

American College of Rheumatology

Rheumatology Informatics System for

Effectiveness (RISE)

Qualified Clinical Data Registry (QCDR)

2025 Quality Measures

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2025 Quality Benchmarks

What are CMS Benchmarks?

Benchmarks are the point of comparison CMS establishes and uses to score the quality measures you submit for the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). When you submit measures for Traditional MIPS and/or a MIPS Value Pathway (MVP) quality performance category, your performance on each measure is assessed against CMS' benchmark for that performance year to determine how many points the measure will earn. CMS establishes benchmarks specific to each collection type, which may result in a measure having multiple benchmarks.

Why are CMS Benchmarks important?

CMS will award a range of points from 1 to 10 for 2025 measures. The points available are reflected in the CMS Benchmark file (see below under CMS Benchmark Resources). This file can be overwhelming; therefore, the RISE team has created a summary of the 2025 benchmarks for each measure in RISE registry.

You are strongly encouraged to review the [2025 RISE Quality Benchmarks](#) before selecting quality measures to focus on and potentially report for 2025 MIPS. Reviewing the benchmarks allows practices to select their measures based off **a)** how they feel they will perform on measures, and **b)** the potential MIPS points they will receive based off performance.

Some quality measures are topped-out. This means that CMS has determined there is little to no room for quality improvement, and the measure will be awarded a limited range of points, with 7 points maximum if 100% performance is reported.

Instructions to Utilize the Benchmarks

- Open the [2025 RISE Registry Quality Benchmarks](#) >
- Select the benchmark for the measure and collection type you're interested in or reporting.
- Identify the benchmark Performance Range that maps to your estimated performance in that measure.
- See the range of points available for that Performance Range.

Examples of Scoring

- QCDR measure ACR10 with a performance rate in Performance Range 6 (58.90 – 64.48%) can earn **6 – 6.9 points**.
- QCDR measure ACR17 does not have a benchmark, therefore this measure will receive **0 points** unless it is submitted by a small practice.
 - Small practices with fewer than 15 clinicians will continue to earn **3 points** for measures without a benchmark.
- CQM177 with a performance rate in Performance Range 6 (99.34 - 99.99%) or in Performance Range 10 (100%) can only earn **7 points** due to it being topped out and capped at 7 points max.
- CQM498 does not have a benchmark. As this measure was added in PY2024, it is subject to **5 points** if data completeness is met.

CMS Benchmark Resources

[Introduction to Benchmarks >](#)

[2025 Quality Benchmarks >](#)

[2025 Quality Benchmarks User Guide >](#)

[2025 Multiple Performance Rate Measures >](#)

2025 Quality Measures in RISE

These quality measures are available for quality performance tracking in the 2025 performance year via the ACR RISE registry. The quality measures in the registry are a part of the 2025 Quality Payment Program (QPP) and are reportable for [Traditional Merit-based Incentive Payment System \(MIPS\)](#) and/or the [Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MIPS Value Pathway \(MVP\)](#).

ACR QCDR Measures

The ACR developed the following rheumatology-specific measures that are exclusively available and reportable for MIPS via the ACR RISE registry. To learn more about the QCDR measures, access the [2025 RISE Qualified Clinical Data Registry \(QCDR\) Measure Specifications](#).

ACR10: Hepatitis B Safety Screening

Measure Description: If a patient is newly initiating biologic OR new synthetic DMARD therapy (e.g. methotrexate, leflunomide, etc.), then the medical record should indicate appropriate screening for hepatitis B in the preceding 12-month period.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: No

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

ACR12: Disease Activity Measurement for Patients with PsA

Measure Description: If a patient has psoriatic arthritis, then disease activity using a standardized measurement tool should be assessed at $\geq 50\%$ of encounters for PsA.

Measure Type: Process

Telehealth Eligible: No

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: No

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

ACR14: Gout: Serum Urate Target

Measure Description: The percentage of patients aged 18 and older with at least one clinician encounter (including telehealth) during the measurement period and a diagnosis of gout treated with urate-lowering therapy (ULT) for at least 12 months, whose most recent serum urate result is less than 6.0 mg/dL.

Measure Type: Intermediate Outcome – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: No

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

ACR15: Safe Hydroxychloroquine Dosing

Measure Description: If a patient is using hydroxychloroquine, then the average daily dose should be less than or equal to 5 mg/kg.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: No

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

ACR16: Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients with Low Disease Activity or Remission

Measure Description: The risk-adjusted proportion of individuals with RA who have low disease activity or are in remission based on the last recorded disease activity score as assessed using an ACR-preferred tool in the measurement year.

Measure Type: Intermediate Outcome – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: No

Topped Out: N/A

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

Note: This is a risk-adjusted measure. Please email RISE@rheumatology.org with any questions regarding risk-adjusted measures.

New for 2025! - ACR17: Methotrexate to Biologic Adherence to Treatment Pathway for Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis

Measure Description: Percentage of patients aged 18 years or older with a diagnosis of RA AND receiving a first course therapy using a biologic disease-modifying antirheumatic drug (DMARD) who had a prescription for a conventional synthetic (cs) DMARD at least 10 weeks prior to newly initiated biologic therapy during the measurement year.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: No

Topped Out: N/A

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

Clinical Quality Measures (CQMs) & Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQMs)

The CQM and eCQM quality measures listed below are valuable assessment tools; they help ensure our health care processes, outcomes, and patient experiences align with our quality goals for health care.

[Access the 2025 Clinical Quality Measure Specifications ->](#)

[Access the 2025 Electronic Clinical Quality Measure Specifications ->](#)

Quality ID #24: Communication with the Physician or Other Clinician Managing On-Going Care Post-Fracture for Men and Women Aged 50 Years and Older

Measure Description: Percentage of patients aged 50 years and older treated for a fracture with documentation of communication, between the physician treating the fracture and the physician or other clinician managing the patient's on-going care, that a fracture occurred, and that the patient was or should be considered for osteoporosis treatment or testing. This measure is submitted by the physician who treats the fracture and who therefore is held accountable for the communication.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: No

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as CQM only.*

Quality ID #39: Screening for Osteoporosis for Women Aged 65-85 Years of Age

Measure Description: Percentage of female patients aged 65-85 years of age who ever had a central dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) to check for osteoporosis.

Measure Type: Process

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: No

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as CQM only.*

Quality ID #47: Advance Care Plan

Measure Description: Percentage of patients aged 65 years and older who have an advance care plan or surrogate decision maker documented in the medical record or documentation in the medical record that an advance care plan was discussed but the patient did not wish or was not able to name a surrogate decision maker or provide an advance care plan.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: Yes

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as CQM only.*

Quality ID #130: Documentation of Current Medications in the Medical Record

Measure Description: Percentage of visits for patients aged 18 years and older for which the eligible clinician attests to documenting a list of current medications using all immediate resources available on the date of the encounter.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: Yes

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

**Available as CQM & eCQM.*

Quality ID #134: Preventive Care and Screening: Screening for Depression and Follow-Up Plan

Measure Description: Percentage of patients aged 12 years and older screened for depression on the date of the encounter or up to 14 days prior to the date of the encounter using an age-appropriate standardized depression screening tool AND if positive, a follow-up plan is documented on the date of or up to two days after the date of the qualifying encounter.

Measure Type: Process

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes (CQM); No (eCQM)

Topped Out: Yes (CQM); N/A (eCQM)

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

**Available as CQM & eCQM.*

Quality ID #155: Falls: Plan of Care

Measure Description: Percentage of patients aged 65 years and older with a history of falls that had a plan of care for falls documented within 12 months.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: Yes

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as CQM only.*

Quality ID #176: Tuberculosis Screening Prior to First Course of Biologic and/or Immune Response Modifier Therapy

Measure Description: If a patient has been newly prescribed a biologic and/or immune response modifier that includes a warning for potential reactivation of a latent infection, then the medical record should indicate TB testing in the preceding 12-month period.

Measure Type: Process

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: Yes

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

**Available as CQM only.*

Note: This measure was stewarded by the ACR.

Quality ID #177: Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA): Periodic Assessment of Disease Activity

Measure Description: Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) who have an assessment of disease activity using an ACR-preferred RA disease activity assessment tool at ≥50% of encounters for RA for each patient during the measurement year.

Measure Type: Process

Telehealth Eligible: No

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: Yes

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

**Available as CQM only.*

Note: This measure was stewarded by the ACR.

Quality ID #178: Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA): Functional Status Assessment

Measure Description: Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) for whom a functional status assessment was performed at least once within 12 months.

Measure Type: Process

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: Yes

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

**Available as CQM only.*

Note: This measure was stewarded by the ACR.

Quality ID #180: Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA): Glucocorticoid Management

Measure Description: Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) who have been assessed for glucocorticoid use and, for those on prolonged doses of prednisone >5 mg daily (or equivalent) with improvement or no change in disease activity, documentation of glucocorticoid management plan within 12 months.

Measure Type: Process

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: Yes

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

**Available as CQM only.*

Note: This measure was stewarded by the ACR.

Quality ID #226: Preventive Care and Screening: Tobacco Use: Screening and Cessation Intervention

Measure Description: Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older who were screened for tobacco use one or more times within the measurement period AND who received tobacco cessation intervention during the measurement period or in the six months prior to the measurement period if identified as a tobacco user.

Measure Type: Process

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: No

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as CQM & eCQM.*

Quality ID #236: Controlling High Blood Pressure

Measure Description: Percentage of patients 18-85 years of age who had a diagnosis of essential hypertension starting before and continuing into or starting during the first six months of the measurement period, and whose most recent blood pressure was adequately controlled (<140/90mmHg) during the measurement period.

Measure Type: Intermediate Outcome – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes (CQM); Yes (eCQM)

Topped Out: No (CQM); No (eCQM)

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as CQM & eCQM.*

Quality ID #238: Use of High-Risk Medications in Older Adults

Measure Description: Percentage of patients 65 years of age and older who were ordered at least two high-risk medications from the same drug class.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes (CQM); Yes (eCQM)

Topped Out: Yes (CQM); Yes (eCQM)

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as CQM & eCQM.*

Quality ID #317: Preventive Care and Screening: Screening for High Blood Pressure and Follow-Up Documented

Measure Description: Percentage of patient visits for patients aged 18 years and older seen during the measurement period who were screened for high blood pressure AND a recommended follow-up plan is documented, as indicated, if blood pressure is elevated or hypertensive.

Measure Type: Process

Telehealth Eligible: No

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes (CQM); Yes (eCQM)

Topped Out: No (CQM); No (eCQM)

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as CQM & eCQM.*

Quality ID #318: Falls: Screening for Future Fall Risk

Measure Description: Percentage of patients 65 years of age and older who were screened for future fall risk during the measurement period.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: No

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as eCQM only.*

Quality ID #374: Closing the Referral Loop: Receipt of Specialist Report

Measure Description: Percentage of patients with referrals, regardless of age, for which the referring clinician receives a report from the clinician to whom the patient was referred.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes (CQM); Yes (eCQM)

Topped Out: Yes (CQM); No (eCQM)

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as CQM & eCQM.*

Quality ID #487: Screening for Social Drivers of Health

Measure Description: Percentage of patients 18 years of age and older screened for food insecurity, housing instability, transportation needs, utility difficulties, and interpersonal safety.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: No

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

**Available as CQM only.*

Quality ID #493: Adult Immunization Status

Measure Description: Percentage of patients 19 years of age and older who are up to date on recommended routine vaccines for influenza; tetanus and diphtheria (Td) or tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (Tdap); zoster; and pneumococcal.

Measure Type: Process

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: Yes

Topped Out: No

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

**Available as CQM only.*

Quality ID #498: Connection to Community Service Provider

Measure Description: Percentage of patients 18 years of age and older who screen positive for one or more of the following health-related social needs (HRSNs): food insecurity, housing instability, transportation needs, utility help needs, or interpersonal safety; and had contact with a Community Service Provider (CSP) for at least 1 of their HRSNs within 60 days after screening.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: No

Topped Out: N/A

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as CQM only.*

Quality ID #503: Gains in Patient Activation Measure® (PAM®) Scores at 12 Months

Measure Description: The Patient Activation Measure® (PAM®) is a 10 – or 13 – item questionnaire that assesses an individual's knowledge, skills, and confidence for managing their health and health care. The measure assesses individuals on a 0-100 scale that converts to one of four levels of activation, from low (1) to high (4). The PAM® performance measure (PAM®-PM) is the change in the score on the PAM® from baseline to follow-up measurement.

Measure Type: Process – High Priority

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: No

Topped Out: N/A

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS & Advancing Rheumatology Patient Care MVP

**Available as CQM only.*

New for 2025! - Quality ID #508: Adult COVID-19 Vaccination Status

Measure Description: Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older seen for a visit during the performance period that are up-to-date on their COVID-19 vaccinations as defined by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations on current vaccination.

Measure Type: Process

Telehealth Eligible: Yes

Measure has a Benchmark: No

Topped Out: N/A

Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS

**Available as CQM only.*