory testing that will be resulted and available to the MIPS eligible clinician to review and discuss during the patient's appointment.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_BE\_22

### **Subcategory Name:**

Beneficiary Engagement

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium

**Participation in an AHRQ-listed patient safety organization.**

**Activity Description:**

Participation in an AHRQ-listed patient safety organization.

**Activity ID:**

IA\_PSPA\_1

**Subcategory Name:**

Patient Safety and Practice Assessment

**Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **Participation in MOC Part IV**

### **Activity Description:**

In order to receive credit for this activity, a MIPS eligible clinician must participate in Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Part IV. Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Part IV requires clinicians to perform monthly activities across practice to regularly assess performance by reviewing outcomes addressing identified areas for improvement and evaluating the results.

Some examples of activities that can be completed to receive MOC Part IV credit are: the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Approved Quality Improvement (AQI) Program, National Cardiovascular Data Registry (NCDR) Clinical Quality Coach, Quality Practice Initiative Certification Program, American Board of Medical Specialties Practice Performance Improvement Module or American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Simulation Education Network, for improving professional practice including participation in a local, regional or national outcomes registry or quality assessment program; specialty- specific activities including Safety Certification in Outpatient Practice Excellence (SCOPE); American Psychiatric Association (APA) Performance in Practice modules.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_PSPA\_2

### **Subcategory Name:**

Patient Safety and Practice Assessment

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **Use of QCDR data for ongoing practice assessment and improvements**

### **Activity Description:**

Participation in a Qualified Clinical Data Registry (QCDR) and use of QCDR data for ongoing practice assessment and improvements in patient safety, including:

- Performance of activities that promote use of standard practices, tools and processes for quality improvement (for example, documented preventative screening and vaccinations that can be shared across MIPS eligible clinician or groups);
  - Use of standard questionnaires for assessing improvements in health disparities related to functional health status (for example, use of Seattle Angina Questionnaire, MD Anderson Symptom Inventory, and/or SF-12/VR-12 functional health status assessment);
  - Use of standardized processes for screening for social determinants of health such as food security, employment, and housing;
  - Use of supporting QCDR modules that can be incorporated into the certified EHR technology;
- or
- Use of QCDR data for quality improvement such as comparative analysis across specific patient populations for adverse outcomes after an outpatient surgical procedure and corrective steps to address adverse outcomes.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_PSPA\_7

### **Subcategory Name:**

Patient Safety and Practice Assessment

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **Use of Patient Safety Tools**

### **Activity Description:**

In order to receive credit for this activity, a MIPS eligible clinician must use tools that assist specialty practices in tracking specific measures that are meaningful to their practice.

Some examples of tools that could satisfy this activity are: a surgical risk calculator; evidence based protocols, such as Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) protocols; the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Guide for Infection Prevention for Outpatient Settings predictive algorithms; and the opiate risk tool (ORT) or similar tool.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_PSPA\_8

### **Subcategory Name:**

Patient Safety and Practice Assessment

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium



## **Participation in private payer CPIA**

### **Activity Description:**

Participation in designated private payer clinical practice improvement activities.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_PSPA\_12

### **Subcategory Name:**

Patient Safety and Practice Assessment

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **Participation in Joint Commission Evaluation Initiative**

**Activity Description:**

Participation in Joint Commission Ongoing Professional Practice Evaluation initiative.

**Activity ID:**

IA\_PSPA\_13

**Subcategory Name:**

Patient Safety and Practice Assessment

**Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **Use of decision support and standardized treatment protocols**

### **Activity Description:**

Use decision support and standardized treatment protocols to manage workflow in the team to meet patient needs.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_PSPA\_16

### **Subcategory Name:**

Patient Safety and Practice Assessment

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **Implementation of formal quality improvement methods, practice changes, or other practice improvement processes**

### **Activity Description:**

Adopt a formal model for quality improvement and create a culture in which all staff actively participates in improvement activities that could include one or more of the following, such as:

- Participation in multisource feedback; • Train all staff in quality improvement methods;
- Integrate practice change/quality improvement into staff duties;
- Engage all staff in identifying and testing practices changes;
- Designate regular team meetings to review data and plan improvement cycles;
- Promote transparency and accelerate improvement by sharing practice level and panel level quality of care, patient experience and utilization data with staff;
- Promote transparency and engage patients and families by sharing practice level quality of care, patient experience and utilization data with patients and families, including activities in which clinicians act upon patient experience data;
- Participation in Bridges to Excellence; • Participation in American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Multi- Specialty Portfolio Program.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_PSPA\_19

### **Subcategory Name:**

Patient Safety and Practice Assessment

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **Leadership engagement in regular guidance and demonstrated commitment for implementing practice improvement changes**

### **Activity Description:**

Ensure full engagement of clinical and administrative leadership in practice improvement that could include one or more of the following:

- Make responsibility for guidance of practice change a component of clinical and administrative leadership roles;
- Allocate time for clinical and administrative leadership for practice improvement efforts, including participation in regular team meetings; and/or
- Incorporate population health, quality and patient experience metrics in regular reviews of practice performance.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_PSPA\_20

### **Subcategory Name:**

Patient Safety and Practice Assessment

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **Completion of an Accredited Safety or Quality Improvement Program**

### **Activity Description:**

Completion of an accredited performance improvement continuing medical education (CME) program that addresses performance or quality improvement according to the following criteria:

- The activity must address a quality or safety gap that is supported by a needs assessment or problem analysis, or must support the completion of such a needs assessment as part of the activity;
- The activity must have specific, measurable aim(s) for improvement;
- The activity must include interventions intended to result in improvement;
- The activity must include data collection and analysis of performance data to assess the impact of the interventions; and
- The accredited program must define meaningful clinician participation in their activity, describe the mechanism for identifying clinicians who meet the requirements, and provide participant completion information.

An example of an activity that could satisfy this improvement activity is completion of an accredited continuing medical education program related to opioid analgesic risk and evaluation strategy (REMS) to address pain control (that is, acute and chronic pain).

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_PSPA\_28

### **Subcategory Name:**

Patient Safety and Practice Assessment

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium

## **Provide Education Opportunities for New Clinicians**

### **Activity Description:**

MIPS eligible clinicians acting as a preceptor for clinicians-in-training (such as medical residents/fellows, medical students, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, or clinical nurse specialists) and accepting such clinicians for clinical rotations in community practices in small, underserved, or rural areas.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_AHE\_6

### **Subcategory Name:**

Achieving Health Equity

### **Activity Weighting:**

High

## **Promoting Clinician Well-Being**

### **Activity Description:**

Develop and implement programs to support clinician well-being and resilience—for example, through relationship-building opportunities, leadership development plans, or creation of a team within a practice to address clinician well-being—using one of the following approaches:

- Completion of clinician survey on clinician well-being with subsequent implementation of an improvement plan based on the results of the survey.
- Completion of training regarding clinician well-being with subsequent implementation of a plan for improvement.

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_BMH\_12

### **Subcategory Name:**

Behavioral and Mental Health

### **Activity Weighting:**

High



## **Create and Implement an Anti-Racism Plan**

### **Activity Description:**

Create and implement an anti-racism plan using the CMS Disparities Impact Statement or other anti-racism planning tools. The plan should include a clinic- wide review of existing tools and policies, such as value statements or clinical practice guidelines, to ensure that they include and are aligned with a commitment to anti-racism and an understanding of race as a political and social construct, not a physiological one.

The plan should also identify ways in which issues and gaps identified in the review can be addressed and should include target goals and milestones for addressing prioritized issues and gaps. This may also include an assessment and drafting of an organization's plan to prevent and address racism and/or improve language access and accessibility to ensure services are accessible and understandable for those seeking care. The MIPS eligible clinician or practice can also consider including in their plan ongoing training on anti-racism and/or other processes to support identifying explicit and implicit biases in patient care and addressing historic health inequities experienced by people of color. More information about elements of the CMS Disparities Impact Statement is detailed in the template and action plan document at: <https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/Downloads/Disparities-Impact-Statement-508-rev102018.pdf>

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_AHE\_8

### **Subcategory Name:**

Achieving Health Equity

### **Activity Weighting:**

High

## **Implementation of a Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan**

### **Activity Description:**

Implement a plan to acquire, store, maintain, and replenish supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) for all clinicians or other staff who are in physical proximity to patients. In accordance with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the PPE plan should address:

- Conventional capacity: PPE controls that should be implemented in general infection prevention and control plans in healthcare settings, including training in proper PPE use.
- Contingency capacity: actions that may be used temporarily during periods of expected PPE shortages.
- Crisis capacity: strategies that may need to be considered during periods of known PPE shortages.

The PPE plan should address all of the following types of PPE:

- Standard precautions (e.g., hand hygiene, prevention of needle-stick or sharps injuries, safe waste management, cleaning and disinfection of the environment)
- Eye protection
- Gowns (including coveralls or aprons) • Gloves
- Facemasks
- Respirators (including N95 respirators)

### **Activity ID:**

IA\_ERP\_4

### **Subcategory Name:**

Emergency Response & Preparedness

### **Activity Weighting:**

Medium

**Participation in a 60-day or greater effort to support domestic or international humanitarian needs**

**Activity Description:**

Participation in domestic or international humanitarian volunteer work. Activities that simply involve registration are not sufficient. MIPS eligible clinicians and groups attest to domestic or international humanitarian volunteer work for a period of a continuous 60 days or greater.

**Activity ID:**

IA\_ERP\_2

**Subcategory Name:**

Emergency Response And Preparedness

**Activity Weighting:**

High

### III. MACRA Measures

#### QID 404: Anesthesiology Smoking Abstinence

**MEASURE TYPE:**

Intermediate Outcome – High Priority

**DESCRIPTION:**

The percentage of current smokers who abstain from cigarettes prior to anesthesia on the day of elective surgery or procedure

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be submitted each time an elective surgery, diagnostic, or pain procedure is performed under anesthesia during the performance period. There is no diagnosis associated with this measure. It is anticipated that Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians who provide the listed anesthesia services as specified in the denominator coding will submit this measure.

**MEASURE SUBMISSION TYPE:**

Measure data may be submitted by individual MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third party intermediaries. The listed denominator criteria are used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator options included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions as allowed by the measure. The quality-data codes listed do not need to be submitted by MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third party intermediaries that utilize this modality for submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those third party intermediaries that utilize Medicare Part B claims data. For more information regarding Application Programming Interface (API), please refer to the Quality Payment Program (QPP) website.

**DENOMINATOR:**

All patients aged 18 years and older who are evaluated in preparation for elective surgical, diagnostic, or pain procedure requiring anesthesia services and identified as a current smoker prior to the day of the surgery or procedure with instruction from anesthesiologist or proxy to abstain from smoking on the day of surgery or procedure.

***DENOMINATOR NOTE:*** Preoperative smoking cessation instruction can be performed by an anesthesiologist or proxy, including but not limited to a surgeon, nursing staff, or other preoperative care team member, as part of preoperative evaluation.

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

Patients aged  $\geq$  18 years on date of service

**AND**

**Patient procedure during the performance period (CPT):**

00100, 00102, 00103, 00104, 00120, 00124, 00126, 00140, 00142,  
00144, 00145, 00147, 00148, 00160, 00162, 00164, 00170, 00172,  
00174, 00176, 00190, 00192, 00210, 00211, 00212, 00214, 00215,  
00216, 00218, 00220, 00222, 00300, 00320, 00322, 00350, 00352,  
00400, 00402, 00404, 00406, 00410, 00450, 00454, 00470, 00472,  
00474, 00500, 00520, 00522, 00524, 00528, 00529, 00530, 00532,  
00534, 00537, 00539, 00540, 00541, 00542, 00546, 00548, 00550,  
00560, 00563, 00566, 00567, 00580, 00600, 00604, 00620, 00625,  
00626, 00630, 00632, 00635, 00640, 00670, 00700, 00702, 00730,  
00731, 00732, 00750, 00752, 00756, 00770, 00790, 00792, 00794,  
00796, 00797, 00800, 00802, 00811, 00812, 00813, 00820, 00830,  
00832, 00840, 00842, 00844, 00846, 00848, 00851, 00860, 00862,  
00864, 00865, 00866, 00868, 00870, 00872, 00873, 00880, 00882,  
00902, 00904, 00906, 00908, 00910, 00912, 00914, 00916, 00918,  
00920, 00921, 00922, 00924, 00926, 00928, 00930, 00932, 00934,  
00936, 00938, 00940, 00942, 00944, 00948, 00950, 00952, 01112,  
01120, 01130, 01140, 01150, 01160, 01170, 01173, 01200, 01202,  
01210, 01212, 01214, 01215, 01220, 01230, 01232, 01234, 01250,  
01260, 01270, 01272, 01402, 01404, 01420, 01430, 01432, 01482,  
01484, 01486, 01490, 01500, 01638, 01650, 01652, 01654, 01656,  
01742, 01744, 01756, 01758, 01760, 01840, 01842, 01844, 01850,  
01852, 01932, 01933, 01935, 01936, 01951, 62320, 62321, 62322,  
62323, 62324, 64415, 64416, 64417, 64418, 64420, 64450, 64455,  
64461, 64463, 64479, 64517, 64520, 64530, 0228T, 0230T, 01274,  
01320, 01340, 01360, 01380, 01382, 01390, 01392, 01400, 01440,  
01442, 01444, 01462, 01464, 01470, 01472, 01474, 01480, 01502,  
01520, 01522, 01610, 01620, 01622, 01630, 01634, 01636, 01670,  
01680, 01710, 01712, 01714, 01716, 01730, 01732, 01740, 01770,  
01772, 01780, 01782, 01810, 01820, 01829, 01830, 01832, 01860,  
01916, 01920, 01922, 01924, 01925, 01926, 01930, 01931, 01952,  
01958, 01960, 01961, 01966, 01991, 01992, 27095, 27096, 62325,  
62326, 62327, 64400, 64405, 64408, 64421, 64425, 64430, 64435,  
64445, 64446, 64447, 64448, 64449, 64483, 64486, 64487, 64488,  
64489, 64490, 64493, 64505, 64510

**AND**

**Current smoker (e.g. cigarette, cigar, pipe, e-cigarette or marijuana): G9642**

**Elective surgery: G9643**

**AND**

**Received instruction from the anesthesiologist or proxy prior to the day of surgery  
to abstain from smoking on the day of surgery: G9497**

**NUMERATOR:**

Patients who abstained from smoking prior to anesthesia on the day of surgery or procedure

**Definition:**

**Abstinence** - Defined by either patient self-report or an exhaled carbon monoxide level of < 10 ppm.

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met:***

Patients who abstained from smoking prior to anesthesia on the day of surgery or procedure (**G9644**)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

Patients who did not abstain from smoking prior to anesthesia on the day of surgery or procedure (**G9645**)

**RATIONALE:**

Each year, approximately 10 million cigarette smokers require surgery and anesthesia in the U.S. Smoking is a significant independent risk factor for perioperative heart, lung, and wound-related complications. There now is good evidence that perioperative abstinence from smoking reduces the risk of heart, lung, and wound-related perioperative complications, and that the perioperative period represents a “teachable moment” for smoking cessation that improves long-term abstinence rates. While a longer duration of abstinence is associated with a greater benefit for patients, even just abstinence on the morning of surgery is associated with reduced levels of nicotine and carbon monoxide levels and a reduced risk of myocardial ischemia and surgical site infections. Evidence shows that perioperative tobacco cessation interventions can 1) increase perioperative abstinence rates in surgical patients who smoke and 2) decrease the rate of perioperative complications. Recent reviews identified a range of effective interventions, from brief counseling to the use of behavioral therapy and pharmacotherapy, that physicians who care for surgical patients (e.g., anesthesiologists and surgeons) can incorporate into their practices to improve perioperative smoking abstinence. Unfortunately, evidence also suggests that few of these physicians take advantage of the opportunity to intervene, and that many surgical patients still smoke even on the morning of surgery. If more surgical patients get help to quit smoking around the time of surgery, this will both reduce the rate of smoking-related perioperative complications such as wound infection, and lead to long-term improvements in health, as the average smoker gains 6-8 life years if they quit. Thus, this measure on abstinence on the morning of surgery not only directly affects acute surgical risk, but also serves as a marker for the provision of effective preoperative tobacco use interventions.

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- Date of service
- Date of birth
- ASA CPT code

- Smoker status
- Elective case
- Received cessation instructions
- Smoked on day of procedure

**REPORTING CODES**

QID 404 Code	Definition
G9642	Current smoker (e.g. cigarette, cigar, pipe, e-cigarette or marijuana)
G9643	Elective surgery
G9497	Received instruction from the anesthesiologist or proxy prior to the day of surgery to abstain from smoking on the day of surgery
G9644	Patients who abstained from smoking prior to anesthesia on the day of surgery or procedure
G9645	Patients who did not abstain from smoking prior to anesthesia on the day of surgery or procedure

## AQI 62: Obstructive Sleep Apnea: Patient Education

### **MEASURE DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients aged 18 years or older, who undergo an elective procedure requiring anesthesia services who are screened for obstructive sleep apnea AND, if positive, have documentation that they received education regarding their risk for obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) prior to PACU discharge.

**NQS DOMAIN / MEANINGFUL MEASURES AREA:** Effective Clinical Care / Management of Chronic Conditions

**MEASURE TYPE:** Process

**HIGH PRIORITY STATUS:** No

**INVERSE MEASURE:** No

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be reported each time a patient undergoes an elective procedure under anesthesia during the reporting period. It is anticipated that qualified anesthesia providers and eligible clinicians who provide denominator-eligible services will submit this measure.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

All patients aged 18 years or older, who undergo an elective procedure requiring anesthesia services

***Denominator Note:*** For the purposes of this measure, anesthesia services only include cases using general anesthesia, neuraxial anesthesia and monitored anesthesia care (MAC)

### **Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

Patients aged 18 years and older

#### **AND**

Elective procedure: G9643

#### **AND**

#### **Patient encounter during the reporting period (CPT):**

00100, 00102, 00103, 00104, 00120, 00124, 00126, 00140, 00142,  
00144, 00145, 00147, 00148, 00160, 00162, 00164, 00170, 00172,  
00174, 00176, 00190, 00192, 00210, 00211, 00212, 00214, 00215,  
00216, 00218, 00220, 00222, 00300, 00320, 00322, 00350, 00352,  
00400, 00402, 00404, 00406, 00410, 00450, 00454, 00470, 00472,



00474, 00500, 00520, 00522, 00524, 00528, 00529, 00530, 00532,  
00534, 00537, 00539, 00540, 00541, 00542, 00546, 00548, 00550,  
00560, 00562, 00563, 00566, 00567, 00580, 00600, 00604, 00620,  
00625, 00626, 00630, 00632, 00635, 00640, 00670, 00700, 00702,  
00730, 00731, 00732, 00750, 00752, 00754, 00756, 00770, 00790,  
00792, 00794, 00796, 00797, 00800, 00802, 00811, 00812, 00813,  
00820, 00830, 00832, 00840, 00842, 00844, 00846, 00848, 00851,  
00860, 00862, 00864, 00865, 00880, 00882, 00902, 00904, 00906,  
00908, 00910, 00912, 00922, 00924, 00926, 00928, 00930, 00932,  
00934, 00936, 00950, 00952, 01112, 01120, 01130, 01140, 01150,  
01160, 01212, 01214, 01215, 01220, 01230, 01232, 01234, 01250,  
01340, 01360, 01380, 01382, 01390, 01392, 01400, 01402, 01442,  
01444, 01462, 01464, 01470, 01472, 01474, 01480, 01502, 01520,  
01522, 01610, 01620, 01622, 01630, 01634, 01656, 01670, 01680,  
01710, 01712, 01714, 01716, 01730, 01758, 01760, 01770, 01772,  
01780, 01782, 01810, 01820, 01844, 01850, 01852, 01860, 01916,  
01920, 01922, 01924, 01933, 01935, 01936, 01951, 01952, 01958,  
01960, 01961, 01991, 01992, 00866, 00868, 00870, 00872, 00873,  
00914, 00916, 00918, 00920, 00921, 00938, 00940, 00942, 00944,  
00948, 01170, 01173, 01200, 01202, 01210, 01260, 01270, 01272,  
01274, 01320, 01404, 01420, 01430, 01432, 01440, 01482, 01484,  
01486, 01490, 01500, 01636, 01638, 01650, 01652, 01654, 01732,  
01740, 01742, 01744, 01756, 01829, 01830, 01832, 01840, 01842,  
01925, 01926, 01930, 01931, 01932, 01962, 01963, 01965, 01966,  
01967, 01991, 01992

**Denominator Exclusions**

**Patient has an existing diagnosis of OSA: G47.33 or 11A29**

**OR**

**Documentation of patient reason for not providing education regarding risk for OSA (e.g., severe dementia, patient is intubated, patient is not alert or responsive enough to participate in education, other patient reason(s)): 11A30**

**NUMERATOR**

Patients who are screened for obstructive sleep apnea AND, if positive, have documented education regarding their risk for obstructive sleep apnea prior to PACU discharge

***Numerator Definition:*** Patient education regarding OSA must include documentation that a conversation addressing potential implications of OSA on the patient's perioperative course and any applicable recommendations for follow-up care and disease management occurred. Self-help materials (e.g., brochures, audio/video materials, pamphlets) alone are not sufficient to meet the numerator.

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met:***

Positive patient OSA screen AND documented education regarding risk for obstructive sleep apnea prior to PACU discharge (**11A31**)

**OR**

***Performance Met:***

Negative patient screen for OSA (**11A32**)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

No patient screen for OSA OR positive OSA screen result and no documented education regarding risk for obstructive sleep apnea prior to PACU discharge (**11A33**)

**RATIONALE:**

Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) is a common problem in the surgical population, though many patients with OSA are undiagnosed. With improved preoperative assessment for OSA, surgery presents an important opportunity for providers to counsel patients about their risk for OSA and to educate them on the associated perioperative risks associated with the condition. This education is an opportunity to manage patient and family expectations regarding their postoperative course and is a chance to discuss anticipated complications, changes in management, and recommended follow-up care that might be appropriate.

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- Date of service
- Date of birth
- ASA CPT code
- Elective case
- Existing OSA diagnosis
- Patient not able to receive education
- OSA screening results
- OSA education received

**REPORTING CODES**

AQI 62 Code	Definition
11A29	Patient has an existing diagnosis of OSA
11A30	Documentation of patient reason for not providing education regarding risk for OSA (e.g., severe dementia, patient is intubated, patient is not alert or responsive enough to participate in education, other patient reason(s))
11A31	Positive patient OSA screen AND documented education regarding risk for obstructive sleep apnea prior to PACU discharge

11A32	Negative patient screen for OSA
11A33	No patient screen for OSA OR positive OSA screen result and no documented education regarding risk for obstructive sleep apnea prior to PACU discharge

## AQI 68: Obstructive Sleep Apnea: Mitigation Strategies

### **MEASURE DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients aged 18 years or older, who undergo an elective procedure requiring anesthesia services who are screened for obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) AND, if positive, for whom two or more selected mitigation strategies were used prior to PACU discharge.

**NQS DOMAIN / MEANINGFUL MEASURES AREA:** Patient Safety / Preventable Healthcare Harm

**MEASURE TYPE:** Process

**HIGH PRIORITY STATUS:** Yes

**INVERSE MEASURE:** No

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be reported each time a patient undergoes an elective procedure under anesthesia during the reporting period. It is anticipated that qualified anesthesia providers and eligible clinicians who provide denominator-eligible services will submit this measure.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

All patients aged 18 years or older, who undergo an elective procedure requiring anesthesia services

***Denominator Note:*** For the purposes of this measure, anesthesia services only include cases using general anesthesia, neuraxial anesthesia and monitored anesthesia care (MAC)

### **Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**Patients aged 18 years and older**

**AND**

**Elective procedure: G9643**

**AND**

**Patient encounter during the reporting period (CPT):**

00100, 00102, 00103, 00104, 00120, 00124, 00126, 00140, 00142,  
00144, 00145, 00147, 00148, 00160, 00162, 00164, 00170, 00172,  
00174, 00176, 00190, 00192, 00210, 00211, 00212, 00214, 00215,  
00216, 00218, 00220, 00222, 00300, 00320, 00322, 00350, 00352,  
00400, 00402, 00404, 00406, 00410, 00450, 00454, 00470, 00472,  
00474, 00500, 00520, 00522, 00524, 00528, 00529, 00530, 00532,  
00534, 00537, 00539, 00540, 00541, 00542, 00546, 00548, 00550,

00560, 00562, 00563, 00566, 00567, 00580, 00600, 00604, 00620,  
00625, 00626, 00630, 00632, 00635, 00640, 00670, 00700, 00702,  
00730, 00731, 00732, 00750, 00752, 00754, 00756, 00770, 00790,  
00792, 00794, 00796, 00797, 00800, 00802, 00811, 00812, 00813,  
00820, 00830, 00832, 00840, 00842, 00844, 00846, 00848, 00851,  
00860, 00862, 00864, 00865, 00866, 00868, 00870, 00872, 00873,  
00880, 00882, 00902, 00904, 00906, 00908, 00910, 00912, 00914,  
00916, 00918, 00920, 00921, 00922, 00924, 00926, 00928, 00930,  
00932, 00934, 00936, 00938, 00940, 00942, 00944, 00948, 00950,  
00952, 01112, 01120, 01130, 01140, 01150, 01160, 01170, 01173,  
01200, 01202, 01210, 01212, 01214, 01215, 01220, 01230, 01232,  
01234, 01250, 01260, 01270, 01272, 01274, 01320, 01340, 01360,  
01380, 01382, 01390, 01392, 01400, 01402, 01404, 01420, 01430,  
01432, 01440, 01442, 01444, 01462, 01464, 01470, 01472, 01474,  
01480, 01482, 01484, 01486, 01490, 01500, 01502, 01520, 01522,  
01610, 01620, 01622, 01630, 01634, 01636, 01638, 01650, 01652,  
01654, 01656, 01670, 01680, 01710, 01712, 01714, 01716, 01730,  
01732, 01740, 01742, 01744, 01756, 01758, 01760, 01770, 01772,  
01780, 01782, 01810, 01820, 01829, 01830, 01832, 01840, 01842,  
01844, 01850, 01852, 01860, 01916, 01920, 01922, 01924, 01925,  
01926, 01930, 01931, 01932, 01933, 01935, 01936, 01951, 01952,  
01958, 01960, 01961, 01962, 01963, 01965, 01966, 01967, 01991,  
01992

**Denominator Exclusions:**

None

**NUMERATOR:**

Patients who are screened for obstructive sleep apnea AND, if positive, have documentation that two or more of the following mitigation strategies were used prior to PACU discharge:

- Preoperative initiation of continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) or non-invasive positive pressure ventilation (NIPPV)
- Preoperative use of mandibular advancement devices or oral appliances
- Intraoperative administration of CPAP, nasopharyngeal airway, or oral appliance during sedation
- Use of major conduction anesthesia (spinal/epidural) or peripheral nerve block
- Multimodal analgesia
- Extubation while patient is awake
- Verification of full reversal of neuromuscular block
- Extubation and recovery carried out in lateral, semiupright, or other nonsupine position
- Postoperative administration of CPAP, nasopharyngeal airway, or oral appliance in the postanesthesia care unit (PACU)

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met:***

Positive patient screen for OSA OR existing OSA diagnosis AND documentation of two or more mitigation strategies used prior to PACU discharge (**11A26**)

**OR**

***Performance Met:***

Negative patient screen for OSA (**11A27**)

**OR**

***Denominator Exception:***

Documentation of medical reason(s) for not screening for obstructive sleep apnea and/or documenting the use of two or more mitigation strategies (e.g., patient remains intubated postoperatively, listed mitigation strategies contraindicated, other medical reason(s)) (**11A38**)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

No patient screen for OSA OR positive OSA screen result and Documentation of less than 2 mitigation strategies used prior to PACU discharge (**11A28**)

**RATIONALE:**

Undiagnosed OSA may pose a variety of problems for anesthesiologists and qualified anesthesia providers. A number of case reports have documented an increase in the incidence of postoperative complications and deaths among patients suspected of having OSA. Untreated OSA patients are known to have a higher incidence of difficult intubation, postoperative complications, increased intensive care unit admissions, and greater duration of hospital stay. Identifying patients with OSA is the first step in preventing postoperative complications due to OSA. Moderate-to-severe sleep apnea is independently associated with a large increased risk of all-cause mortality, incident stroke, and cancer incidence and mortality in this community-based sample. With improved preoperative assessment of OSA risk, anesthesiologists are better able to tailor their care to the individual patient's needs through a variety of techniques and mitigation strategies.

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- Date of service
- Date of birth
- ASA CPT code
- Elective case
- Existing OSA diagnosis
- OSA screening results
- ≥2 OSA mitigation strategies used

**REPORTING CODES**

AQI 68 Code	Definition
G9643	Elective procedure
11A26	Positive patient screen for OSA OR existing OSA diagnosis AND documentation of two or more mitigation strategies used prior to PACU discharge
11A27	Negative patient screen for OSA
11A38	Documentation of medical reason(s) for not screening for obstructive sleep apnea and/or documenting the use of two or more mitigation strategies (e.g., patient remains intubated postoperatively, listed mitigation strategies contraindicated, other medical reason(s))
11A28	No patient screen for OSA OR positive OSA screen result and Documentation of less than 2 mitigation strategies used prior to PACU discharge

## ABG 42: Known or Suspected Difficult Airway Mitigation Strategies

### **MEASURE DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients with a known or suspected difficult airway who undergo a planned general endotracheal anesthetic that have both a second provider present at the induction and placement of the endotracheal tube and have difficult airway equipment in the room prior to the induction.

**NQS DOMAIN:** Patient Safety

**MEASURE TYPE:** Process

**HIGH PRIORITY STATUS:** Yes

**INVERSE MEASURE:** No

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be reported each time an adult patient with a known or suspected difficult airway undergoes a planned general anesthetic requiring placement of an endotracheal tube. At the time of induction and placement of the endotracheal tube a second dedicated provider will be present to serve as an assistant for management of a difficult airway. Additionally, difficult airway equipment will be present in the room prior to induction in the event that such equipment is necessary to assist with placement of the endotracheal tube. It is anticipated that qualified anesthesia providers and eligible clinicians who provide denominator-eligible services will submit this measure.

Measure Reporting via the Qualified Clinical Data Registry

Patient demographics and CPT codes are used to identify patients who are included in the measure denominator. G-codes and Registry Codes are used to capture the numerator.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

Patients, aged 18 years and older with a known or suspected difficult airway who undergo a planned general anesthetic with an endotracheal tube (identified with ABG Measure Response Code 1019)

### **DENOMINATOR:**

#### **Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**Has a non-emergency procedure in which the anesthesia plan calls for general anesthesia with endotracheal intubation (ABG Response Code 1019)**



**AND**

**Patient is identified as a known or suspected difficult airway in the pre-operative period (ABG Measure Response Code 1088)**

**AND**

**Patient encounter during the reporting period (CPT):**

00100, 00102, 00103, 00104, 00120, 00124, 00126, 00140, 00142,  
00144, 00145, 00147, 00148, 00160, 00162, 00164, 00170, 00172,  
00174, 00176, 00190, 00192, 00210, 00211, 00212, 00214, 00215,  
00216, 00218, 00220, 00222, 00300, 00320, 00322, 00326, 00350,  
00352, 00400, 00402, 00404, 00406, 00410, 00450, 00454, 00470,  
00472, 00474, 00500, 00520, 00522, 00524, 00528, 00529, 00530,  
00532, 00534, 00537, 00539, 00540, 00541, 00542, 00546, 00548,  
00550, 00560, 00600, 00604, 00620, 00625, 00626, 00630, 00632,  
00635, 00640, 00670, 00700, 00702, 00730, 00740, 00750, 00752,  
00754, 00756, 00770, 00790, 00792, 00794, 00796, 00797, 00800,  
00802, 00810, 00820, 00830, 00832, 00834, 00836, 00840, 00842,  
00844, 00846, 00848, 00851, 00860, 00862, 00864, 00865, 00866,  
00868, 00870, 00872, 00873, 00880, 00882, 00902, 00904, 00906,  
00908, 00910, 00912, 00914, 00916, 00918, 00920, 00921, 00922,  
00924, 00926, 00928, 00930, 00932, 00934, 00936, 00938, 00940,  
00942, 00944, 00948, 00950, 00952, 01112, 01120, 01130, 01140,  
01150, 01160, 01170, 01173, 01180, 01190, 01200, 01202, 01210,  
01212, 01214, 01215, 01220, 01230, 01232, 01234, 01250, 01260,  
01270, 01272, 01274, 01320, 01340, 01360, 01380, 01382, 01390,  
01392, 01400, 01402, 01404, 01420, 01430, 01432, 01440, 01442,  
01444, 01462, 01464, 01470, 01472, 01474, 01480, 01482, 01484,  
01486, 01490, 01500, 01502, 01520, 01522, 01610, 01620, 01622,  
01630, 01634, 01636, 01638, 01650, 01652, 01654, 01656, 01670,  
01680, 01682, 01710, 01712, 01714, 01716, 01730, 01732, 01740,  
01742, 01744, 01756, 01758, 01760, 01770, 01772, 01780, 01782,  
01810, 01820, 01829, 01830, 01832, 01840, 01842, 01844, 01850,  
01852, 01860, 01924, 01925, 01926, 01930, 01931, 01932, 01933,  
01935, 01936, 01951, 01952, 01961, 01962, 01963, 01965, 01966,  
01992

**Denominator Exclusions:**

**Age < 18**

**OR**

**ASA Physical Status = E**

**NUMERATOR:**

The measure will be applicable to patients who by history or physical examination are known to have or are suspected of having a difficult airway and for whom general anesthesia with an

endotracheal tube is planned. The measure will be considered met when a dedicated second provider is physically present in the room and is available to assist with induction and placement of the endotracheal tube. Additionally, the measure will be considered met when difficult airway equipment is brought into the room prior to induction to assist with the placement of the endotracheal tube if needed.

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met:***

**A dedicated second provider is present at induction and placement of the endotracheal tube (ABG Measure Response code 1074)**

**AND**

**Difficult airway equipment is present in the room prior to the induction of anesthesia (ABG Measure Response code 1089)**

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

**A dedicated second provider is NOT present at induction and placement of the endotracheal tube (ABG Measure Response code 1075)**

**OR**

**Difficult airway equipment is NOT present in the room prior to the induction of anesthesia (ABG Measure Response code 1090)**

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- ASA CPT code
- Date of Birth
- Difficult airway
- Planned use of difficult airway equipment
- Unplanned use of difficult airway equipment

**DEFINITIONS:**

Numerator Note: suspected difficult airway- A difficult airway is defined as the clinical situation in which a conventionally trained anesthesiologist experiences difficulty with facemask ventilation of the upper airway, difficulty with tracheal intubation, or both. The difficult airway represents a complex interaction between patient factors, the clinical setting, and the skills of the practitioner.

Numerator Note: dedicated second provider- capable healthcare provider whose only responsibility at the time of induction is to provide assistance for management of the difficult airway. A dedicated second provider may include operating room staff: physician, certified registered nurse anesthetist, registered nurse, resident or anesthesia technician.

Numerator Note: Difficult airway equipment- The definition of “difficult airway equipment” for this measure includes any advanced airway devices such as video laryngoscopes, intubating LMA, fiberoptic bronchoscope, Bullard, etc. Stylets and/or bougies unless they have been modified to

include a light source or some other mechanical addition to manipulate their placement are not considered “difficult airway equipment”.

### **REPORTING CODES**

<b>ABG Codes</b>	<b>Definition</b>
1074	A dedicated second provider is present at induction and placement of the endotracheal tube
1089	Difficult airway equipment is present in the room prior to the induction of anesthesia
1075	A dedicated second provider is NOT present at induction and placement of the endotracheal tube
1090	Difficult airway equipment is NOT present in the room prior to the induction of anesthesia

## QID 430: Prevention of Post-Operative Nausea and Vomiting (PONV) – Combination Therapy

### **MEASURE TYPE:**

Process – High Priority

### **DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients, aged 18 years and older, who undergo a procedure under an inhalational general anesthetic, AND who have three or more risk factors for post-operative nausea and vomiting (PONV), who receive combination therapy consisting of at least two prophylactic pharmacologic anti-emetic agents of different classes preoperatively and/or intraoperatively

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be submitted each time any procedure including surgical, therapeutic or diagnostic under an inhalational general anesthetic is performed during the performance period. There is no diagnosis associated with this measure. It is anticipated that Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians who provide the listed anesthesia services as specified in the denominator coding will submit this measure.

### **MEASURE SUBMISSION TYPE:**

Measure data may be submitted by individual MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third party intermediaries. The listed denominator criteria are used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator options included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions as allowed by the measure. The quality-data codes listed do not need to be submitted by MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third party intermediaries that utilize this modality for submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those third party intermediaries that utilize Medicare Part B claims data. For more information regarding Application Programming Interface (API), please refer to the Quality Payment Program (QPP) website.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

All patients, aged 18 years and older, who undergo any procedure including surgical, therapeutic or diagnostic under an inhalational general anesthetic, AND who have three or more risk factors for PONV

#### **Definition:**

PONV Risk Factors – The following are risk factors for PONV:

- Female gender
- History of PONV
- History of motion sickness

- Non-smoker
- Intended administration of opioids for post-operative analgesia. This includes use of opioids given intraoperatively and whose effects extend into the post anesthesia care unit (PACU) or post-operative period, or opioids given in the PACU, or opioids given after discharge from the PACU.

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

Patients aged ≥ 18 years on date of service

**AND**

**Patient procedure during the performance period (CPT):**

00100, 00102, 00103, 00104, 00120, 00124, 00126, 00140, 00142, 00144, 00145, 00147, 00148, 00160, 00162, 00164, 00170, 00172, 00174, 00176, 00190, 00192, 00210, 00211, 00212, 00214, 00215, 00216, 00218, 00220, 00222, 00300, 00320, 00322, 00350, 00352, 00400, 00402, 00404, 00406, 00410, 00450, 00454, 00470, 00472, 00474, 00500, 00520, 00522, 00524, 00528, 00529, 00530, 00532, 00534, 00537, 00539, 00540, 00541, 00542, 00546, 00548, 00550, 00560, 00566, 00580, 00600, 00604, 00620, 00625, 00626, 00630, 00632, 00635, 00640, 00670, 00700, 00702, 00730, 00731, 00732, 00750, 00752, 00754, 00756, 00770, 00790, 00792, 00794, 00796, 00797, 00800, 00802, 00811, 00812, 00813, 00820, 00830, 00832, 00840, 00842, 00844, 00846, 00848, 00851, 00860, 00862, 00864, 00865, 00866, 00868, 00870, 00872, 00873, 00880, 00882, 00902, 00904, 00906, 00908, 00910, 00912, 00914, 00916, 00918, 00920, 00921, 00922, 00924, 00926, 00928, 00930, 00932, 00934, 00936, 00938, 00940, 00942, 00944, 00948, 00950, 00952, 01112, 01120, 01130, 01140, 01150, 01160, 01170, 01173, 01200, 01202, 01210, 01212, 01214, 01215, 01220, 01230, 01232, 01234, 01250, 01260, 01270, 01272, 01274, 01320, 01340, 01360, 01380, 01382, 01390, 01392, 01400, 01402, 01404, 01420, 01430, 01432, 01440, 01442, 01444, 01462, 01464, 01470, 01472, 01474, 01480, 01482, 01484, 01486, 01490, 01500, 01502, 01520, 01522, 01610, 01620, 01622, 01630, 01634, 01636, 01638, 01650, 01652, 01654, 01656, 01670, 01680, 01710, 01712, 01714, 01716, 01730, 01732, 01740, 01742, 01744, 01756, 01758, 01760, 01770, 01772, 01780, 01782, 01810, 01820, 01829, 01830, 01832, 01840, 01842, 01844, 01850, 01852, 01860, 01924, 01925, 01926, 01930, 01931, 01932, 01933, 01935, 01936, 01951, 01952, 01961, 01962, 01963, 01965, 01966

**AND**

**Patient received inhalational anesthetic agent: 4554F**

**AND**

**Patient exhibits 3 or more risk factors for post-operative nausea and vomiting:**

**4556F**

**NUMERATOR:**

Patients who receive combination therapy consisting of at least two prophylactic pharmacologic anti-emetic agents of different classes preoperatively and/or intraoperatively

**Definition:**

**Anti-emetics Therapy** – The recommended first- and second-line classes of pharmacologic anti-emetics for PONV prophylaxis in patients at moderate to severe risk of PONV include (but are not limited to):

- NK-1 Receptor Antagonists
- 5-Hydroxytryptamine (5-HT3) Receptor Antagonists
- Glucocorticoids
- Phenothiazines
- Phenylethylamines
- Butyrophenones
- Antihistamines
- Anticholinergics

**NOTE:** The foregoing list of medications/drug names is based on clinical guidelines and other evidence. The specified drugs were selected based on the strength of evidence for their clinical effectiveness. This list of selected drugs may not be current. Physicians and other health care professionals should refer to the FDA's web site page entitled "Drug Safety Communications" for up-to-date drug recall and alert information when prescribing medications.

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met:***

Patient received at least 2 prophylactic pharmacologic anti- emetic agents of different classes preoperatively and/or intraoperatively (**G9775**)

**OR**

***Denominator Exception:***

Documentation of medical reason for not receiving at least 2 prophylactic pharmacologic anti-emetic agents of different classes preoperatively and/or intraoperatively (e.g., intolerance or other medical reason) (**G9776**)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:*** Patient did not receive at least 2 prophylactic pharmacologic anti-emetic agents of different classes preoperatively and/or intraoperatively (**G9777**)

**RATIONALE:**

Postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV) is an important patient-centered outcome of anesthesia care. PONV is highly dis-satisfying to patients, although rarely life-threatening. A large body of scientific literature has defined risk factors for PONV; demonstrated effective prophylactic regimes based on these risk factors, and demonstrated high variability in this

outcome across individual centers and providers. Further, a number of papers have shown that performance can be assessed at the level of individual providers -- the outcome is common enough that sufficient power exists to assess variability and improvement at this level.

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- Date of procedure
- Date of birth
- ASA CPT code
- Received inhalational agent
- ≥3 PONV risk factors
- Received ≥2 agents in different classes

**REPORTING CODES**

QID 430 Code	Definition
4554F	Patient received inhalational anesthetic agent
4556F	Patient exhibits 3 or more risk factors for post-operative nausea and vomiting
G9775	Patient received at least 2 prophylactic pharmacologic anti- emetic agents of different classes preoperatively and/or intraoperatively
G9776	Documentation of medical reason for not receiving at least 2 prophylactic pharmacologic anti-emetic agents of different classes preoperatively and/or intraoperatively (e.g., intolerance or other medical reason)
G9777	Performance Not Met: Patient did not receive at least 2 prophylactic pharmacologic anti-emetic agents of different classes preoperatively and/or intraoperatively

## QID 424: Perioperative Temperature Management

### **MEASURE TYPE:**

Outcome – High Priority

### **DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients, regardless of age, who undergo surgical or therapeutic procedures under general or neuraxial anesthesia of 60 minutes duration or longer for whom at least one body temperature greater than or equal to 35.5 degrees Celsius (or 95.9 degrees Fahrenheit) was achieved within the 30 minutes immediately before or the 15 minutes immediately after anesthesia end time

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be submitted each time any procedure including surgical, therapeutic or diagnostic is performed under general or neuraxial anesthesia during the performance period. There is no diagnosis associated with this measure. It is anticipated that Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians who provide the listed anesthesia services as specified in the denominator coding will submit this measure.

### **MEASURE SUBMISSION TYPE:**

Measure data may be submitted by individual MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third party intermediaries. The listed denominator criteria are used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator options included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions as allowed by the measure. The quality-data codes listed do not need to be submitted by MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third party intermediaries that utilize this modality for submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those third party intermediaries that utilize Medicare Part B claims data. For more information regarding Application Programming Interface (API), please refer to the Quality Payment Program (QPP) website.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

All patients, regardless of age, who undergo surgical or therapeutic procedures under general or neuraxial anesthesia of 60 minutes duration or longer

#### **Denominator Instructions:**

The anesthesia time used for this measure should be the time recorded in the anesthesia record.

#### **Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**All patients, regardless of age**

**AND**

**Patient procedure during the performance period (CPT):**



00100, 00102, 00103, 00104, 00120, 00124, 00126, 00140, 00142,  
00144, 00145, 00147, 00148, 00160, 00162, 00164, 00170, 00172,  
00174, 00176, 00190, 00192, 00210, 00211, 00212, 00214, 00215,  
00216, 00218, 00220, 00222, 00300, 00320, 00322, 00326, 00350,  
00352, 00400, 00402, 00404, 00406, 00410, 00450, 00454, 00470,  
00472, 00474, 00500, 00520, 00522, 00524, 00528, 00529, 00530,  
00532, 00534, 00537, 00539, 00540, 00541, 00542, 00546, 00548,  
00550, 00560, 00600, 00604, 00620, 00625, 00626, 00630, 00632,  
00635, 00640, 00670, 00700, 00702, 00730, 00731, 00732, 00750,  
00752, 00754, 00756, 00770, 00790, 00792, 00794, 00796, 00797,  
00800, 00802, 00811, 00812, 00813, 00820, 00830, 00832, 00834,  
00836, 00840, 00842, 00844, 00846, 00848, 00851, 00860, 00862,  
00864, 00865, 00866, 00868, 00870, 00872, 00873, 00880, 00882,  
00902, 00904, 00906, 00908, 00910, 00912, 00914, 00916, 00918,  
00920, 00921, 00922, 00924, 00926, 00928, 00930, 00932, 00934,  
00936, 00938, 00940, 00942, 00944, 00948, 00950, 00952, 01112,  
01120, 01130, 01140, 01150, 01160, 01170, 01173, 01200, 01202,  
01210, 01212, 01214, 01215, 01220, 01230, 01232, 01234, 01250,  
01260, 01270, 01272, 01274, 01320, 01340, 01360, 01380, 01382,  
01390, 01392, 01400, 01402, 01404, 01420, 01430, 01432, 01440,  
01442, 01444, 01462, 01464, 01470, 01472, 01474, 01480, 01482,  
01484, 01486, 01490, 01500, 01502, 01520, 01522, 01610, 01620,  
01622, 01630, 01634, 01636, 01638, 01650, 01652, 01654, 01656,  
01670, 01680, 01710, 01712, 01714, 01716, 01730, 01732, 01740,  
01742, 01744, 01756, 01758, 01760, 01770, 01772, 01780, 01782,  
01810, 01820, 01829, 01830, 01832, 01840, 01842, 01844, 01850,  
01852, 01860, 01924, 01925, 01926, 01930, 01931, 01932, 01933,  
01935, 01936, 01951, 01952, 01961, 01962, 01963, 01965, 01966

**AND**

**Anesthesia of 60 minutes duration or longer: 4255F**

**AND NOT**

**DENOMINATOR EXCLUSIONS:**

**Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC): G9654**

**OR**

**Peripheral Nerve Block (PNB): G9770**

**NUMERATOR:**

Patients for whom at least one body temperature greater than or equal to 35.5 degrees Celsius (or 95.9 degrees Fahrenheit) was achieved within the 30 minutes immediately before or the 15 minutes immediately after anesthesia end time

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met:***

At least 1 body temperature measurement equal to or greater than 35.5 degrees Celsius (or 95.9 degrees Fahrenheit) achieved within the 30 minutes immediately before or the 15 minutes immediately after anesthesia end time (**G9771**)

**OR**

***Denominator Exception:***

Documentation of medical reason(s) for not achieving at least 1 body temperature measurement equal to or greater than 35.5 degrees Celsius (or 95.9 degrees Fahrenheit) within the 30 minutes immediately before or the 15 minutes immediately after anesthesia end time (e.g., Emergency cases, Intentional hypothermia, etc.) (**G9772**)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

At least 1 body temperature measurement equal to or greater than 35.5 degrees Celsius (or 95.9 degrees Fahrenheit) not achieved within the 30 minutes immediately before or the 15 minutes immediately after anesthesia end time, Reason Not Given (**G9773**)

**RATIONALE:**

A drop in core temperature during surgery, known as perioperative hypothermia, can result in numerous adverse effects, which can include adverse myocardial outcomes, subcutaneous vasoconstriction, increased incidence of surgical site infection, and impaired healing of wounds. The desired outcome, reduction in adverse surgical effects due to perioperative hypothermia, is affected by maintenance of normothermia during surgery.

Unintended perioperative hypothermia occurs in up to 20% of surgical patients. An observational cohort study in a pediatric setting found that more than 50% of children experienced intraoperative hypothermia. Pediatric patients undergoing major surgery were at greater risk of intraoperative hypothermia.

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- Date of procedure
- Date of birth
- ASA CPT code
- Total anesthesia time
- Primary anesthesia used
- Postop patient temperature

**REPORTING CODES**

QID 424 Code	Definition
4255F	Anesthesia of 60 minutes duration or longer
G9654	Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC)
G9770	Peripheral Nerve Block (PNB)

G9771	At least 1 body temperature measurement equal to or greater than 35.5 degrees Celsius (or 95.9 degrees Fahrenheit) achieved within the 30 minutes immediately before or the 15 minutes immediately after anesthesia end time
G9772	Documentation of medical reason(s) for not achieving at least 1 body temperature measurement equal to or greater than 35.5 degrees Celsius (or 95.9 degrees Fahrenheit) within the 30minutes immediately before or the 15 minutes immediately after anesthesia end time (e.g., Emergency cases, Intentional hypothermia, etc.)
G9773	At least 1 body temperature measurement equal to or greater than 35.5 degrees Celsius (or 95.9 degrees Fahrenheit) not achieved within the 30 minutes immediately before or the 15 minutes immediately after anesthesia end time, Reason Not Given

## QID 477: Multimodal Pain Management

### **MEASURE TYPE:**

Process – High Priority

### **DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients, aged 18 years and older, undergoing selected surgical procedures that were managed with multimodal pain medicine

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be reported each time a patient undergoes a selected surgical procedure during the reporting period. It is anticipated that Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible anesthesia providers and clinicians who provide denominator-eligible services will submit this measure.

### **MEASURE SUBMISSION TYPE:**

Measure data may be submitted by individual MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third party intermediaries. The listed denominator criteria are used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator options included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions as allowed by the measure. The quality-data codes listed do not need to be submitted by MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third party intermediaries that utilize this modality for submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those third party intermediaries that utilize Medicare Part B claims data. For more information regarding Application Programming Interface (API), please refer to the Quality Payment Program (QPP) website.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

Patients, aged 18 years and older, who undergo selected surgical procedures

***DENOMINATOR NOTE:*** Selected surgical procedures include both elective and urgent open and laparoscopic intra-abdominal, spinal, pelvic, thoracic, breast, joint, head, neck, orthopedic and fracture repair surgeries.

### **Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**Patients aged 18 years and older on date of encounter**

### **AND**

**Patient procedures during reporting period (CPT):**

00102, 00120, 00160, 00162, 00172, 00174, 00190, 00222, 00300,  
00320, 00402, 00404, 00406, 00450, 00470, 00472, 00500, 00528,  
00529, 00539, 00540, 00541, 00542, 00546, 00548, 00600, 00620,  
00625, 00626, 00630, 00670, 00700, 00730, 00750, 00752, 00754,  
00756, 00770, 00790, 00792, 00794, 00797, 00800, 00820, 00830,

00832, 00840, 00844, 00846, 00848, 00860, 00862, 00864, 00865,  
00866, 00870, 00872, 00873, 00880, 00902, 00906, 00910, 00912,  
00914, 00916, 00918, 00920, 00940, 00942, 00948, 01120, 01160,  
01170, 01173, 01210, 01214, 01215, 01220, 01230, 01360, 01392,  
01400, 01402, 01480, 01482, 01484, 01486, 01630, 01634, 01636,  
01638, 01740, 01742, 01744, 01760, 01830, 01832, 01961

**DENOMINATOR EXCLUSION:**

**Emergent cases: M1142**

**NUMERATOR:**

Patients for whom multimodal pain management is administered in the perioperative period from 6 hours prior to anesthesia start time until discharged from the post-anesthesia care unit

**Definition:**

Multimodal pain management is defined as the use of two or more drugs and/or interventions, NOT including systemic opioids, that act by different mechanisms for providing analgesia. These drugs and/or interventions can be administered via the same route or by different routes. Opioids may be administered for pain relief when indicated but will not count toward this measure.

***NUMERATOR NOTE:*** Documentation of qualifying medications or interventions provided from six hours prior to anesthesia start time through post-anesthesia care unit discharge count toward meeting the numerator.

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met:***

Multimodal pain management was used (**G2148**)

**OR**

***Denominator Exception:***

Documentation of medical reason(s) for not using multimodal pain management (e.g., allergy to multiple classes of analgesics, intubated patient, hepatic failure, patient reports no pain during PACU stay, other medical reason(s)) (**G2149**)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

Multimodal pain management was not used (**G2150**)

**RATIONALE:**

Besides providing anesthesia care in the operating room, anesthesiologists are dedicated to providing the best perioperative pain management in order to improve patients' function and facilitate rehabilitation after surgery. In the past, pain management was limited to the use of opioids (also called narcotics). Opioids provide analgesia primarily through a unitary mechanism, and just adding more opioids does not usually lead to better pain control or improve

outcomes. In fact, opioids are responsible for a host of side effects that can be a threat to life, and increasing rates of complications after surgery can be attributed to the overuse and abuse of opioids. In 2012, the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) published its guidelines for acute pain management in the perioperative setting (1), and ASA along with the American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine (ASRA) and American Pain Society collaborated on the 2016 clinical practice guidelines for the management of postoperative pain (2). These documents endorse the routine use of “multimodal analgesia” which means employing multiple classes of pain medications or therapies, working with different mechanisms of action, in the treatment of acute pain instead of relying on opioids alone.

While opioids may continue to be important pain medications, they must be combined with other classes of medications known to prevent and help relieve postoperative pain unless contraindicated. The list includes but is not limited to:

- **Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs):** Examples include ibuprofen, diclofenac, ketorolac, celecoxib, nabumetone. NSAIDs act on the prostaglandin system peripherally and work to decrease inflammation.
- **NMDA antagonists:** When administered in low dose, ketamine, magnesium, and other NMDA antagonists act on the N-methyl-D-aspartate receptors in the central nerve system to decrease acute pain and hyperalgesia.
- **Acetaminophen:** Acetaminophen acts on central prostaglandin synthesis and provides pain relief through multiple mechanisms.
- **Gabapentinoids:** Examples include gabapentin and pregabalin. These medications are membrane stabilizers that essentially decrease nerve firing.
- **Regional block:** The ASA and ASRA also strongly recommend the use of target-specific local anesthetic applications in the form of regional analgesic techniques as part of the multimodal analgesic protocol whenever indicated.
- **Steroids:** Dexamethasone during surgery has been shown to decrease pain and opioid requirements.
- **Local anesthetics:** Injection of local anesthetic in or around the surgical site by the surgeon is an example. Systemic lidocaine administered intravenously represents an alternative to regional analgesic techniques.

#### **RELEVANT FIELDS**

- Date of procedure
- Date of birth
- ASA CPT code
- Elective case
- Multimodal pain management used

#### **REPORTING CODES**

QID 477 Code	Definition
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M1142	Emergent case
G2148	Multimodal pain management was used
G2149	Documentation of medical reason(s) for not using multimodal pain management (e.g., allergy to multiple classes of analgesics, intubated patient, hepatic failure, patient reports no pain during PACU stay, other medical reason(s))
G2150	Multimodal pain management was not used

## AQI 48: Patient-Reported Experience with Anesthesia\*\*\*

### **MEASURE DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients aged 18 and older, who were surveyed on their patient experience and satisfaction with anesthesia care and who reported a positive experience.

This measure will consist of two performance rates:

**AQI48a:** Percentage of patients, aged 18 and older, who were surveyed on their patient experience and satisfaction with anesthesia care

**AQI48b:** Percentage of patients, aged 18 and older, who completed a survey on their patient experience and satisfaction with anesthesia care and who report a positive experience with anesthesia care

**NOTE:** The measure requires that a valid survey, as defined in the numerator of 48a, be sent to patients between discharge from the facility and within 30 days of facility discharge. To report AQI 48b, a minimum number of 20 surveys, as described in the numerator of 48a, with the mandatory question completed must be reported. **In order to be scored on this measure, clinicians must report BOTH AQI48a AND AQI48b.**

**NQS DOMAIN / MEANINGFUL MEASURES AREA:** Person and Caregiver-Centered Experience and Outcomes / Patient's Experience of Care

**MEASURE TYPE:** Patient-Reported Outcome

**HIGH PRIORITY STATUS:** Yes

**INVERSE MEASURE:** No

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure consists of two performance rates: AQI48a and AQI48b. AQI48a should be reported each time a patient undergoes a procedure under anesthesia. AQI48b should be reported every time a completed survey is returned by the patient. To be scored on AQI48b, the provider must collect the individual scores received on the survey as described in AQI48a. It is anticipated that qualified anesthesia providers and eligible clinicians who provide denominator-eligible services will submit this measure.

### **RATIONALE:**

Despite the implementation of CAHPS and H-CAHPS, there is a persistent gap in the ability to adequately measure patient experience on the selection of performance measures for performance-based payment programs. To provide high quality, patient-centered care in the future, anesthesiologists and other qualified anesthesia providers should measure and respond



to the patients' perception of the degree to which they felt they were treated as individuals and empowered by their anesthesiology practitioners to engage in decision-making for their care. The assessment of patient satisfaction with anesthesia care provides important feedback which enables providers to improve care delivery and quality. At present there is a vast array of tools available for practices and individuals to implement based upon local patient populations and for local quality improvement initiatives.

**OVERALL PERFORMANCE RATE FOR SCORING:** AQI48b

## AQI 48a

### **DESCRIPTION-AQI48A**

Percentage of patients, aged 18 and older, who were surveyed on their patient experience and satisfaction with anesthesia care.

### **DENOMINATOR-AQI48A**

Patients aged 18 and older, who undergo a procedure\* under anesthesia

**Definition:** \*Any procedure including surgical, therapeutic or diagnostic

#### **Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**Patient aged 18 years or older on date of encounter**

**AND**

**AQI 48a: Patient encounter during the reporting period (CPT):**

00100, 00102, 00103, 00104, 00120, 00124, 00126, 00140, 00142,  
00144, 00145, 00147, 00148, 00160, 00162, 00164, 00170, 00172,  
00174, 00176, 00190, 00192, 00210, 00211, 00212, 00214, 00215,  
00216, 00218, 00220, 00222, 00300, 00320, 00322, 00350, 00352,  
00400, 00402, 00404, 00406, 00410, 00450, 00454, 00470, 00472,  
00474, 00500, 00520, 00522, 00524, 00528, 00529, 00530, 00532,  
00534, 00537, 00539, 00540, 00541, 00542, 00546, 00548, 00550,  
00560, 00562, 00563, 00566, 00567, 00580, 00600, 00604, 00620,  
00625, 00626, 00630, 00632, 00635, 00640, 00670, 00700, 00702,  
00730, 00731, 00732, 00750, 00752, 00754, 00756, 00770, 00790,  
00792, 00794, 00796, 00797, 00800, 00802, 00811, 00812, 00813,  
00820, 00830, 00832, 00840, 00842, 00844, 00846, 00848, 00851,  
00860, 00862, 00864, 00865, 00866, 00868, 00870, 00872, 00873,  
00880, 00882, 00902, 00904, 00906, 00908, 00910, 00912, 00914,  
00916, 00918, 00920, 00921, 00922, 00924, 00926, 00928, 00930,  
00932, 00934, 00936, 00938, 00940, 00942, 00944, 00948, 00950,  
00952, 01112, 01120, 01130, 01140, 01150, 01160, 01170, 01173,  
01200, 01202, 01210, 01212, 01214, 01215, 01220, 01230, 01232,  
01234, 01250, 01260, 01270, 01272, 01274, 01320, 01340, 01360,  
01380, 01382, 01390, 01392, 01400, 01402, 01404, 01420, 01430,  
01432, 01440, 01442, 01444, 01462, 01464, 01470, 01472, 01474,  
01480, 01482, 01484, 01486, 01490, 01500, 01502, 01520, 01522,  
01610, 01620, 01622, 01630, 01634, 01636, 01638, 01650, 01652,  
01654, 01656, 01670, 01680, 01710, 01712, 01714, 01716, 01730,  
01732, 01740, 01742, 01744, 01756, 01758, 01760, 01770, 01772,  
01780, 01782, 01810, 01820, 01829, 01830, 01832, 01840, 01842,

01844, 01850, 01852, 01860, 01916, 01920, 01922, 01924, 01925,  
01926, 01930, 01931, 01932, 01933, 01935, 01936, 01951, 01952,  
01958, 01960, 01961, 01962, 01963, 01965, 01966, 01967, 01991,  
01992, 20526, 20550, 20551, 20552, 20553, 20600, 20604, 20605,  
20606, 20610, 20611, 27096, 36555, 36556, 36570, 36571, 36578,  
36580, 36581, 36582, 36583, 36584, 36585, 62263, 62264, 62270,  
62272, 62273, 62280, 62281, 62282, 62320, 62321, 62322, 62323,  
62324, 62325, 62326, 62327, 62328, 62329, 62350, 62355, 62360,  
62361, 62362, 62365, 62370, 63650, 63661, 63662, 63663, 63664,  
63685, 63688, 64400, 64405, 64408, 64415, 64416, 64417, 64418,  
64420, 64425, 64430, 64435, 64445, 64446, 64447, 64448, 64449,  
64450, 64451, 64454, 64461, 64463, 64479, 64483, 64486, 64487,  
64488, 64489, 64490, 64493, 64505, 64510, 64517, 64520, 64530,  
64600, 64605, 64610, 64620, 64624, 64625, 64630, 64633, 64635,  
64640, 64680, 64681, 72275, 93503, 95990, 95991

**Denominator Exclusions-AQI48a**

**Organ Donors as designated with ASA Physical Status 6**

**OR**

**Patient died within 30 days of the procedure (10A11)**

**NUMERATOR-AQI48A:**

Patients who received a survey within 30 days of the procedure to assess their experience and satisfaction with anesthesia.

***Numerator Note:*** The survey should be administered to the patient shortly following discharge from the facility.

***Definition:*** Practices and eligible clinicians may customize their patient experience and satisfaction with anesthesia surveys to meet local needs but, at a minimum, a valid survey must include a core set of questions that address three of the four following criteria related to patient experience and satisfaction and one mandatory question described below.

1. Pre-operative Education and Preparation
2. Patient and/or Family Communication
3. Care Team Response to Comfort and Well-Being
4. Post-operative pain control and/or management

**Mandatory question** that must be included in each valid survey (practices must also include an option for patient to indicate “Not Applicable”):

On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 indicates the worst anesthesia experience and where 5 indicates the best anesthesia experience, how would you rate your anesthesia experience?

**Numerator Note:** Practices and eligible clinicians may wish to supplement these questions by taking into consideration the recommendations of the ASA Committee on Performance and Outcomes Measurement work product entitled “Patient Satisfaction with Anesthesia White Paper.”

**Numerator Note:** Depending on local practice, practices and eligible clinicians may wish to supplement survey questions by taking into consideration the recommendations developed as part of the Perioperative Surgical Home (PSH) that are structured in five distinct components.

1. Pre-Operative Education and Preparation (Four Indicators)
  - a. Patient comfort with instructions provided about eating better
  - b. Patient comfort with instructions provided about exercise or physical therapy
  - c. Patient comfort with instructions provided about stopping smoking (if applicable)
  - d. Patient comfort with instructions provided about what to do after surgery
2. Check-In and Pre-Procedure Experience
3. Caregiver and Family Communication during Surgery
4. Care Team Response to Comfort and Well-Being
5. Post-Operative Pain Management

For more information on these resources, visit <https://www.asahq.org/psb>.

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met:***

Patient provided with a survey within 30 days of the procedure to assess their experience and satisfaction with anesthesia (**10A12**)

**OR**

***Denominator Exception***

Documentation of patient reason(s), process reason(s) or medical reason(s) for not receiving survey (i.e. patients who are non-verbal, who are unable to be surveyed due to a medical or psychiatric reason, who are unable to be surveyed due to a language barrier, have not provided contact information who are discharged to assisted living, skilled nursing facility or other similar location where direct access to the patient is not available, or who decline to be surveyed. (**10A13**)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

Patient was not provided with a survey within 30 days of the procedure to assess their experience and satisfaction with anesthesia (**10A14**)

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- Date of procedure

- Date of birth
- ASA CPT code
- ASA physical status
- Received a survey within 30 days

**REPORTING CODES**

AQI 48a Code	Definition
10A12	Patient provided with a survey within 30 days of the procedure to assess their experience and satisfaction with anesthesia
10A13	Documentation of patient reason(s), process reason(s) or medical reason(s) for not receiving survey (i.e. patients who are non-verbal, who are unable to be surveyed due to a medical or psychiatric reason, who are unable to be surveyed due to a language barrier, have not provided contact information who are discharged to assisted living, skilled nursing facility or other similar location where direct access to the patient is not available, or who decline to be surveyed.
10A14	Patient was not provided with a survey within 30 days of the procedure to assess their experience and satisfaction with anesthesia

## AQI 48b

### **DESCRIPTION-AQI48B:**

Percentage of patients who complete the survey from AQI48a on their patient experience and satisfaction with anesthesia care and report a positive experience.

### **DENOMINATOR-AQI48B:**

All patients from the numerator of AQI48a who complete a survey on their patient experience and satisfaction with anesthesia care

***DENOMINATOR NOTE:*** In order to report AQI48b, the denominator must include a minimum of 20 returned surveys.

### **Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**Patient completed a survey on their patient experience and satisfaction with anesthesia care:** 10A72

### **Denominator Exclusions-AQI48b**

**Patient did not complete the mandatory anesthesia satisfaction question:** 10A69

### **NUMERATOR- AQI 48B:**

Patients who reported a positive experience with anesthesia care.

***Definition:*** A positive experience is defined as a response of 4 or 5 on the following mandatory patient experience and satisfaction survey question:

On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 indicates the worst anesthesia experience and where 5 indicates the best anesthesia experience, how would you rate your anesthesia experience? (Practices must include an option for patient to indicate “Not Applicable”)

### **Numerator Options:**

**Note:** To report this measure, the provider must report the individual patient scores. A percentage reporting a positive experience will be calculated on the provider’s behalf.

### ***Performance Met:***

Patient reported a positive anesthesia experience (i.e., a 4 or 5 on the mandatory survey question) (**10A70**)

## **OR**

### ***Performance Not Met:***

Patient did NOT report a positive anesthesia experience (i.e., a 1, 2, or 3 on the mandatory survey question) (**10A71**)

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- Date of procedure
- Date of birth
- ASA CPT code
- ASA physical status
- Received a survey within 30 days
- Survey response received
- Survey response answer

**REPORTING CODES**

AQI 48b Code	Definition
10A72	Patient completed a survey on their patient experience and satisfaction with anesthesia care
10A69	Patient did not complete the mandatory anesthesia satisfaction question
10A70	Patient reported a positive anesthesia experience (i.e., a 4 or 5 on the mandatory survey question)
10A71	Patient did NOT report a positive anesthesia experience (i.e., a 1, 2, or 3 on the mandatory survey question)

## IV. Additional MACRA Measures

### ABG 43: Use of Capnography for Non-Operating Room Anesthesia

**MEASURE TYPE:**

Patient Safety – High Priority

**DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients receiving anesthesia in a non-operating room setting who have end-tidal carbon dioxide (ETCO<sub>2</sub>) monitored using capnography.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be reported each time a patient receives anesthesia in a non-operating room setting. End-tidal carbon dioxide (ETCO<sub>2</sub>) can be recorded in the medical record with either a qualitative (“+”) or quantitative measure (numerical value).

**DENOMINATOR:**

All patients receiving anesthesia in a non-operating room setting for whom select CPT codes are reported.

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**Patients receiving anesthesia in a non-operating room setting** (Measure response code 1088)

**AND**

**Patient procedures during reporting period (CPT):**

00104, 00410, 00731, 00732, 00811, 00812, 00813, 01922

**DENOMINATOR EXCLUSION:**

**Patients receiving anesthesia in an operating room setting**

**OR**

**Patients receiving general anesthesia**

**NUMERATOR:**

Patients receiving anesthesia in a non-operating room applicable setting who have end-tidal carbon dioxide (ETCO<sub>2</sub>) monitored using capnography.

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met.***



Clinician monitored end-tidal carbon dioxide (ETCO<sub>2</sub>) using capnography. End-tidal carbon dioxide can be recorded in the medical record with either a qualitative (“+”) or quantitative measure (numerical value). (**MEDNAX 53A**)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

Clinician did not monitor end-tidal carbon dioxide using capnography. (**MEDNAX 53B**)

**RATIONALE:**

The use of capnography when administering anesthesia in non-operating room sites is highly variable. To assess current use of capnography in non-OR settings, MEDNAX conducted a random audit of 100 anesthesia cases among all MEDNAX group practices participating in the MEDNAX QCDR. These cases were performed during the first 6 months of 2018 and represented either anesthesia for screening colonoscopy (CPT 00812) or anesthesia for non-invasive radiologic imaging (CPT 01922). In 76% of these cases, anesthesiologists documented use of end-tidal CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring while in 24% of cases, such monitoring was not documented.

Anecdotally, monitoring of end-tidal carbon dioxide (ETCO<sub>2</sub>) occurs in a minority of cases outside of the operating room. This is despite evidence that it reduces hypoxemic events: “Meta-analysis of RCTs indicate that the use of continuous end-tidal carbon dioxide monitoring (i.e., capnography) is associated with a reduced frequency of hypoxemic events (i.e., oxygen saturation less than 90%) when compared to monitoring without capnography (e.g., practitioners were blinded to capnography results) during procedures with moderate sedation (category A1-B evidence).”

Capnography use helps avoid adverse events in numerous settings, including the pediatric emergency room: “Hypoventilation is common during sedation of pediatric emergency department patients. This can be difficult to detect by current monitoring methods other than capnography. Providers with access to capnography provided fewer but more timely interventions for hypoventilation. This led to fewer episodes of hypoventilation and of oxygen desaturation.”<sup>3</sup> In addition, monitoring of end-tidal carbon dioxide reduces complications in advanced endoscopic procedures: “Capnographic monitoring of respiratory activity improves patient safety during procedural sedation for elective ERCP/EUS by reducing the frequency of hypoxemia, severe hypoxemia, and apnea.”

Finally, the use of capnography is not only cost efficient, it may create cost savings: “Capnography is estimated to be cost-effective if not cost saving during PSA (procedural sedation/analgesia) for gastrointestinal endoscopy. Savings were driven by improved patient safety, suggesting that capnography may have an important role in the safe provision of PSA

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- ASA CPT code
- Primary Type of Anesthesia

- Non-OR Location
- Use of ETCO2

### **REPORTING CODES**

Response Codes	Definition
1088	Patients receiving anesthesia in a non-operating room setting
Mednax 53A	Clinician monitored end-tidal carbon dioxide (ETCO2) using capnography.
Mednax 53B	Clinician did not monitor end-tidal carbon dioxide using capnography

## MEDNAX 54: Labor Epidural Failure when Converting from Labor Analgesia to Cesarean Section Anesthesia

### **MEASURE TYPE:**

Outcome – High Priority

### **INVERSE MEASURE:**

Yes

### **DESCRIPTION:**

The percentage of patients who have pre-existing labor epidural or combined epidural/spinal technique who require either repeat procedural epidural or spinal, general anesthesia, or supplemental sedation as defined below for cesarean section.

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be reported each time a patient with an existing labor epidural or combined epidural/spinal requires delivery by cesarean section.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

All parturients with an existing labor epidural who require delivery by cesarean section.

#### **Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**Parturient**

**AND**

**Labor epidural in place (CPT code 01967)**

**AND**

**Requires delivery by cesarean section (CPT code +01968)**

#### **DENOMINATOR EXCLUSION:**

**ASA Physical Status = E (Measure Response Code 1091)**

### **NUMERATOR:**

Patients who have pre-existing labor epidural or epidural/spinal technique who require either general anesthesia, repeat procedural epidural and/or spinal technique, or supplemental sedation for cesarean section. For the purposes of this measure, “supplemental sedation” is defined as any dose of propofol, etomidate, or nitrous oxide.

#### **Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met.***

Patient who has pre-existing labor epidural or epidural/spinal technique who requires either general anesthetic, repeat procedural epidural and/or spinal technique, or supplemental sedation for cesarean section. (**MEDNAX 54A**)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

Patients who has pre-existing labor epidural or epidural/spinal technique who **did not** require either general anesthesia, repeat procedural epidural and/or spinal technique, or supplemental sedation. (**MEDNAX 54B**)

**RATIONALE:**

The Royal College of Anaesthetists states that an acceptable rate of general anesthesia in a parturient receiving labor epidural analgesia should be no more than 3%. In a 2012 systematic review, Bauer et al. found that the percentage of all cesarean deliveries performed with general anesthesia with a pre-existing labor epidural was 5% (95% CI 3.5 to 6.5%). The requirement for a second anesthetic, including repeat epidural, spinal or general anesthetic was 7.7% (95% CI 5.0 to 10.5%) and overall, 10.7% (95% CI 4.2 to 17.3) of patients were given supplementation (intravenous, inhalational or not specified) for cesarean sections.

To assess current conversion of labor epidural to either spinal or general anesthesia for cesarean section, MEDNAX conducted a random audit of 100 cesarean following labor epidural cases among all MEDNAX obstetrical anesthesia group practices participating in the MEDNAX QCDR. These cases were performed during the first 6 months of 2018. In 17% of these cases, anesthesiologists converted the labor epidural to either spinal or general anesthesia in performing the cesarean section.

Based on published literature, one notable risk factor for conversion failure was being a non-obstetrical (general) anesthesiologist. They posited that obstetrical anesthesiologists may be more aware of the quality of labor analgesia and more likely to replace dysfunctional catheters or perform manipulations of the existing catheter or performing another neuraxial technique to avoid general anesthesia. Campbell reported an 84.6% success rate of converting labor epidurals by withdrawing the catheter 1cm before further drug administration. Riley reported that obstetrical anesthesiologists had more success than general anesthesiologists in conversion. This metric could identify performance gaps and the need for dedicated obstetrical anesthesia staff rather than cross coverage by general anesthesiologists.

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- ASA CPT code
- Labor Epidural converted to C/S
- Failed Labor Epidural

**REPORTING CODES**

Response Codes	Definition
1091	ASA Physical Status = E
Mednax 54A	Labor epidural FAILED
Mednax 54B	Labor epidural DID NOT fail

## ABG 40: Hypotension Prevention After Spinal Placement for Elective Cesarean Section

### **MEASURE DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients, who present for elective Cesarean section under spinal anesthesia who have phenylephrine infusions started prophylactically to prevent hypotension.

**NQS DOMAIN:** Effective Clinical Care

**MEASURE TYPE:** Process

**HIGH PRIORITY STATUS:** Yes

**INVERSE MEASURE:** No

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be reported each time a patient undergoes spinal anesthesia for elective Cesarean section during the reporting period. Phenylephrine IV infusion is to be started prophylactically in all eligible patients. It is anticipated that qualified anesthesia providers and eligible clinicians who provide denominator-eligible services will submit this measure.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

Patients who have elective Cesarean section and undergo spinal anesthesia.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

#### **Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**All patients who undergo spinal anesthesia electively**

**AND**

**Patient encounter during the reporting period (CPT):**

59510, 59514, 59515

**AND**

**ASA CPT:**

01961

#### **Denominator Exclusions:**

**ASA Physical Status = E**

#### **Denominator Exception:**

**Contraindication to use of phenylephrine infusion (e.g. bradycardia, compromised cardiac function, pre-eclampsia, etc.) (ABG Measure Response Code 1083)**

**NUMERATOR:**

Patients who have a phenylephrine infusion started for prophylactic treatment of hypotension.

Numerator Note: Infusion may be started immediately prior to or immediately after placement of spinal.

***Numerator Note:*** Dosing of infusion left to discretion of provider (recommended starting at 50 µg min<sup>-1</sup>).

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met:***

**Phenylephrine infusion started prophylactically (ABG Measure Response Code 1081)**

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

**Phenylephrine infusion NOT started prophylactically (ABG Measure Response Code 1082)**

**OR**

***Denominator Exception:***

**Contraindication to use of phenylephrine infusion (e.g. bradycardia, compromised cardiac function, pre-eclampsia, etc.) (ABG Measure Response Code 1083)**

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- ASA Physical Status
- ASA CPT code
- C-Section Performed
- Primary Anesthesia Type
- Phenylephrine given

**RATIONALE:**

Spinal hypotension is common in women who receive spinal anesthesia for Caesarean delivery, with an incidence of up to 71%. Spinal hypotension can occur precipitously and, if severe, can result in important perinatal adverse outcomes, such as maternal nausea and vomiting, fetal acidosis and may be an important contributory factor for maternal death related to regional anaesthesia. Mothers with pre-delivery hypovolemia may be at risk of cardiovascular collapse because the sympathetic blockade may severely decrease venous return. As a consequence, prevention of spinal hypotension has been a key research area within the field of obstetric anesthesia.

To prevent spinal hypotension, a number of approaches have been investigated, notably fluid loading, vasopressors, or both. Despite early enthusiasm, the efficacy of fluid loading for

preventing spinal hypotension has been called into question. In contrast, the use of vasopressors has gained increasing prominence as the primary technique for the prevention and treatment of spinal hypotension during Caesarean delivery.

There is accumulating evidence that phenylephrine delivered as an infusion is the most effective method for preventing maternal hypotension and intraoperative nausea or vomiting. In a recent meta-analysis that assessed the harm and benefit of prophylactic phenylephrine infusions, phenylephrine was associated with a reduced risk of pre-delivery hypotension (RR 1/4 0.36; 95% CI 1/4 0.18–0.73) and nausea and vomiting (R 1/4 0.39; 95% CI 1/4 0.17–0.91) compared with placebo.<sup>25</sup> Furthermore, the use of an ‘on–off’ phenylephrine infusion (commenced at 100mg min<sup>-1</sup>) in combination with crystalloid co-hydration has been shown to nearly eliminate the likelihood of spinal hypotension

### **REPORTING CODES**

ABG Codes	Definition
1081	Phenylephrine infusion started prophylactically
1082	Phenylephrine infusion NOT started prophylactically
1083	Contraindication to use of phenylephrine infusion



## AQI 56: Use of Neuraxial Techniques and/or Peripheral Nerve Blocks for Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA)

### **MEASURE DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients, regardless of age, that undergo primary total knee arthroplasty for whom neuraxial anesthesia and/or a peripheral nerve block is performed.

**NQS DOMAIN / MEANINGFUL MEASURES AREA:** Effective Clinical Care / Appropriate use of Healthcare

**MEASURE TYPE:** Process

**HIGH PRIORITY STATUS:** No

**INVERSE MEASURE:** No

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be reported each time a patient undergoes primary total knee arthroplasty. It is anticipated that qualified anesthesia providers and eligible clinicians who provide denominator-eligible services will submit this measure.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

All patients, regardless of age, who undergo primary total knee arthroplasty

#### **Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

All patients, regardless of age

#### **AND**

**Patient encounter during the reporting period (CPT):**

01402

#### **Denominator Exclusions**

**Revision of TKA:** CPT 27486, 27487 or 11A09

#### **OR**

**Prosthesis Removal:** CPT 27488 or 11A10

### **NUMERATOR**

Patients for whom neuraxial anesthesia and/or a peripheral nerve block is performed.

***Numerator Note:*** For the purposes of this measure, a peripheral nerve block performed either as primary procedural anesthesia or performed for postoperative analgesia would meet the numerator.

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met:***

Neuraxial anesthesia and/or a peripheral nerve block was used (**10A78**)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

Neuraxial anesthesia and/or a peripheral nerve block was NOT used (**10A79**)

**OR**

***Denominator Exception:***

Documentation of patient reason(s) for not using either neuraxial anesthesia or a peripheral nerve block (e.g., patient refusal) (**11A01**)

**RATIONALE:**

Regional anesthesia is associated with improved patient outcomes and lower postoperative morbidity and mortality compared to general anesthesia in patients undergoing TKA. Patients receiving neuraxial anesthesia typically lose less blood during surgery, leading to reduced need for many blood transfusions. Additionally, some studies support the notion that spinal anesthesia is associated with lower incidence of surgical site infection when compared to general anesthesia. Peripheral nerve blocks (PNBs) can be used as part of a pain management protocol after knee replacement surgery when compared with systemic analgesia, patients receiving PNBs have better pain scores and use less opioids after surgery. By requiring fewer opioids after surgery, patients also avoid opioid-related side effect such as sedation, respiratory depression, nausea, vomiting, and constipation. They also have better functional outcomes and have overall, a better perioperative experience.

Strength of the evidence supporting neuraxial anesthesia and PNB is sometimes questioned as some of the supporting studies are retrospective in nature and mainly derived from analysis of administrative databases. However, evidence from randomized clinical trials either support better outcomes with regional anesthesia or show that there is no difference with the anesthesia technique.

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- ASA and surgical CPT code
- Neuraxial anesthesia provided

**REPORTING CODES**

AQI 62 Code	Definition
10A78	Neuraxial anesthesia and/or a peripheral nerve block was used
10A79	Neuraxial anesthesia and/or a peripheral nerve block was NOT used
11A01	Documentation of patient reason(s) for not using either neuraxial anesthesia or a peripheral nerve block (e.g., patient refusal)

## ABG 41: Upper Extremity Nerve Blockade in Shoulder Surgery

### **MEASURE DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients who undergo shoulder arthroscopy or shoulder arthroplasty who have an upper extremity nerve blockade performed before or immediately after the procedure.

**NQS DOMAIN:** Effective Clinical Care

**MEASURE TYPE:** Process

**HIGH PRIORITY STATUS:** Yes

**INVERSE MEASURE:** No

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be reported each time a patient undergoes shoulder arthroscopy or shoulder arthroplasty. Eligible patients should have an upper extremity nerve block placed either before or immediately after the surgical procedure. It is anticipated that qualified anesthesia providers and eligible clinicians who provide denominator-eligible services will submit this measure.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

Patients who have elective shoulder arthroscopy or shoulder arthroplasty.

### **DENOMINATOR:**

#### **Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

##### **Patient encounter during the reporting period (CPT):**

23470, 23472, 23473, 23474, 29805, 29806, 29807, 29819, 29820,  
29821, 29822, 29823, 29824, 29825, 29826, 29827, 29828

##### **AND**

##### **ASA CPT:**

01630, 01634, 01636, 01638

#### **Denominator Exclusions:**

**ASA Physical Status = E**

##### **OR**

**Age <18**

#### **Denominator Exception:**

**Contraindication to use of phenylephrine infusion (e.g. bradycardia, compromised cardiac function, pre-eclampsia, etc.) (ABG Measure Response Code 1083)**

**NUMERATOR:**

Patients who have an upper extremity nerve block placed before or immediately after the procedure.

***Numerator Note:*** Upper extremity block may include any one or combination of the following.

- Interscalene
- Supraclavicular
- Suprascapular
- Infraclavicular
- Axillary

***Numerator Note:*** “Immediately after” the procedure is defined as administration prior to discharge from the PACU.

**Numerator Options:*****Performance Met:***

**Upper extremity nerve block performed** (ABG Measure Response Code 1084)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

**Upper extremity block not performed** (ABG Measure Response Code 1085)

**OR**

***Denominator Exception:***

**Contraindication to upper extremity nerve blockade** (ABG Measure Response Code 1086)

**OR**

**Patient or surgeon refusal** (ABG Measure Response Code 1086)

**OR**

**Surgeon administered nerve block** (ABG Measure Response Code 1087)

**RELEVANT FIELDS**

- ASA Physical Status
- Date of Birth
- Surgical and ASA CPT Codes
- UE block performed

**RATIONALE:**

Nerve blocks have several advantages in shoulder surgery. First, nerve blocks provide better pain relief after surgery than the combination of general anesthesia and systemic pain-relieving medications such as opioids that are given after surgery. This is because pain relief provided by nerve blocks is much more specific to the location of the pain. You will also need lower doses of

opioids after surgery to control your pain. Opioids have a number of side effects, which are discussed below, so minimizing their use is important. Regional anesthesia provides greater muscle relaxation than general anesthesia. You will also need less anesthesia for the surgery because your shoulder is totally numb during and after the procedure. That means that you will have less pain, your recovery will be quicker, and your rehabilitation will be easier.

If you happen to receive a block and sedation for surgery instead of receiving general anesthesia, you may avoid many of the side effects and complications associated with general anesthesia, including feeling sick to your stomach or throwing up after anesthesia, commonly known as postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV).”

### **REPORTING CODES**

<b>ABG Codes</b>	<b>Definition</b>
1084	Upper extremity nerve block performed
1085	Upper extremity nerve block NOT performed
1086	Contraindication to block or Surgeon refusal
1087	Surgeon Administered Nerve Block

## V. Interpreting Payment Adjustments with New or Multiple TIN/NPI Combinations

Scenario	Payment Adjustment
<p>Clinician has a 2020 Final Score under <b>TIN A</b>.</p> <p>Clinician continues to bill under <b>TIN A</b> in the 2022 payment year.</p>	<p>Clinician will receive a payment adjustment for covered professional services billed in 2022 under their <b>TIN A/NPI</b> combination based on 2020 Final Score attributed to that <b>TIN A/NPI</b> combination.</p>
<p>Clinician has a single 2020 Final Score, received at <b>TIN A</b>.</p> <p>Clinician bills under <b>TIN B</b> in the 2022 payment year.</p>	<p>Clinician will receive a payment adjustment for covered professional services billed in 2022 under their <b>TIN B/NPI</b> combination based on 2020 Final Score attributed to their <b>TIN A/NPI</b> combination.</p>
<p>Clinician has a 2020 Final Score under <b>TIN A</b>.</p> <p>Clinician has a 2020 Final Score under <b>TIN B</b>.</p> <p>Clinician bills under <b>TIN C</b> in the 2022 payment year.</p>	<p>Clinician will receive a payment adjustment for covered professional services billed in 2022 under their <b>TIN C/NPI</b> combination based on their higher 2020 Final Score – either attributed to their <b>TIN A/NPI</b> combination or <b>TIN B/NPI</b> combination.</p>
<p>Clinician has a 2020 Final Score under <b>TIN A</b>.</p> <p>Clinician has a 2020 Final Score under <b>TIN B</b>.</p> <p>Clinician bills under <b>TIN A</b> and <b>TIN B</b> in the 2022 payment year.</p>	<p>Clinician will receive a payment adjustment for covered professional services billed in 2022 under their <b>TIN A/NPI</b> combination based on 2020 Final Score attributed to that <b>TIN A/NPI</b> combination.</p> <p>Clinician will receive a payment adjustment for covered professional services under their <b>TIN B/NPI</b> combination based on 2020 Final Score attributed to that <b>TIN B/NPI</b> combination.</p>

## VI. Past Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances (EUC) Policy for Covid-19

CMS extended the automatic extreme and uncontrollable circumstances (EUC) policy to all individual MIPS eligible clinicians for the 2020 and 2021 performance years. As a result, many MIPS eligible clinicians, who may have otherwise received a Final Score below the performance threshold and a negative payment adjustment, received a MIPS Final Score equal to the performance threshold and a neutral payment adjustment in the 2022 payment year.

For the 2020 performance year, CMS explains how the EUC policy has been applied to MIPS eligible clinicians for the 2022 payment adjustment:

### **Automatic EUC Policy Applied to MIPS Eligible Clinicians Participating as Individuals**

- MIPS eligible clinicians participating as individuals were only scored on performance categories for which data was submitted. All other performance categories were reweighted to 0% of their Final Score.
- All individual MIPS eligible clinicians who didn't submit PY 2020 data automatically receive a neutral payment adjustment in 2022. The automatic policy wasn't applied to groups, virtual groups, or APM Entities.
- MIPS eligible clinicians participating as individuals who submitted 2020 MIPS data for one performance category by the March 31, 2021, deadline automatically received a neutral payment adjustment. In other words, a MIPS eligible clinician participating as an individual who had multiple performance categories reweighted to 0% so that a single performance category was weighted as 100% of their Final Score, received a score equal to the performance threshold (regardless of whether any data was submitted).
- MIPS eligible clinicians participating as individuals who submitted 2020 MIPS data for 2 or 3 performance categories by the March 31, 2021, deadline received a Final Score based on the performance categories for which data was submitted and may earn a negative, neutral, or positive payment adjustment.

It is unclear whether these same exceptions will apply for the current 2022 performance year.

## VII. Disclaimer and Copyright

### **Disclaimer**

Participation in Graphium Health's MACRA Ready™ service does not guarantee satisfactory participation in CMS Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). Successful submission to CMS is contingent upon each individual eligible provider (EP) and/or group meeting the MIPS program requirements and the timeliness, quality, and accuracy of the data they provide for reporting.

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## APPENDIX A: 2022 MACRA Ready Simple Form

## APPENDIX B: 2022 MACRA Ready Plus Form