

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Questions and Answers
Open Door Forum: Hospital
Tuesday, June 4, 2024

1. Question: I'm really grateful for this validation tool. I was just wondering, with the new, more detailed requirements coming next year, specifically with all the drugs and adding modifiers and things like that, is there a plan to make this more user-friendly where hospitals can just kind of enter the data and have something generated through the CMS website? We are a really tiny hospital, so meeting with compliance does create overhead for people. Smaller hospitals that may have to go outside of the hospital to generate such a very detailed data file to have updated annually. So, I was just wondering if there's anything in the works going forward that will make this compliance factor a little easier to meet.
 - a. Answer: It's an excellent question and that the fact that some hospitals are very small, and employees wear multiple hats and have to comply with multiple regulations, that is not lost on us, which is why we've been busily developing these tools. The template that you can download, the data dictionary and all the other—the steps document. We're doing everything that we can to assist you. If there are any other tools or assisted devices that you think would be helpful, we're all ears. I think one of the challenges, though, is that every hospital is unique, and every hospital has a unique set of payers and payer plans and a unique way that the standard charge has been negotiated. I would have to think about how we could develop something more off-the-shelf that would apply to every single hospital situation. The closest that we have so far for you are those templates that you can download and then start, you know, if you open it up in a software package, that spreadsheet software package for example, you can start filling it in then and then at least it gives you a start on that. That the format, the layout, you've got that right out of the gate.

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