

# Influenza Quality Measure (QM) Coding Tips

The Vaccination Quality Measures are the easiest to impact when a facility is looking to improve their Quality of Resident Care Measures (QMs). You have the control to assure that 100% of your residents meet the QM as being “assessed and appropriately given” the vaccination!

## Percentage of Long-Stay Residents Who Needed and Got a Vaccine to Prevent Influenza

Nursing facility licensure regulations require long-term care facilities to assess the influenza vaccination status of each resident, provide education regarding influenza vaccination benefits and potential side effects, and administer the vaccination when indicated, unless refused by the resident or responsible party. Facilities must document the resident was assessed, educated, offered, and received the vaccine, or declined due to refusal or contraindication. These requirements are found under F883 (§ 483.80(d)(1)) of the [State Operations Manual](#). The facility should administer the appropriate influenza vaccination consistent with current [ACIP and CDC guidance](#). The use of standing orders policies in nursing homes for influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations is allowed under F711 (§ 483.30(b)(3) of the State Operations Manual.) Some states may have more stringent regulations that do not allow for standing orders and this would override the federal mandate as it is the stricter of the requirements that are to be followed.

**PLEASE STOP** if you are about to code:

O0250. Influenza Vaccine - Refer to current version of RAI manual for current influenza vaccination season and reporting period	
Enter Code <input type="checkbox"/>	A. Did the resident receive the influenza vaccine <i>in this facility</i> for this year's influenza vaccination season? 0. No → Skip to O0250C, if influenza vaccine not received, state reason 1. Yes → Continue to O0250B, Date influenza vaccine received
<b>AND</b>	B. Date influenza vaccine received → Complete date and skip to O0300A, Is the resident's Pneumococcal vaccination up to date? Month - Day - Year
Enter Code <input type="checkbox"/>	C. If influenza vaccine not received, state reason: 1. Resident not in this facility during this year's influenza vaccination season 2. Received outside of this facility 3. Not eligible - medical contraindication 4. Offered and declined 5. Not offered 6. Inability to obtain influenza vaccine due to a declared shortage 9. None of the above

**PLEASE STOP**

Note: the following will trigger the influenza quality measure as not up to date. ([MDS 3.0 QM User's Manual, v14](#)):

**Before you enter one of these four codes (those circled above), STOP!**

**Resident not in facility during this year's influenza vaccination season (O0250C = [1]) – STOP** and thoroughly explore whether the individual received the flu shot anywhere during this year's influenza vaccination season. Ask the resident, talk to family/responsible party, contact the resident's home area local public health, and check your state's [Immunization Information System \(IIS\) database](#), if available. If a resident moves into your facility in July, for example, the inclination is to mark that the individual was not in the facility during this year's influenza season. However, it is expected and best practice to research as much as possible to assure that the resident has had the opportunity to receive the influenza vaccination and be up-to-date for the current year (or until the next influenza vaccination is available.) Please check all sources to make sure the resident received the vaccine somewhere and that resident is considered up-to-date until the new influenza vaccination season starts in your building.

**Not offered (O0250C = [5]) - STOP** and request assistance from another MDS coordinator or your DON. This should never be checked. If it is not currently the influenza season, refer to previous season's vaccination status, or if not in your building refer to example above.

**Inability to obtain influenza vaccine due to a declared shortage (O0250C = [6]) - STOP** and request assistance from another MDS coordinator or your DON. See all of the options above.

**None of the above (O0250C = [9]) - STOP** and request assistance from another MDS coordinator or your DON. See all of the options above.

The data for the Influenza QM will be pulled ONLY once per year, in July, and whomever triggers at that time, will remain on your reports (including [Care Compare](#)) for the whole next year. In July, the data will be pulled for the current flu season, broadly recognized as October 1 through March 31. For example, the data pulled in July 2021, will be from the flu season October 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021. Flu season for your building is specifically recognized as starting when the influenza vaccine is available in your community.

*To know the current CMS mature data reflecting your facility's "Percentage of long-stay residents who needed and got a vaccine to prevent influenza," go to [Care Compare](#) and view your nursing home's quality measures. Contact Great Plains Quality Innovation Network to speak to a Nursing Home Quality Improvement Advisor for assistance:*

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