

# Position Statement – PIP QI Data Submission

## Background

*“The Practice Incentives Program (PIP) Quality Improvement (QI) Incentive is a payment to general practices for activities that support continuous quality improvement in patient outcomes and the delivery of best practice care. General practices enrolled in the PIP QI Incentive commit to implementing continuous quality improvement activities that support them in their role of managing their patients’ health.”<sup>1</sup>*

## DETA and Pen CS data extraction

Central Queensland, Wide Bay, Sunshine Coast PHN (the PHN) has a contract with Pen CS to support general practices within its region to provide de-identified data to the PHN as part of quality improvement in practice.

This arrangement ensures secure transfer and storage of the data as outlined in our Data Extraction and Transfer Agreement (DETA) and complies with the Department of Health’s PIP Eligible Data Set Data Governance Framework 2019.

Under this agreement, the PHN extracts the full de-identified Population Health Data Set and provides practices with:

- Access to the Pen CS suite of extraction and analysis tools at no charge.
- Secure transfer and storage of data as per the PIP Eligible Data Set Data Governance Framework<sup>2</sup> outlined by the Australian Government Department of Health (the Department).
- A quarterly benchmark report to inform practice quality improvement activities including the 10 PIP improvement measures.
- Ongoing training and support from the PHN’s practice support team around using the Pen CS software, improving data quality, maximising billing opportunities and improving patient outcomes.

The PHN has robust and secure systems in place to collect the de-identified Population Health Data Set from practices under the DETA, and has done so for some years. The significant majority of general practices in our region submit data to us under this agreement.

## Data submission – PIP Eligible Data Set

In order to receive the PIP QI, at a minimum, general practices must submit the PIP Eligible Data Set (a reduced data set, related to the 10 Improvement Measures) in accordance with the PIP Eligible Data Set Data Governance Framework.

The PHN acknowledges that practices are not obliged to participate in the DETA or any Population Health Data Set sharing beyond the PIP Eligible Data Set. However the department and the PHN recognise the importance of sharing of broader clinical data from the Population Health Data Set, which facilitates more meaningful quality improvement opportunities, leading to improved health outcomes. The PHN encourages general practices to continue these existing data sharing arrangements alongside the PIP QI.

With the announcement of PIP QI and the PIP Eligible Data Set, some practices may wish to only submit the PIP Eligible Data Set which is used to calculate the 10 improvement measures.

The PHN does not currently have a mechanism to collect only the PIP Eligible Data Set, and it is likely that it will take some time for the PHN to draft an alternative data sharing agreement and establish processes to receive and report on this data set.

Practices may apply for a time limited exemption on data submission, and develop or procure a secure data extraction and transfer process that meets the requirements of the PIP Eligible Data Set Data Governance Framework.

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<sup>1</sup> Practice Incentives Program Quality Improvement Measures, Australian Government Department of Health

<sup>2</sup> PIP Eligible Data Set Data Governance Framework, Australian Government Department of Health, 2019

The PHN is not able to fund the development or purchase of any extraction software if practices opt for this approach; nor is the PHN able to take responsibility for the risks associated with data storage and transfer, as this is not covered by the DETA. We recommend that practices discuss this with their medical indemnity insurer.

Additionally, practices who opt to submit only the PIP Eligible Data Set should be aware that the PHN is limited in the level of quality improvement support that it can provide, given the limited access that the PHN's practice support staff will have to the data.

The PHN remains committed to working with all practices in our region to support quality improvement activities that assist you to enhance your practice business and care for your patients. Our team of practice support staff is available if you have any queries.