

QualityNet User Guide for Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals

Getting Started

This guide will assist in navigation throughout the Hospital Quality Reporting (HQR) Web-Based Data Collection Tool application. It will contain the steps needed to use this application in the [QualityNet](#) Secure Portal to submit data for the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program objectives and clinical quality measures (CQMs).

Single provider and multi-provider users will use this HQR web-based application. Users with administrator privileges are generally the multi-provider users. The principal difference is multi-provider users will have to select the providers they want to view; they will also be able to move between these providers when viewing data.

The summary screens presented in this user guide is from the point of view of the single-provider user.

No public health information or personally identifiable information will be displayed within this document.

Eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAHs) can avoid penalties through the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program by demonstrating their meaningful use of certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT) to improve patient care.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology established standards that hospitals must meet in order to qualify for the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program. The CEHRT is a fifteen-character, alpha-numeric value that documents the standard against which your EHR technology was certified. For those participating in the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program, participants **may use (1) existing 2015 Edition certification criteria, (2) the [2015 Edition Cures Update criteria](#), or (3) a combination of the two in order to meet the CEHRT definition.** The more up-to-date standards and functions in 2015 Edition CEHRT better support interoperable exchange of health information and improve clinical workflows.

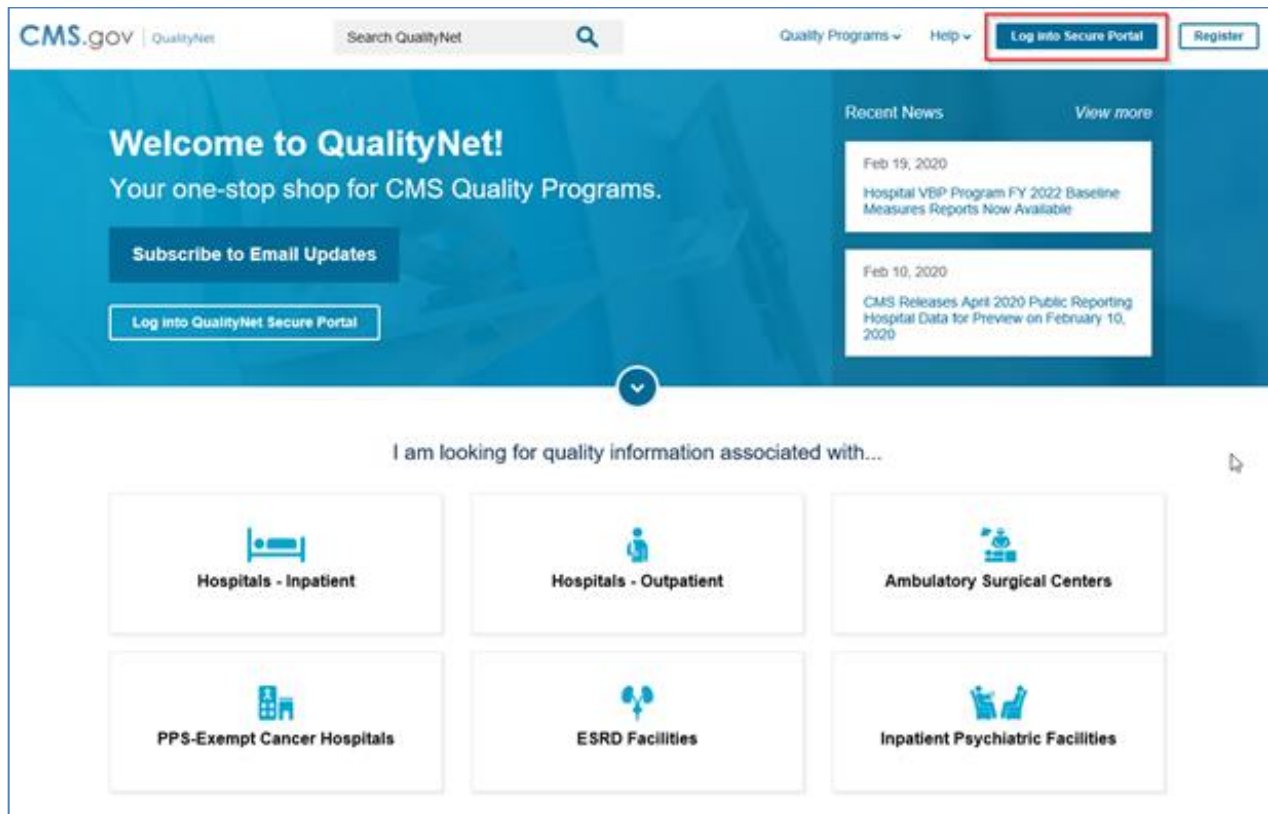
Hospitals wanting to take part in the program will use this HQR web-based system to register and demonstrate effective and meaningful use of CEHRT by providing the following information:

- Registration Information
- Business Information
- Registration Disclaimer
- Objectives
- CQMs

This guide focuses on data entry for the **Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program** objectives and CQMs.

Step 1 – Go to QualityNet.org to Begin

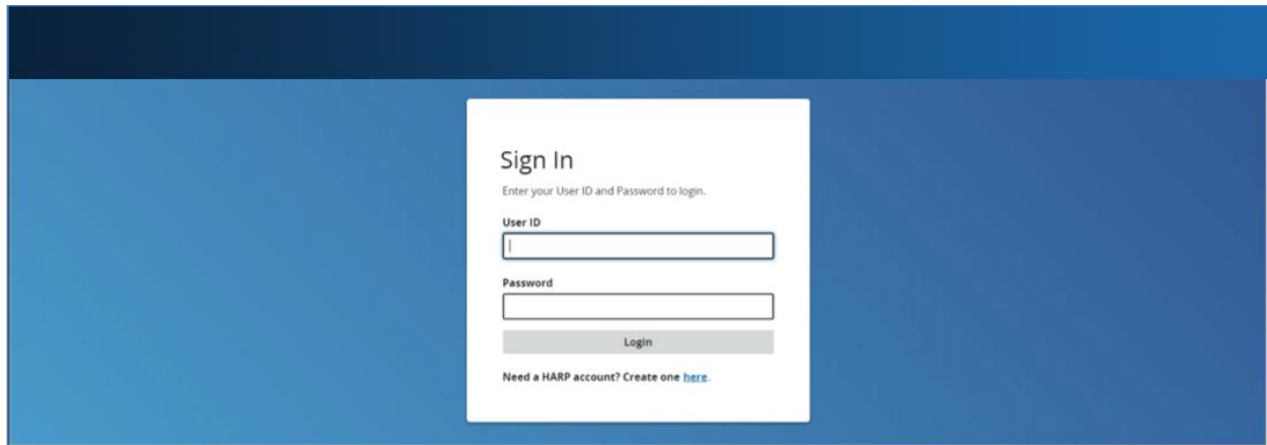
Go to [QualityNet.org](https://www.qualitynet.org) and select Log into Secure Portal.



The screenshot shows the QualityNet.org website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the CMS.gov logo, a search bar, and links for Quality Programs, Help, Log into Secure Portal (highlighted with a red box), and Register. The main content area features a large blue banner with the text "Welcome to QualityNet! Your one-stop shop for CMS Quality Programs." Below this banner are two buttons: "Subscribe to Email Updates" and "Log into QualityNet Secure Portal". To the right of the banner is a "Recent News" section with two news items: "Hospital VBIP Program FY 2022 Baseline Measures Reports Now Available" (dated Feb 19, 2020) and "CMS Releases April 2020 Public Reporting Hospital Data for Preview on February 10, 2020" (dated Feb 10, 2020). Below the banner is a section titled "I am looking for quality information associated with..." which contains six interactive buttons with icons and labels: "Hospitals - Inpatient", "Hospitals - Outpatient", "Ambulatory Surgical Centers", "PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospitals", "ESRD Facilities", and "Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities".

Step 1, Continued – HARP Sign In

Enter your User ID and Password to log in. The system requires two-factor authentication in order to login. Note, you will need to have migrated your QualityNet account to a HARP account to continue utilizing the system.



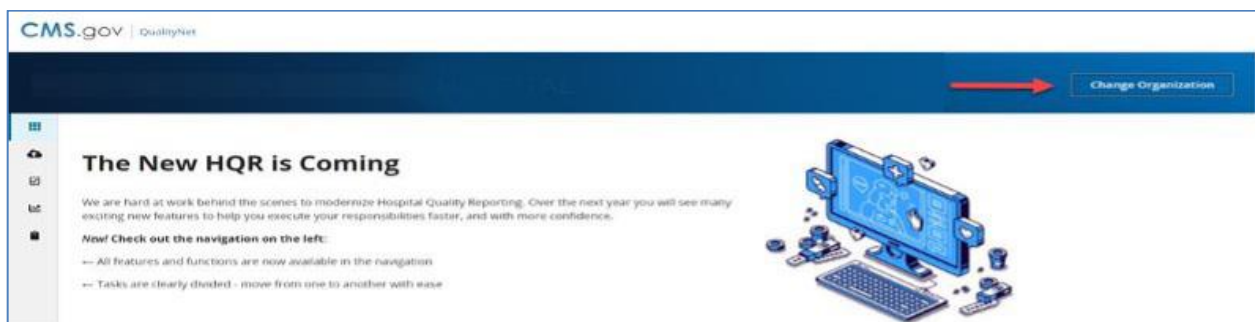
The image shows a 'Sign In' form on a blue background. The form is white and contains the following elements: the title 'Sign In', the instruction 'Enter your User ID and Password to login.', a 'User ID' label above a text input field, a 'Password' label above a text input field, a 'Login' button, and a link that says 'Need a HARP account? Create one [here](#)'.

Step 1, Continued – Terms and Conditions

After you have submitted your log in details and completed the two-factor authentication, you will need to Agree to the Terms & Conditions in order to proceed. Once this step has been completed, you will be directed to the main dashboard.

Step 2 – Select Organization

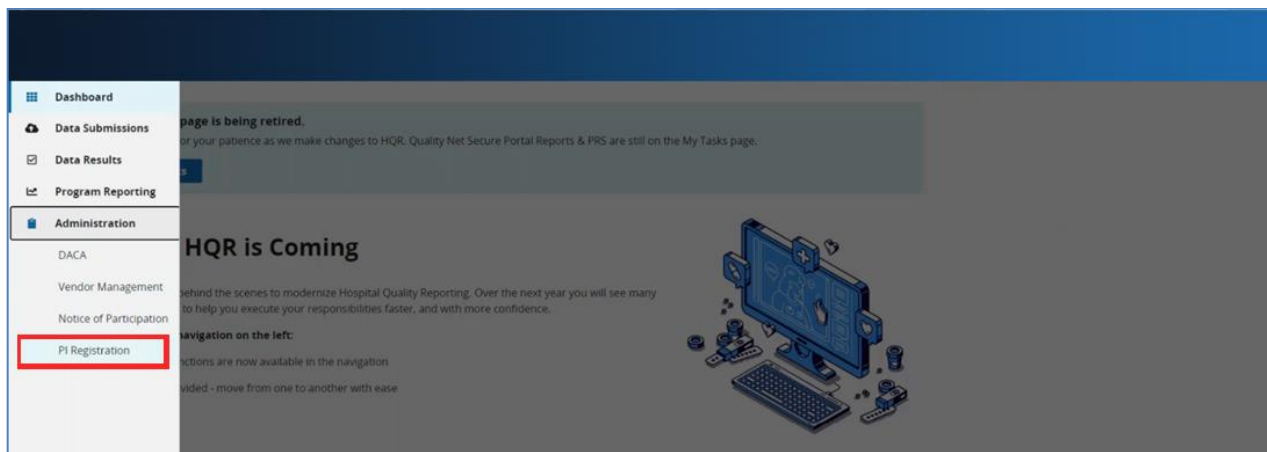
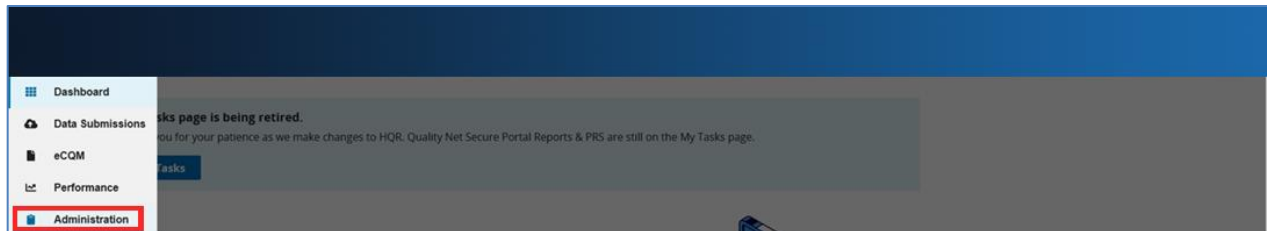
On the main dashboard, you will have the option to **select or change the organization** for which you are submitting data for.



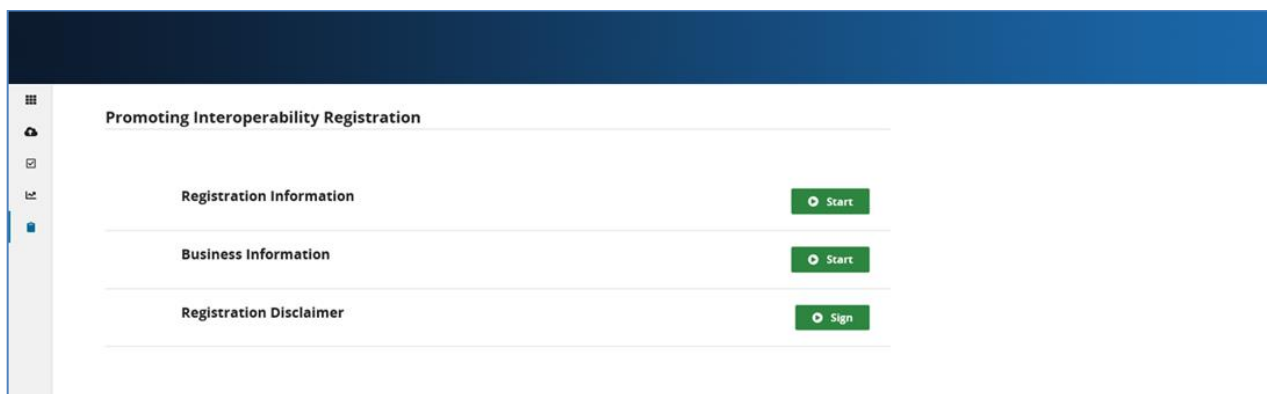
The image shows a screenshot of the CMS.gov QualityNet dashboard. At the top left is the 'CMS.gov | QualityNet' logo. On the right side of the top navigation bar is a 'Change Organization' button with a red arrow pointing to it. The main content area features a large heading 'The New HQR is Coming' and a sub-heading 'We are hard at work behind the scenes to modernize Hospital Quality Reporting. Over the next year you will see many exciting new features to help you execute your responsibilities faster, and with more confidence.' Below this is a section titled 'Now! Check out the navigation on the left:' with two bullet points: '— All features and functions are now available in the navigation' and '— Tasks are clearly divided - move from one to another with ease'. To the right of the text is an illustration of a computer monitor, keyboard, and mouse.

Step 3 – Complete Administrative Tasks

Listed in the left-hand navigation bar, select **Administration**, then select **Promoting Interoperability Registration**.

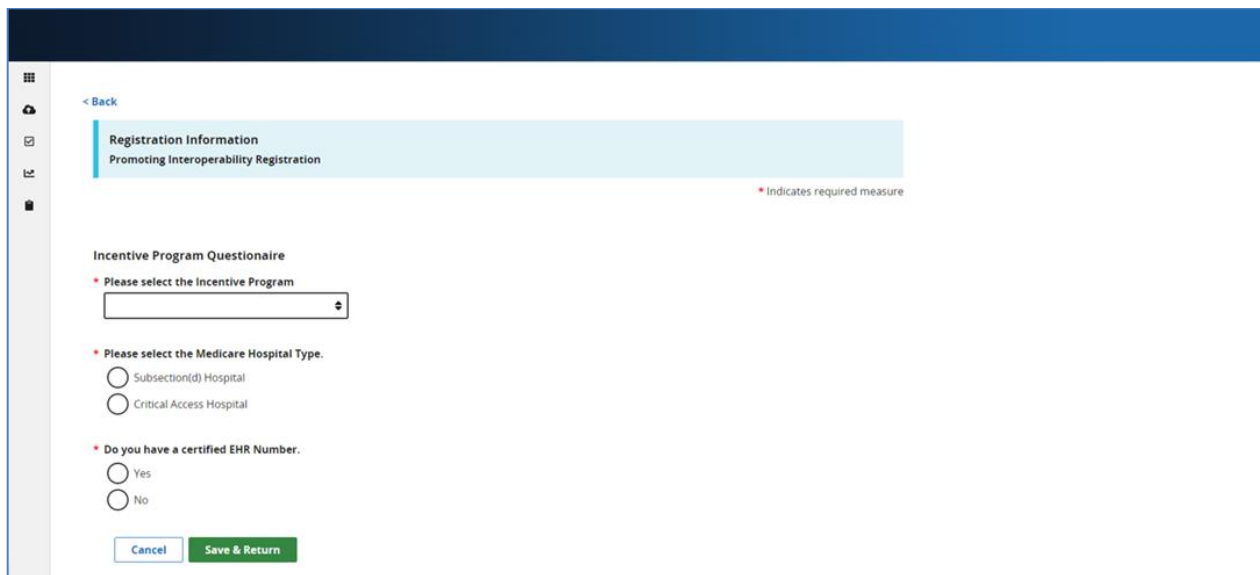


Next you will be directed to the below page:



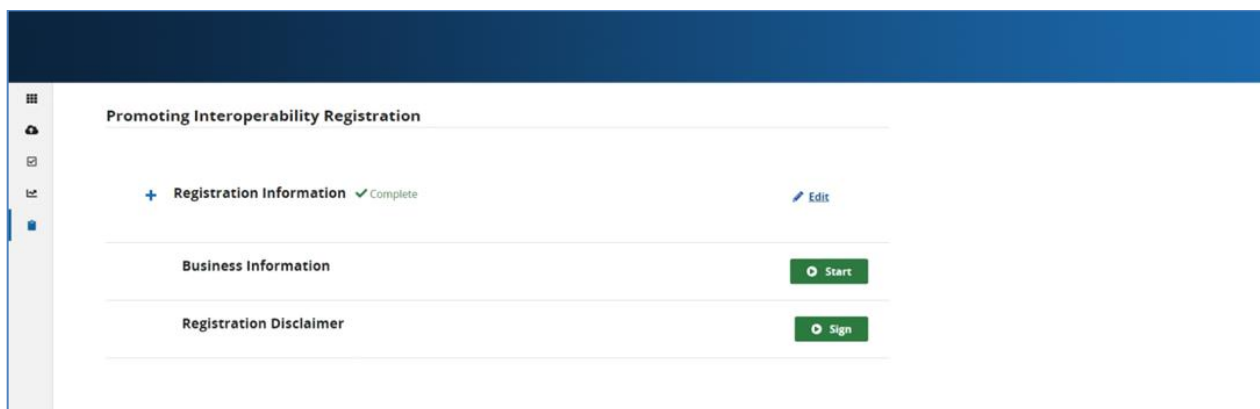
Step 3, continued – Complete Registration Information

Select **Start** Registration Information and enter required information. Once complete, select **Save & Return**.



Step 3, continued – Complete Business Information

Select **Start** Business information and enter required information. You will be required to submit address, phone number, and email information. Once complete, select **Save & Return**.



Business Address

* Address 1

Address 2

* City

* State

* Zip Code

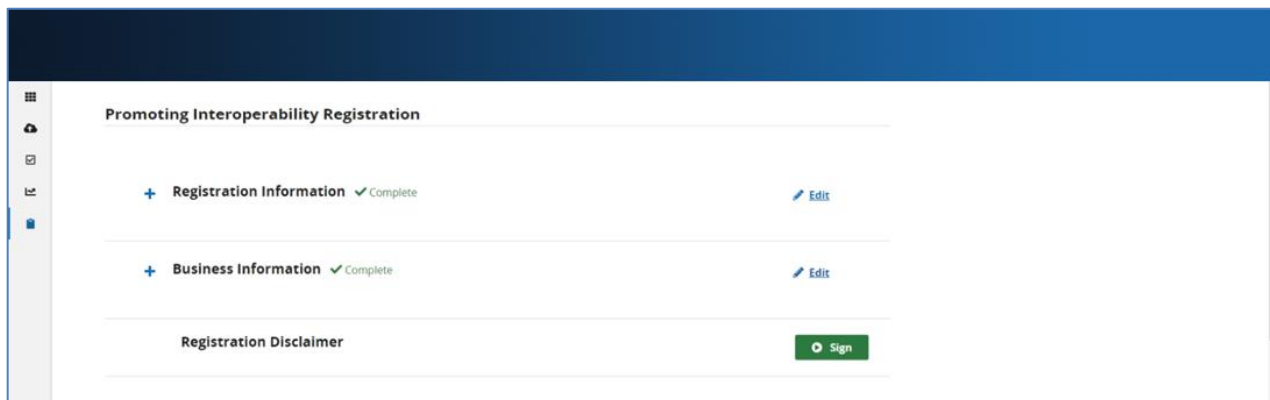
Zip +4

* Phone Number

* Enter e-mail address


Step 3, continued – Complete Registration Disclaimer

Select **Start** Registration Disclaimer and enter required information. Select **Yes, I Acknowledge**. Once complete, select **Sign**.



The screenshot shows a dashboard titled "Promoting Interoperability Registration". On the left is a navigation sidebar with icons for home, list, and details. The main content area has three sections:

- Registration Information** (marked as Complete) with an [Edit](#) link.
- Business Information** (marked as Complete) with an [Edit](#) link.
- Registration Disclaimer** with a **Sign** button.



< Back

Registration Disclaimer

* Indicates required measure

General Notice

NOTICE: Any person who knowingly files a statement of claim containing any misrepresentation or any false, incomplete or misleading information may be guilty of a criminal act punishable under law and may be subject to civil penalties.

Accept, Agree and Submit

I certify that foregoing information is true, accurate and complete. I understand that Medicare/Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program payment I requested will be paid from Federal funds, that by filing this registration I am submitting a claim for Federal funds, and that the use of any false claims, statements, or documents, or the concealment of a material fact used to obtain a Medicare/Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program payment, may be prosecuted under applicable Federal or State criminal laws and may also be subject to civil penalties.

ROUTINE USE(S): Information from this Medicare/Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program registration form and subsequently submitted information and documents may be given to the Internal Revenue Service, private collection agencies, and consumer reporting agencies in connection with recoupment of any overpayment made and to Congressional Offices in response to inquiries made at the request of the person to whom a record pertains. Appropriate disclosures may be made to other federal, state, local, foreign government agencies, private business entities, and individual providers of care, on matters relating to entitlement, fraud, program abuse, program integrity, and civil and criminal litigation related to the operation of the Medicare/Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program.

DISCLOSURES: This program is an incentive program. Therefore, while submission of information for this program is voluntary, failure to provide necessary information will result in delay in an incentive payment or may result in denial of Medicare/Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program payment. Failure to furnish subsequently requested information or documents to support this attestation will result in the issuance of an overpayment demand letter followed by recoupment procedures. It is mandatory that you tell us if you believe you have been overpaid under the Medicare/Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Section 6402, Section 1128j, provides penalties for withholding this information.

* Position

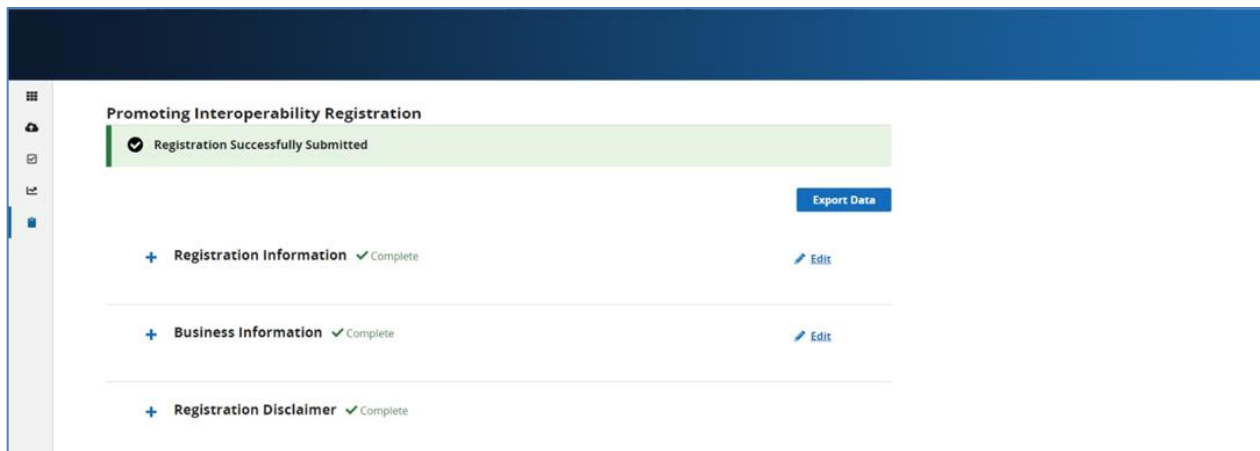
* Yes, I Acknowledge

Yes, I Acknowledge

Cancel Sign

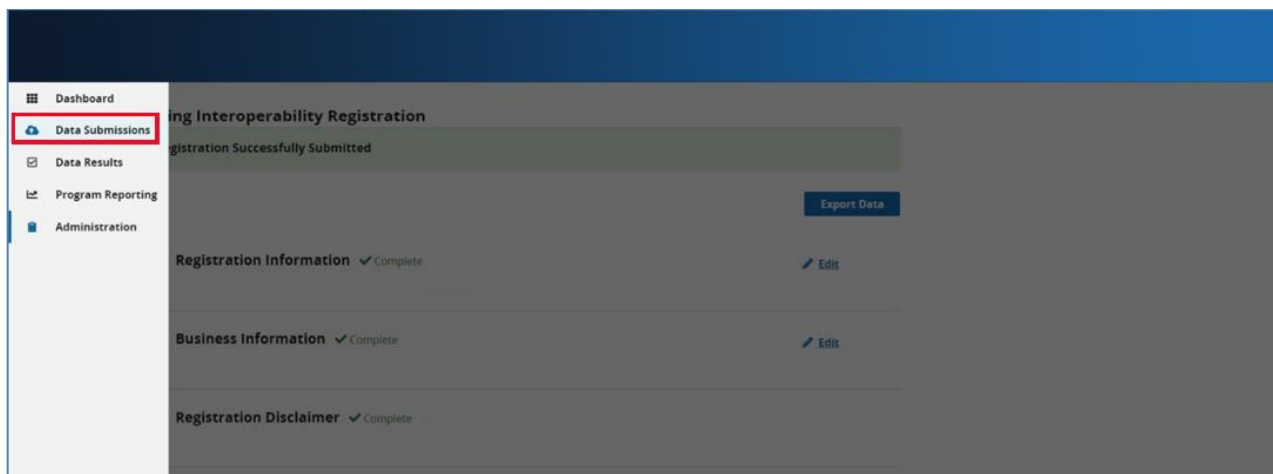
Step 3, Complete

Once you have signed the Disclaimer, you will be notified that you have successfully submitted your registration information.



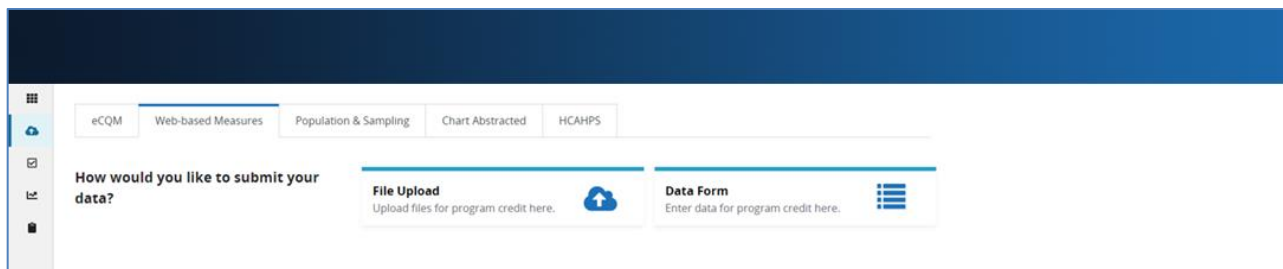
Step 4 – Begin Data Submission

After you have completed your registration information, select **Data Submissions** in the left-hand navigation.



Step 5, Continued – Web-based Measures

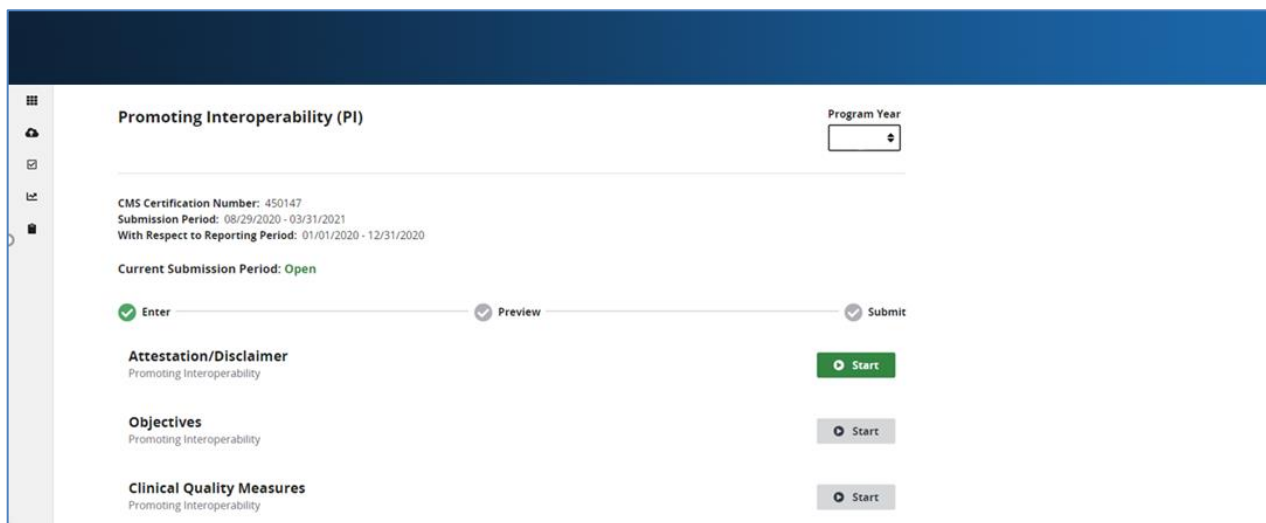
Select the **Web-based Measures** tab.



The screenshot shows the CMS interface with the 'Web-based Measures' tab selected. The page asks 'How would you like to submit your data?' and offers two options: 'File Upload' and 'Data Form'. The 'File Upload' option includes the text 'Upload files for program credit here.' and a cloud upload icon. The 'Data Form' option includes the text 'Enter data for program credit here.' and a list icon.

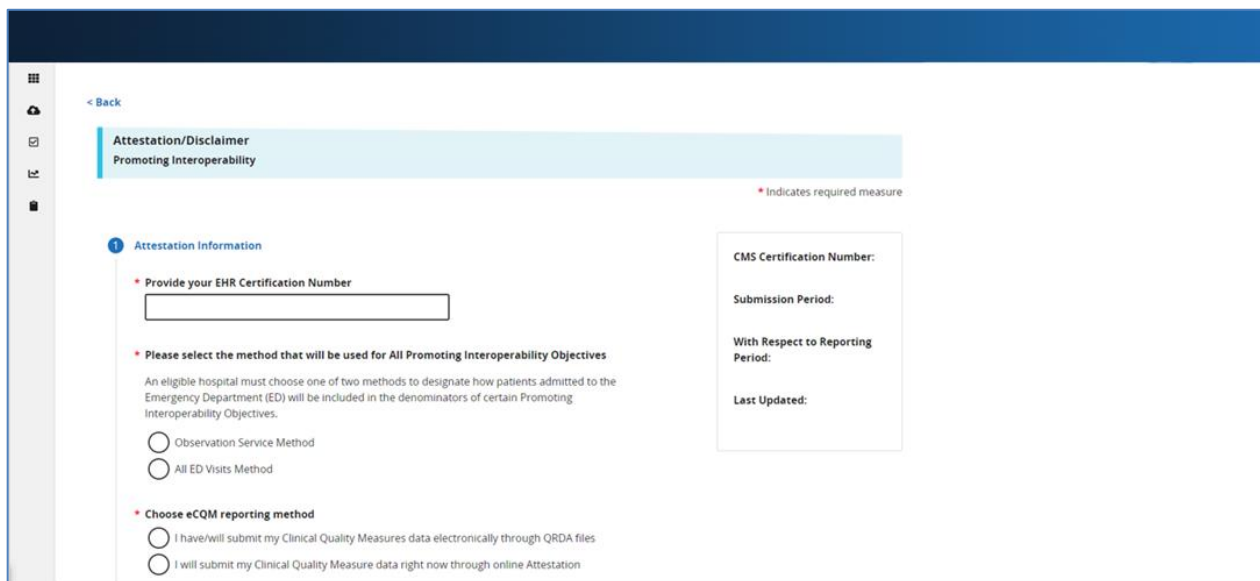
Step 6 – Begin Attestation

After advancing to the **Web-based Measures** tab, you will be directed to the Promoting Interoperability webpage.

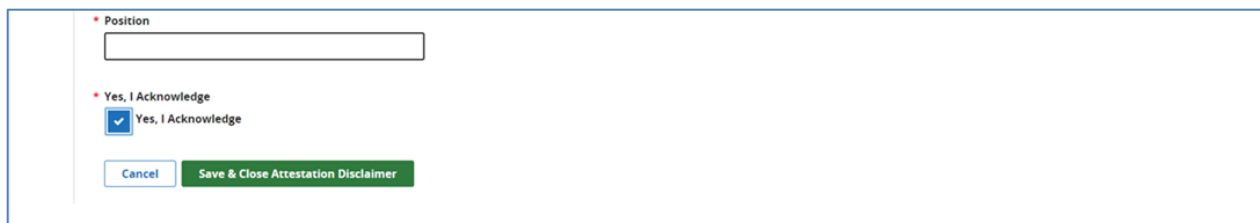


The screenshot shows the CMS 'Promoting Interoperability (PI)' page. The page displays the CMS Certification Number (450147), Submission Period (08/29/2020 - 03/31/2021), and With Respect to Reporting Period (01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020). It shows a progress bar with 'Enter', 'Preview', and 'Submit' steps. Below the progress bar, there are sections for 'Attestation/Disclaimer', 'Objectives', and 'Clinical Quality Measures', each with a 'Start' button.

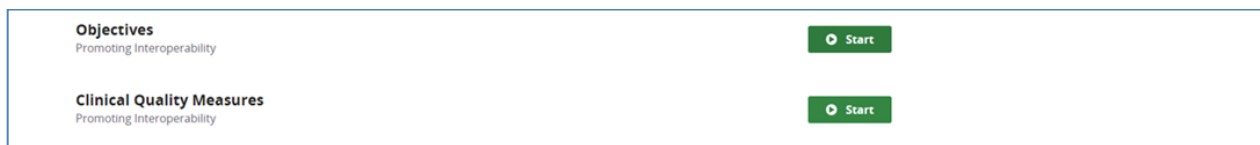
Press **Start** and enter your attestation information.



Once you have completed the attestation/disclaimer information, click **Yes, I Acknowledge** then select **Save & Close Attestation Information**.



Step 7 – Begin Objective Data Submission



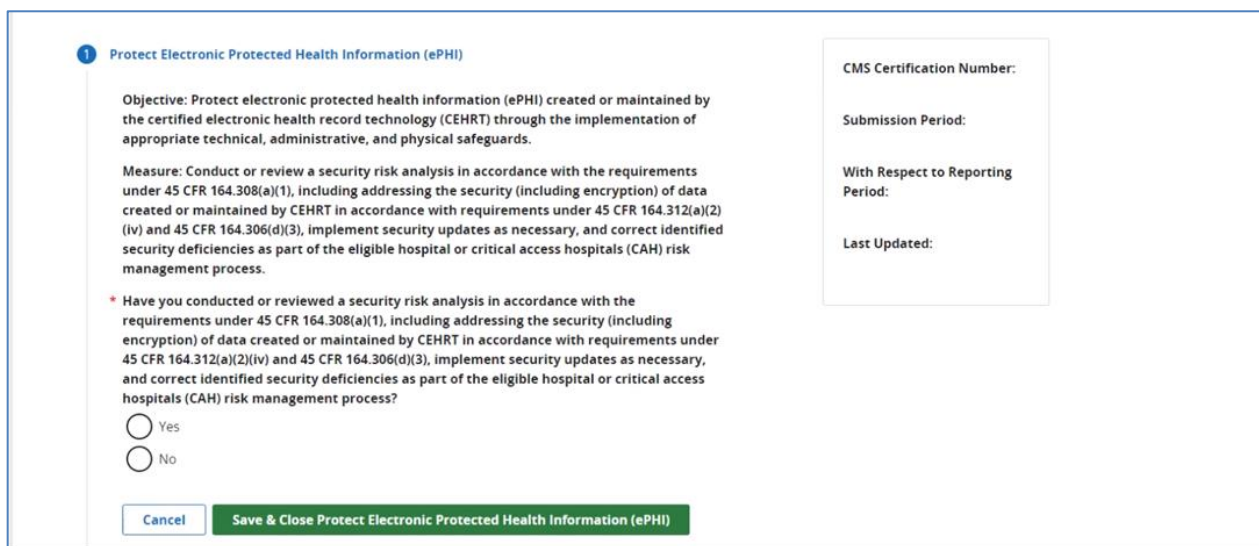
Data for the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program objectives can be submitted anytime and in any order during the submission period. Likewise, answer values can be changed and resubmitted as many times as necessary during the submission period.

There are a total of five objectives and one additional requirement, the Security Risk Analysis measure, that are required to be reported on. Each objective is made up of one or more measures consisting of one or more required questions. Some of these questions are part of a question hierarchy, meaning additional questions may appear depending on how the previous question was answered.

A question hierarchy exists when the leading question is an Exclusion question. You will see the word Exclusion at the beginning of these questions.

Answers are required for all displayed questions. You cannot calculate or submit an objective unless all its measures required questions are answered. Select the **Save & Close** button for each objective.

The following screen shots will walk through examples of how the objectives will be displayed and the order in which they will appear.



1 Protect Electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI)

Objective: Protect electronic protected health information (ePHI) created or maintained by the certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT) through the implementation of appropriate technical, administrative, and physical safeguards.

Measure: Conduct or review a security risk analysis in accordance with the requirements under 45 CFR 164.308(a)(1), including addressing the security (including encryption) of data created or maintained by CEHRT in accordance with requirements under 45 CFR 164.312(a)(2)(iv) and 45 CFR 164.306(d)(3), implement security updates as necessary, and correct identified security deficiencies as part of the eligible hospital or critical access hospitals (CAH) risk management process.

* Have you conducted or reviewed a security risk analysis in accordance with the requirements under 45 CFR 164.308(a)(1), including addressing the security (including encryption) of data created or maintained by CEHRT in accordance with requirements under 45 CFR 164.312(a)(2)(iv) and 45 CFR 164.306(d)(3), implement security updates as necessary, and correct identified security deficiencies as part of the eligible hospital or critical access hospitals (CAH) risk management process?

Yes

No

CMS Certification Number:

Submission Period:

With Respect to Reporting Period:

Last Updated:

2 eRx (electronic prescribing)

Objective: Generate and transmit permissible discharge prescriptions electronically.

Measure: e-Prescribing: For at least one hospital discharge, medication orders for permissible prescriptions (for new and changed prescriptions) are queried for a drug formulary and transmitted electronically using certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT).

* **Exclusion:** Any eligible hospital or CAH that does not have an internal pharmacy that can accept electronic prescriptions and there are no pharmacies that accept electronic prescriptions within 10 miles at the start of their electronic health record (EHR) reporting period.

Yes

No

Bonus: Query of Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP): For at least one Schedule II opioid electronically prescribed using certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT) during the electronic health record (EHR) reporting period, the eligible hospital or CAH uses data from CEHRT to conduct a query of a PDMP for prescription drug history, except where prohibited and in accordance with applicable law.

Yes

No

Cancel

Save & Close eRx (electronic prescribing)

3 Health Information Exchange

Objective: The eligible hospital or critical access hospital (CAH) provides a summary of care record when transitioning or referring their patient to another setting of care, receives or retrieves a summary of care record upon the receipt of a transition or referral or upon the first patient encounter with a new patient, and incorporates summary of care information from other providers into their electronic health record (EHR) using the functions of certified EHR technology (CEHRT).

Measure: Support Electronic Referral Loops by Sending Health Information: For at least one transition of care or referral, the eligible hospital or CAH that transitions or refers their patient to another setting of care or provider of care: (1) Creates a summary of care record using certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT); and (2) electronically exchanges the summary of care record.

* Numerator: Support Electronic Referral Loops by Sending Health Information

* Denominator: Support Electronic Referral Loops by Sending Health Information

Measure: Support Electronic Referral Loops by Receiving and Incorporating Health Information: For at least one electronic summary of care record received for patient encounters during the electronic health record (EHR) reporting period for which an eligible hospital or CAH was the receiving party of a transition of care or referral, or for patient encounters during the EHR reporting period in which the eligible hospital or CAH has never before encountered the patient, the eligible hospital or CAH conducts clinical information reconciliation for medication, medication allergy, and current problem list.

* Numerator: Support Electronic Referral Loops by Receiving and Incorporating Health Information

* Denominator: Support Electronic Referral Loops by Receiving and Incorporating Health Information

Cancel

Save & Close Health Information Exchange

4 Provider to Patient Exchange

Objective: Provides patients (or patient authorized representative) with timely electronic access to their health information.

Measure: Provide Patients Electronic Access to Their Health Information: For at least one unique patient discharged from the eligible hospital or CAH inpatient or emergency department (POS 21 or 23) the patient (or patient-authorized representative) is provided timely access to view online, download, and transmi this or her health information; and the eligible hospital or CAH ensures the patient's health information is available for the patient (or patient-authorized representative) to access using any application of their choice that is configured to meet the technical specifications of the application programming interfaces (API) in the eligible hospital or CAH's certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT).

* Numerator: Provide Patients Electronic Access to Their Health Information

* Denominator: Provide Patients Electronic Access to Their Health Information

Cancel

Save & Close Provider to Patient Exchange

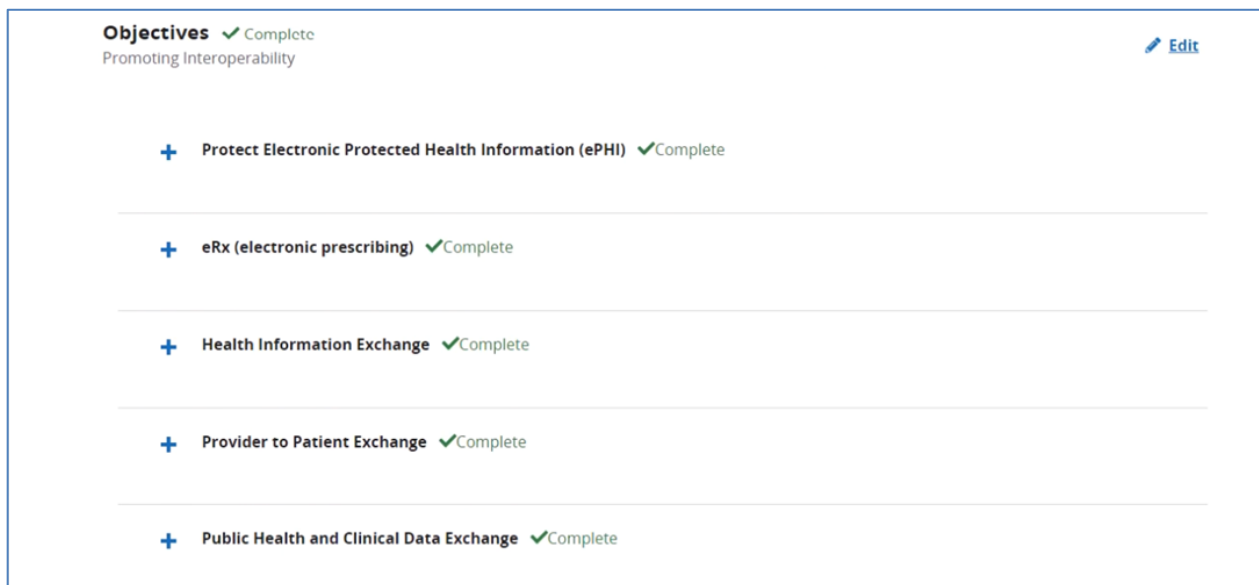
5 Public Health and Clinical Data Exchange

Objective: Measures that an eligible hospital or critical access hospital (CAH) attests yes to being in active engagement with a public health agency (PHA) or clinical data registry (CDR) to submit electronic public health data in a meaningful way using CEHRT for two measures of their choice within the objective.

Cancel

Save & Close Public Health and Clinical Data Exchange

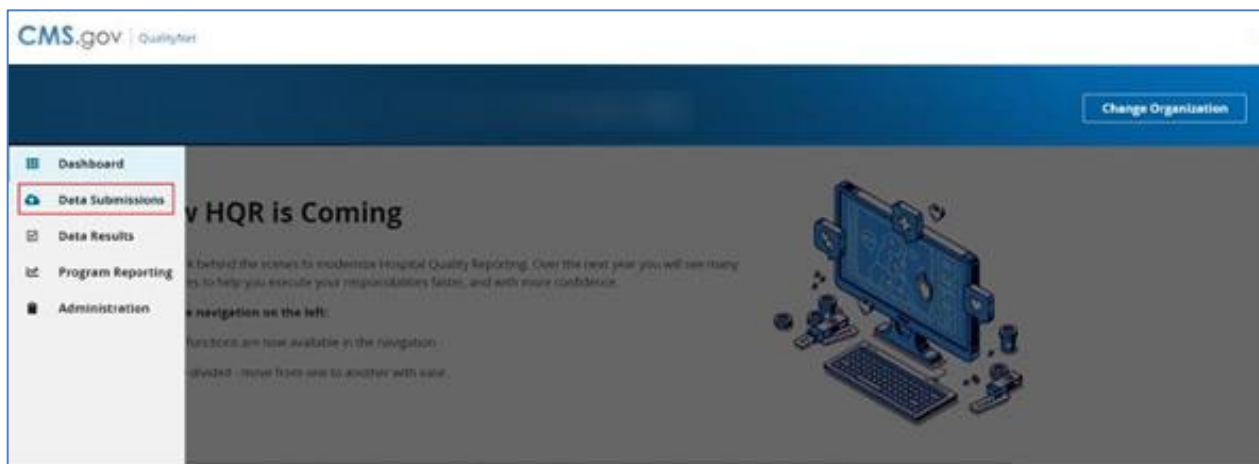
After you have completed each objective, the dashboard will show the following:

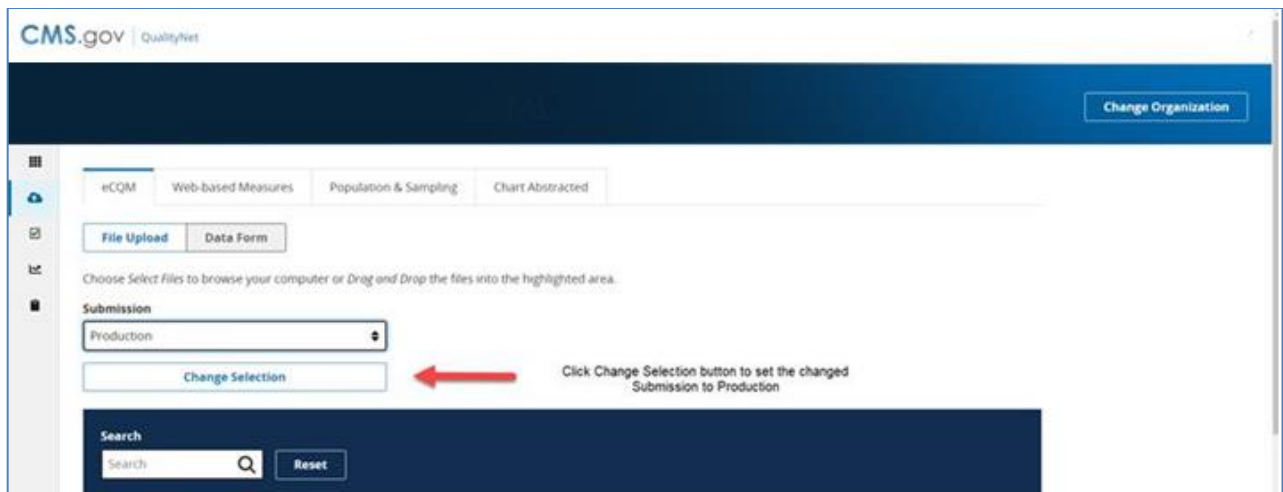
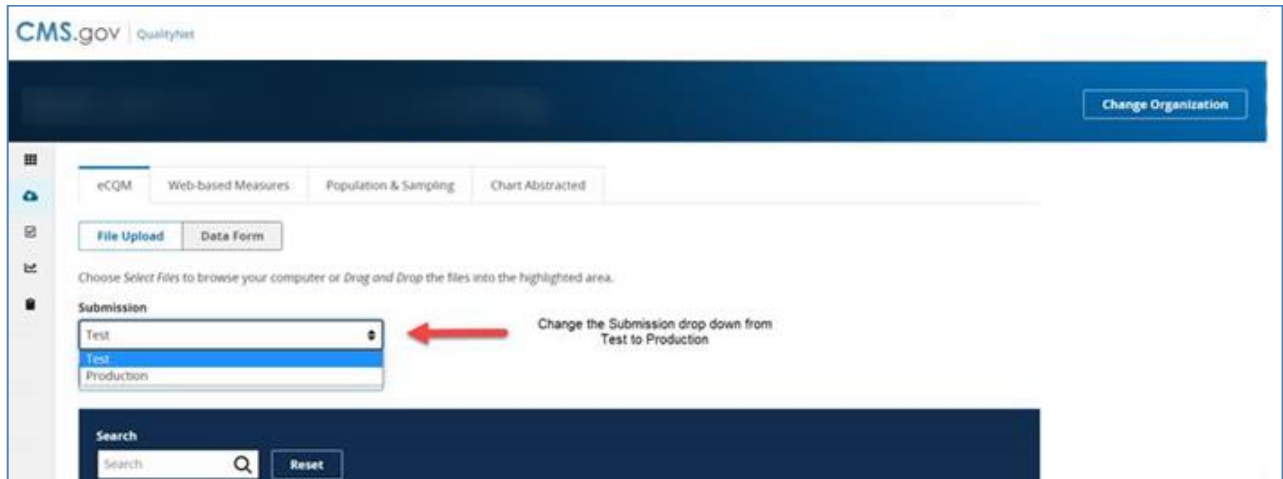


Step 8 – Begin Clinical Quality Measure Data Submission

Data for the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program CQMs can be submitted anytime and in any order during the submission period. Likewise, answer values can be changed and resubmitted as many times as necessary during the submission period. You are required to submit data for a minimum of **four of the eight measures**.

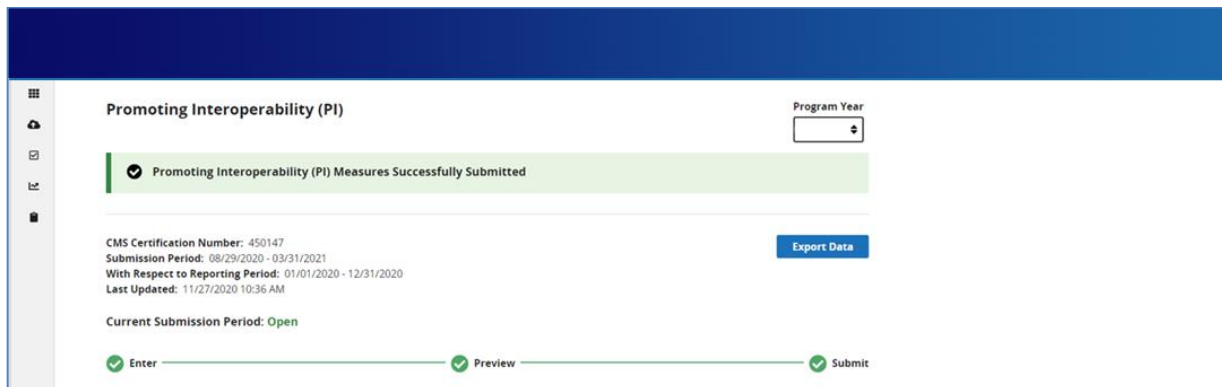
Note: The directions included in this step and the following screenshots are an example of how to submit your CQM data via a QRDA file. You may also submit your CQM data through a Web Form, if preferred.





Step 9 – Submit Data

Once you have completed each section for Promoting Interoperability, select **I'm Ready to Submit**. You will then receive the following message notifying you that you have successfully submitted your data. This completes the data submission process.



The screenshot shows the 'Promoting Interoperability (PI)' dashboard. At the top right, there is a 'Program Year' dropdown menu. A green banner with a checkmark icon and the text 'Promoting Interoperability (PI) Measures Successfully Submitted' is displayed. Below this, the following information is shown: 'CMS Certification Number: 450147', 'Submission Period: 08/29/2020 - 03/31/2021', 'With Respect to Reporting Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020', and 'Last Updated: 11/27/2020 10:36 AM'. An 'Export Data' button is located to the right of the submission period. Below this, it states 'Current Submission Period: Open'. At the bottom, a progress bar shows three steps: 'Enter' (checked), 'Preview' (checked), and 'Submit' (checked).

Appendix A - CQM Measure Titles and Descriptions

STK-3	Anticoagulation Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter	Ischemic stroke patients with atrial fibrillation/flutter who are prescribed or continuing to take anticoagulation therapy at hospital discharge.
STK-5	Antithrombotic Therapy By End of Hospital Day 2	Ischemic stroke patients administered antithrombotic therapy by the end of hospital day 2.
STK-2	Discharged on Antithrombotic Therapy	Ischemic stroke patients prescribed or continuing to take antithrombotic therapy at hospital discharge.
STK-6	Discharged on Statin Medication	Ischemic stroke patients who are prescribed or continuing to take statin medication at hospital discharge.
PC-05	Exclusive Breast Milk Feeding	During the newborn's entire hospitalization. This measure is reported as an overall rate which includes all newborns that were exclusively fed breast milk during the entire hospitalization.
VTE-2	Intensive Care Unit Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) Prophylaxis	This measure assesses the number of patients who received VTE prophylaxis or have documentation why no VTE prophylaxis was given the day of or the day after the initial admission (or transfer) to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) or surgery end date for surgeries that start the day of or the day after ICU admission (or transfer).
ED-2	Median Admit Decision Time to ED Departure Time for Admitted Patients	Median time (in minutes) from admit decision time to time of departure from the emergency department for emergency department patients admitted to inpatient status.
VTE-1	Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis	This measure assesses the number of patients who received VTE prophylaxis or have documentation why no VTE prophylaxis was given the day of or the day after hospital admission or surgery end date for surgeries that start the day of or the day after hospital admission.