An official website of the United States government Here's how you know

CDC's website is being modified to comply with President Trump's Executive Orders.

Patient Safety Structural Measure (PSSM)

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Patient Safety Structural Measure is an attestation-based measure to assess a hospital's structure and culture in accordance with patient's safety. The Patient Safety Structural Measure helps to identify hospitals that have a system and culture for patient safety.

Hospitals participating in the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) and the Prospective Payment System (PPS)-Exempt Cancer Hospital Quality Reporting (PCHQR) Programs must complete the PSSM during the reporting time period.

Protocol

Patient Safety Structural Measure Protocol [PDF – 221 KB]

Forms

Patient Safety Structural Measure Attestation Form [PDF – 242 KB]

Educational Roadmap

FAQs

Nurse Staffing Hours

Analysis

Annual Surveys

Locations

Miscellaneous

CDA

View All FAQs

Analysis Resources

Supporting Resources

CMS Patient Safety Structural Measure Resources can be reviewed and accessed from either the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program or PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospitals Quality Reporting (PCHQR) Program pages. Resources include:

- **CMS Quick Reference Guide** provides an overview of the PSSM reporting along with submission deadlines.
- **CMS Patient Safety Structural Measure Specifications** provides background information and defines the five domains and their corresponding attestation statements.
- **CMS Patient Safety Structural Measure Attestation Guide** provides examples and definitions of key PSSM concepts.

Need Help?

Please be sure to read the information on this page (updated frequently) before contacting the NHSN Help Desk with questions. If you still need assistance, please email nhsn@cdc.gov with subject line "***Patient Safety Structural Measure***".

Last Reviewed: January 27, 2026
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID), Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion (DHQP)

Was this page helpful?

Yes Partly No