



September 19, 2017

Dear Colleague:

The Joint Commission will begin accepting direct submission of electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM) data from selected hospitals and health systems as of the March 2018 submission deadline for calendar year (CY) 2017 eCQM data.

The Joint Commission has selected Apervita as our technology partner in developing our eCQM direct submission platform. Apervita is a leading platform for rapidly building and deploying healthcare applications with innovative, powerful analytics and collaboration capabilities. We are excited that our work together will enable an eCQM direct submission process that simplifies operations and reduces the burden for our accredited hospitals while ensuring regulatory compliance and security.

There are over 500 organizations that will be the first to directly submit eCQM data to The Joint Commission. This is the result of the ORYX measure selection process for the 2017 eCQM measures for reporting. After March 2018, we will provide the direct submission option to all accredited hospitals for submission of CY 2018 eCQM data and going forward.

We will provide regular updates throughout the implementation process. We are organizing a Technical Advisory Panel of hospital-based leadership and technical experts to work with us in platform development and testing this fall. Their involvement and our goal is to help ensure that our direct submission platform and processes operate efficiently and will serve the needs of our accredited hospitals along with those of The Joint Commission.

The ability to receive eCQM data submissions directly from our accredited hospitals has been an important goal for several years. This is based on feedback and our ongoing work with you and other organizations, as well as The Joint Commission's commitment to advancing healthcare quality and patient safety through innovative, practical systems for healthcare data measurement that guide quality improvement.

We look forward to our continued work with your team, and encourage you as always to contact us at hcooryx@jointcommission.org as questions arise. Please include in the email subject line "Direct Submission Inquiry" and your HCO ID#.

We invite you to mark your calendar for Tuesday, October 17, from 11 a.m.-noon (CT) as we host a free webinar to discuss and answer questions about our direct submission process, as well as 2017-2018 ORYX requirements and 2017 eCQM data submission. Please expect an email with webinar registration information in the coming weeks.

Division of Healthcare Quality
The Joint Commission