

benchmark, groups and solo practitioners' performance rates are weighted by the number of beneficiaries used to calculate the group or solo practitioner's performance rate.

[78 FR 74821, Dec. 10, 2013, as amended at 79 FR 68007, Nov. 13, 2014; 80 FR 71384, Nov. 16, 2015]

§414.1260 Composite scores.

(a)(1) The standardized score for each quality of care measure is classified into one of the following equally weighted domains to determine the quality composite:

- (i) Patient safety.
- (ii) Patient experience.
- (iii) Care coordination.
- (iv) Clinical care.
- (v) Population/community health.
- (vi) Efficiency.

(2) If a domain includes no measure or does not reach the minimum case size in §414.1265, the remaining domains are equally weighted to form the quality of care composite.

(b)(1) The standardized score for each cost measure is grouped into two separate and equally weighted domains to determine the cost composite:

- (i) Total per capita costs for all attributed beneficiaries: Total per capita costs measure and Medicare Spending Per Beneficiary measure; and
- (ii) Total per capita costs for all attributed beneficiaries with specific conditions: Diabetes, coronary artery disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or heart failure (four measures).

(2) Measures within each domain are equally weighted.

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§414.1265 Reliability of measures.

To calculate a composite score for a quality measure or a cost measure, a group or solo practitioner subject to the value-based payment modifier must have 20 or more cases for that measure.

(a) In a performance period, if a group or solo practitioner has fewer than 20 cases for a measure, that measure is excluded from its domain and the remaining measures in the domain are given equal weight.

(1) Starting with the CY 2017 payment adjustment period, the exception to this paragraph (a) is the all-cause hospital readmissions measure described at §414.1230(c). In a performance period, if a group has fewer than 200 cases for this all-cause hospital readmissions measure, that measure is excluded from its domain and the remaining measures in the domain are given equal weight.

(2) Starting with the CY 2017 payment adjustment period, the Medicare Spending Per Beneficiary measure described at §414.1235(a)(6) is an exception to this paragraph (a). In a performance period, if a group or a solo practitioner has fewer than 125 episodes for this MSPB measure, that measure is excluded from its domain and the remaining measures in the domain are given equal weight.

(b)(1) For the CY 2015 payment adjustment period, if a reliable quality of care composite or cost composite cannot be calculated, payments will not be adjusted under the value-based payment modifier.

(2) Beginning with the CY 2016 payment adjustment period, a group and a solo practitioner subject to the value-based payment modifier will receive a quality composite score that is classified as "average" under §414.1275(b)(1) if such group and solo practitioner do not have at least one quality measure that meets the minimum number of cases under paragraph (a) of this section.

(3) Beginning with the CY 2016 payment adjustment period, a group and a solo practitioner subject to the value-based payment modifier will receive a cost composite score that is classified as "average" under §414.1275(b)(2) if such group and solo practitioner do not have at least one cost measure that meets the minimum number of cases under paragraph (a) of this section.

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§414.1270 Determination and calculation of Value-Based Payment Modifier adjustments.

(a) For the CY 2015 payment adjustment period: