

Understanding the SAFER Guides Measure

12/19/2023



Learn more about the SAFER Guides Requirements for the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program

For calendar years (CY) 2023 and 2024, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is requiring eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAHs) participating in the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program to attest to whether they have completed their self-assessment for the [Safety Assurance Factors for EHR Resilience \(SAFER\) Guides](#) measure.

The SAFER Guides measure is part of the Protect Patient Health Information objective in the program and consists of nine guides.

Learn more about both the CY 2023 and 2024 requirements.

CY 2023

For CY 2023, eligible hospitals and CAHs are required to attest “yes” or “no” to completing an annual self-assessment using **all nine** [SAFER Guides](#) at any point during the calendar year in which the EHR reporting period occurs to satisfy the program requirement.

- Attesting “yes” signifies a participant has completed the annual self-assessment.
- Attesting “no” signifies a participant has not completed the annual self-assessment.

For CY 2023, both answers are acceptable. However, leaving the SAFER Guides measure attestation blank (e.g., N/A) will result in failing to meet minimum program requirements, and potentially receiving a downward payment adjustment.

For further information on CY 2023 SAFER Guides Requirements, please view the [Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program vs MIPS Promoting Interoperability Performance](#)

[Category SAFER Guides Requirements infographic](#). Further information on 2023 Medicare Promoting Interoperability program requirements can be found [here](#).

CY 2024

For CY 2024, eligible hospitals and CAHs will be **required** to attest “yes” to completing an annual self-assessment using **all nine** [SAFER Guides](#) at any point during the calendar year in which the EHR reporting period occurs to satisfy the program requirement.

- Attesting “yes” signifies a participant has completed the annual self-assessment and will satisfy the SAFER Guides requirement.
- New for CY 2024: Attesting “no” or leaving the measure attestation blank (e.g., N/A) signifies a participant has not completed the annual self-assessment and would receive a downward payment adjustment.

For More Information

To learn more about the Medicare Promoting Interoperability program, please visit the programs [website](#).