ORYX Vendors

- The Joint Commission’s ORYX initiative utilizes vendors for collecting and analyzing performance measure data
- An ORYX vendor must meet specific criteria to be included on The Joint Commission’s ORYX vendor list

Current criteria incorporate five broad attributes for listed vendors, including:

- Performance measure characteristics
- Data collection and receipt
- Data quality
- Risk adjustment
- Technical reporting requirements

The Joint Commission defines an ORYX vendor as an entity that has:

- Processes for collecting and analyzing measure data from multiple organizations, as well as disseminating the results of analysis to its client base.
- An automated database that can be used to facilitate performance improvement in health care organizations.
- The ability to generate both internal comparisons of each participating organization’s performance over time and external comparisons of performance among participating organizations.
- The ability to transmit data for a specified time period.

Hospitals select a vendor that best meets their overall measurement needs from The Joint Commission’s ORYX chart-based vendor list or electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM) vendor list. As outlined in the ORYX requirements, some organizations seeking accreditation are expected to participate with at least one of these vendors. Specifically, these health care organizations submit their chart-based measure data by way of their selected vendor(s) each quarter to The Joint Commission, which in turn uses these data in the survey, accreditation and certification processes. No vendor can be used to meet accreditation and certification requirements until it has signed a contract with The Joint Commission.

Note on eCQMs: Accredited hospitals can now submit calendar year (CY) 2018 eCQM data via The Joint Commission’s Direct Data Submission Platform (DDSP). All hospitals submitting eCQM data will be transitioned to the DDSP beginning with CY 2019 eCQM data.

Note on chart-based measures: The Joint Commission will continue to utilize ORYX vendors for submission of hospitals’ chart-based data through 2019 and the use of vendors will be evaluated annually thereafter.

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