



**Trauma Quality Improvement Program**  
American College of Surgeons



**COMMITTEE ON TRAUMA**

# Guide to 2023 TQIP Participation

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## Welcome

Welcome to the 14<sup>th</sup> year of ACS TQIP. Many of you are continuing TQIP participants, and some centers are new to TQIP this year. We are pleased to inform you that there are over 875 program participants across all levels of TQIP. In this document, you will find an overview of the program components for this year.

Please note that we will update the Participation Guide as any details change. As a dynamic program, TQIP adapts as needed and therefore we may adjust timelines and other plans, etc. throughout the program year.

Questions about TQIP? Staff can be reached by email at [traumaquality@facs.org](mailto:traumaquality@facs.org) or by phone at 312-202-5680. Additional information about TQIP can be found on our website at <https://www.facs.org/quality-programs/trauma/quality/trauma-quality-improvement-program/>

## ACS TQIP Components

### *TQIP Reports*

TQIP benchmark reports compare outcomes, using both risk-adjusted and risk-stratified approaches, for all patients meeting TQIP inclusion criteria. Results are provided using a series of patient and injury characteristic cohorts (i.e., aged 65+ or shock patients). We typically provide two reports a year, one in the spring and one in the fall, and the data included in each report is as recent as six months post-discharge.

We currently offer risk-adjusted models for mortality, major hospital events, and major hospital events including death for all TQIP participation types (Adult, Pediatric, and Level III). We model each of these three outcomes in 8 Adult TQIP patient cohorts, 6 Pediatric TQIP patient cohorts, and 3 Level III TQIP patient cohorts. Additionally, we model a series of specific hospital event outcomes in targeted cohorts for the Adult Program and offer a Time to Transfer model for the Level III program. In total, this amounts to more than 60 risk-adjusted models across all TQIP participation types. We also provide a series of risk-stratified outcomes for a variety of cohorts for each participation type.

TQIP reporting is a dynamic environment– always stay tuned for updates and changes with each reporting cycle!

## *Dynamic Online Reporting Tools*

TQIP participants have access to dynamic reporting tools which are available online and released in conjunction with each reporting cycle. These tools are designed to complement the results presented in the static bi-annual Risk-Adjusted Benchmark Report.

These tools allow participants to explore trends in user-defined patient cohorts, locate and correct data quality issues, and identify patients who are most suggestive of trends and opportunities for improving care. We see these tools as integral components of successfully using the TQIP Benchmark Reports to drive change in your institution.

To better understand these dynamic reporting tools, please refer to the Data Center Resources found on the [TQP Participant Hub](#).

## *Data Quality*

The fundamental value of TQIP depends upon the availability of *consistent and standardized* data, as provided by participating centers. TQIP data elements directly overlap with existing NTDS data elements, but with additional TQIP-specific elements required for Level 1 and Level 2 participants. TQIP data submissions are also subjected to a TQIP-specific Validator that accommodates both the additional elements reported from Level 1 and Level 2 centers and the modified TQIP submission schedule for all centers.

The first test of data quality for TQIP centers is the Validator. The Validator checks for invalid and inconsistent data and rejects files that contain serious flags. Please review the [Validation Summary Report](#) that results from your data submission and correct flags, if needed. If you are missing any TQIP-specific fields in your submission file, contact your vendor as missing fields will affect your data and TQIP Benchmark Reports.

Additionally, please review the [Submission Frequency Report](#) generated after a successful submission to ensure the data from your trauma registry are mapped correctly. The Submission Frequency Report will ensure the data submitted from your facility is an accurate representation of your registry.

TQIP centers are required to make quarterly data submissions to provide contemporary data for analysis. This process allows for many advantages in terms of data quality and usefulness over submitting data on an annual basis. With a quarterly schedule, we are able to provide more contemporary reports and offer feedback on your patient outcomes

sooner after transmitting data to us. This affords your team the ability to act more swiftly on improvements to patient care. In addition, we are scrutinizing more current data as we assess data quality issues.

Please take the time to read and carefully consider the information below and contact us with your questions.

### *TQIP Quarterly Data Collection Process:*

- We will call for data each quarter on the schedule below. There is no need to resubmit your data during the NTDB Annual Call for Data.
- Ideally, hospitals will follow the quarterly schedule and transmit contemporary data within the two months following the end of each quarter.
- However, we know that some hospitals may lag behind our schedule, as they may need to correct problems in already-submitted records or send records that were not closed in an earlier quarter due to long LOS.
- We are allowing submission of records that were not previously sent, or were updated since the last quarterly submission, but they must conform to the admission and discharge dates shown in the third column below.
- Records will always use the Data Dictionary and Validator of their respective admission year.
- Data files must be separated by admission year. If you are submitting data from two different admission years, you will need to send two separate files.
- Any re-submitted record will overwrite its existing version in the database if there is a change from the original record.

## 2023 TQIP Data Submission Schedule

Quarter		Quarterly Call for Data Window	Patient admission must fall in this time frame. Patient must also be discharged.
<b>Q4</b>	October – December 2022	February 1 – March 1, 2023	January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2022
<b>Q1</b>	January – March 2023	May 1 – <b>June 1, 2023*</b>	January 1, 2021 – March 31, 2023
<b>Q2</b>	April – June 2023	August 1 – September 1, 2023	January 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023
<b>Q3</b>	July – September 2023	November 1 – <b>December 7, 2023**</b>	January 1, 2021 – September 30, 2023
<b>Q4</b>	October – December 2023	February 1 – March 1, 2024	January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2023

\*Deadline to be included in Fall 2023 Report

\*\* Deadline to be included in Spring 2024 Report

Prior to each deadline, more specific details and instructions will be provided.

If you have concerns about how data quality is affecting your TQIP results, please contact TQIP staff. We will help you to conduct a review of your data coding and mapping practices, focused on those specific fields important to TQIP analysis.

The TQIP external data validation process monitors data quality by examining centers' benchmark reports and quarterly data submissions, which prompts Data Quality Reports or possible targeted site visits for a more detailed validation review using case abstraction. This process provides more contemporary feedback on data reliability and helps discover issues that could affect centers' risk-adjusted benchmark results.

## *TQIP Communications*

Major TQIP communications will come from [traumaquality@facs.org](mailto:traumaquality@facs.org) or [traumaquality@email.facs.org](mailto:traumaquality@email.facs.org). Please add these email addresses to your list of accepted senders to ensure you receive all TQIP communications.

Any staff changes or updates can be managed by facilities on the [ACS Quality Portal \(QPort\)](#). This will ensure that the correct staff at your center are notified of important TQIP events, changes, educational offerings, and reports. For training materials to better understand the various elements of QPort, please refer to the Training Resources located on the [TQP Participant Hub](#). Like the [NTDB Google group](#), the TQIP Google group is a great resource relying on expertise of fellow abstractors and PI practitioners. If you have not already done so, please click [here](#) to request to join the TQIP Google group.

As each TQIP benchmark report is released, we will ensure that our educational offerings on the TQIP Education Portal are updated with information relevant to any changes that have been made in the report since the last release. We will host educational webinars to help centers understand the updates to benchmark reports, as well as answer questions that have been submitted by our participants. If you have specific questions about interpreting your report, please first consult the References documentation that comes with your report. If you are unable to find your answer there, please email [traumaquality@facs.org](mailto:traumaquality@facs.org)

## *TQIP Education and Training*

Registry education is an important underpinning of data quality and standardization. TQIP offers online continuing education modules that empower participants to pace their own education and focus on topics most relevant to their role at the trauma center. These modules are deployed on a rolling schedule throughout the year and cover various topics such as the NTDS, data quality, the TQIP benchmark report and an overall background of TQIP. Each module takes approximately 1 hour to complete, and CEs are provided after completion of each module. The TQIP online continuing education modules are housed on the TQIP Education Portal and are available to all enrolled staff at all participating TQIP centers for no additional cost. To access TQIP education, please visit the [TQP Participant Hub](#) and navigate to the TQIP Education Portal. The username and password are the same as the QPort login credentials. If you need to reset your password for the TQIP Education Portal, please click [here](#).

TQIP also provides non-punitive monthly educational experiences, and scheduled web conferences, for all staff who are involved in TQIP at each center. In order to determine the focus of the educational experiences, we carefully examine data quality concerns and take into consideration comments and questions we receive from participants about data elements, data submission, and all TQIP reporting products. Educational experiences are sent via email. The web conferences are learning opportunities which will cover a variety of topics for all hospital staff involved in the TQIP team and will often provide continuing education credits. Web conference announcements are sent via email and recordings are uploaded to the TQIP Education Portal. These learning opportunities apply to all hospital staff involved in the TQIP team.

## *Best Practice Guidelines*

The Trauma Quality Programs Best Practices Guidelines emerged from a growing need to provide trauma centers with recommendations for managing patient populations or injury types and have become a highly regarded publication from the ACS. These Guidelines are written by leading medical experts and provide a valuable resource for trauma centers.

Here is a list of the available Best Practices Guidelines:

- Acute Pain Management in Trauma Patients
- Child Abuse, Elder Abuse, and Intimate Partner Violence
- Geriatric Trauma Management (being revised)
- Imaging
- Management of Orthopaedic Trauma
- Management of Traumatic Brain Injury (being revised)



- Massive Transfusion in Trauma
- Mental Health and Substance Use
- Palliative Care
- Spine Injury

The Best Practices Guidelines are available on the TQIP Education Portal and on the ACS website (<https://www.facs.org/quality-programs/trauma/quality/best-practices-guidelines/>)

### *Annual Conference*

TQIP will hold its TQIP Annual Conference from December 1-3, 2023. **Please save the date** and stay tuned for additional conference details. This conference will include presentations on TQIP analytics, a focus on understanding the program and reports, using TQIP results in your own PI program, hot topics in trauma, and TQIP-specific data elements.

Trauma Medical Directors, Program Managers, Coordinators, Registrars, and other members of the team should plan to attend. TQIP, like trauma, is a team effort. We encourage you to bring as many of your team as possible to this important annual event.

Continuing medical education (CME) and reciprocal continuing education (CE) credits are available for participants who attend the TQIP Annual Conference.

Please see the conference website for more details:

<https://www.facs.org/quality-programs/trauma/tqp/center-programs/tqip/conference>

Major TQIP Annual Conference communications will come from the TQIP Annual Conference email address, [acstqipconference@facs.org](mailto:acstqipconference@facs.org) or [acstqipconference@email.facs.org](mailto:acstqipconference@email.facs.org). **Please add this email address to your list of accepted senders to ensure you receive all TQIP Annual Conference communications.**

### **Contact Us**

TQIP Website: <https://www.facs.org/quality-programs/trauma/quality/trauma-quality-improvement-program/>

TQIP Email: [traumaquality@facs.org](mailto:traumaquality@facs.org)

TQIP Phone: 1-312-202-5680

## TQIP Participation Calendar 2023

Month	Activities
January	2023 Data Dictionary effective for 2023 admissions TQIP monthly educational offering
February	TQIP monthly educational offering
March	Quarterly data submission deadline March 1 TQIP monthly educational offering ACS TQIP® Benchmark Report
April	TQIP monthly educational offering
May	TQIP monthly educational offering
June	Quarterly data submission deadline June 1 TQIP monthly educational offering
July	TQIP monthly educational offering
August	TQIP monthly educational offering
September	Quarterly data submission deadline September 1 TQIP monthly educational offering ACS TQIP® Benchmark Report
October	TQIP monthly educational offering
December	Quarterly data submission deadline December 7 <a href="#">TQIP Annual Conference</a> December 1-3, 2023