

The next CMS Hospital/Quality Initiative Open Door Forum scheduled for:

Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Start Time: 3:00pm-4:00pm Eastern Time (ET)

***Please log on at least 15 minutes before call start time.***

**\*\*This Agenda is Subject to Change\*\***

## I. Opening Remarks

Chair – Joseph Brooks (Center for Medicare)

Moderator – Jill Darling (Office of Communications)

## II. Announcements & Updates

- Wage Index Timeline Update
  - FY 2025 Wage Index Development Timetable
    - <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/fy2025-hospital-wage-index-development-timetable.pdf>
  - Wage Index Appeals (WIA) module in the Medicare Electronic Application Request Information System (MEARIS) at <https://mearis.cms.gov>
  - If a hospital is unable to submit an appeal via MEARIS, for FY 2025 the hospital may submit via email to [wageindexreview@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:wageindexreview@cms.hhs.gov)
- Update on Hospital Price Transparency
  - Main Hospital Price Transparency  
Webpage: <https://www.cms.gov/priorities/key-initiatives/hospital-price-transparency>
  - GitHub Repository for the required CMS Templates and technical instructions : <https://github.com/CMSgov/hospital-price-transparency>
  - Link to webpage of tools to support hospitals in meeting the accessibility and MRF requirements including a MRF File Naming Wizard, a TXT File Generator, and a Validator V2.0 coming in Spring 2024 that tests against the required CMS template and data specifications. <https://cmsgov.github.io/hpt-tool/txt-generator/>

## III. Open Q&A

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Next CMS Hospital/Quality Initiative Open Door Forum: TBD

**ODF EMAIL MAILBOX: [Hospital\\_ODF@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Hospital_ODF@cms.hhs.gov)**

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*This Open Door Forum is open to everyone, but if you are a member of the press, you may listen in but please refrain from asking questions during the Q&A portion of the call. If you have inquiries, please contact CMS at [Press@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Press@cms.hhs.gov). Thank you.*

**NEW and UPDATED Open Door Forum Participation Instructions:**  
This call will be a Zoom webinar with registration and login instructions below.

To participate by webinar:

Register in advance for this webinar:

[https://cms.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_vfsU5LSKR3atiW9T\\_AhrDg](https://cms.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_vfsU5LSKR3atiW9T_AhrDg)

Meeting ID: 160 823 4591

Passcode: 200020

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. You may also add the webinar to your calendar using the drop-down arrow on the “Webinar Registration Approved” webpage after registering. Although the ODFs are now a Zoom webinar, we will only use the audio function, no need for cameras to be on.

Closed captioning will be available during the webinar. TTY Communications Relay Services are available for the Hearing Impaired. For TTY services dial 7-1-1 or 1-800-855-2880. A Relay Communications Assistant will help.

For ODF schedule updates and E-Mailing List registration, visit our website at  
<http://www.cms.gov/OpenDoorForums/>.

Were you unable to attend the recent Hospital ODF call? We encourage you to visit our CMS Podcasts and Transcript webpage where you can listen and view the most recent Hospital ODF call. Both the webinar recording and transcript will be posted to:

<https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Outreach/OpenDoorForums/PodcastAndTranscripts.html>.

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