

# WELFORD CHART NOTES NEWSLETTER

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## USING PQRI QUALITY MEASURES *(User's Manual, pgs. 1013-1019)*

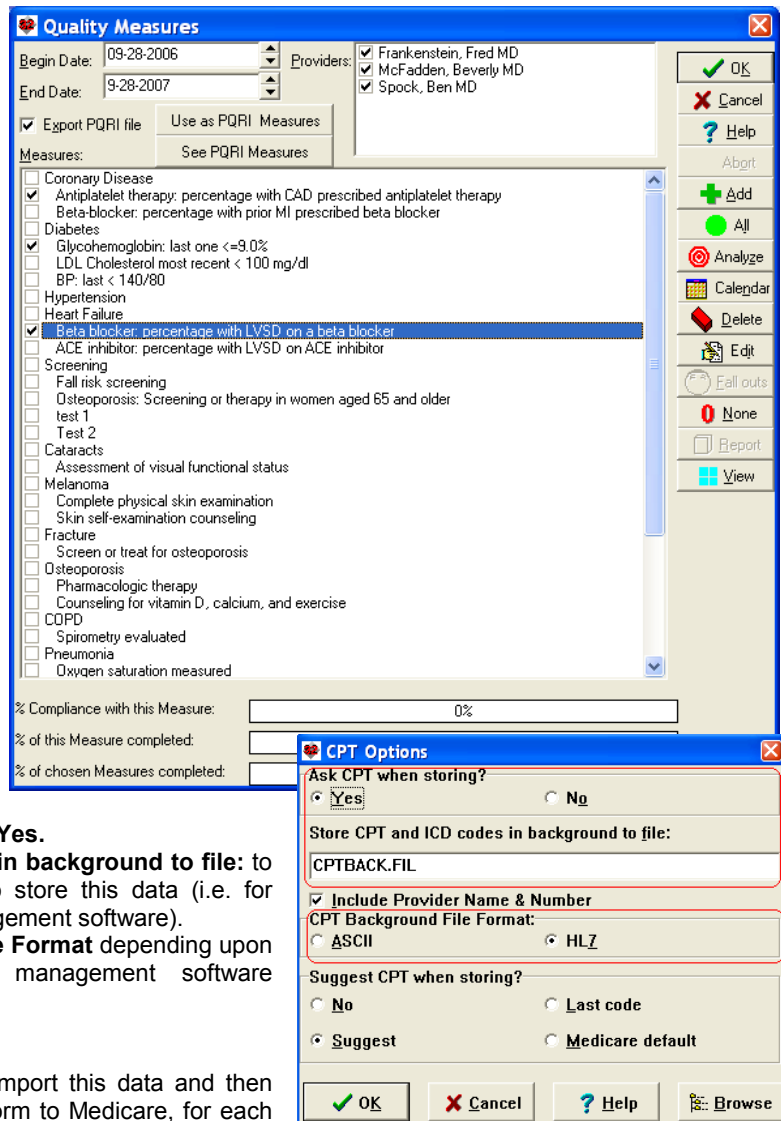
Medicare's Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) pays an incentive to physicians for reporting on quality measures. Version 5.2 makes it easy to gather this information. Although you can edit your own PQRI Quality Measures, it is easier to just use the ones that the program comes with. Let's see how it's done.

1. Press **Reports\Quality Measures**.
2. Check **Export PQRI file**. This causes the list to show only those Quality Measures that are in PQRI format.
3. Check the 3 PQRI Quality Measures from the list that you would like to use.
4. Press the **USE AS PQRI QUALITY MEASURES** button. This locks the Quality Measures that you have checked as the ones that will be reported to Medicare.

You also need to set up your Procedure Code Options so that it sends the appropriate codes to Medicare each time you store a visit on a patient who has a diagnosis matching the PQRI Quality Measures that you have chosen to report on:

1. Press **Libraries\Procedure Codes\Options**
2. Set **Ask CPT when storing?** to **Yes**.
3. Set **Store CPT and ICD codes in background to file:** to a file name where you plan to store this data (i.e. for importing by your practice management software).
4. Choose a **CPT Background File Format** depending upon which format your practice management software recognizes.
5. Press **OK** to store your settings.

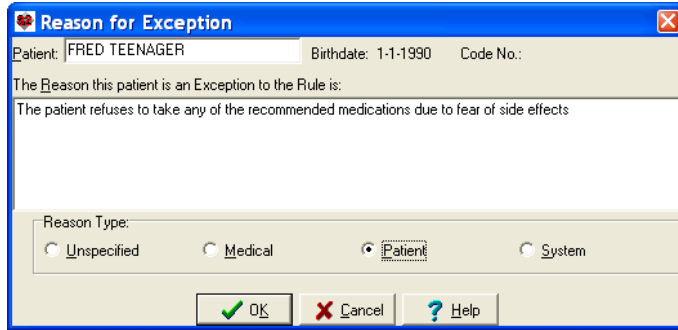
Your billing program needs to import this data and then send it as a printed or electronic claim form to Medicare, for each patient in your practice to whom the PQRI Quality Measure applies.



## DESIGNATING PATIENTS AS EXCEPTIONS

Some patients will not comply with a Quality Measure for a variety of reasons. For example, the patient may be allergic to the treatment, or may refuse to take it. A particular test or treatment may not be available to you in your community. Such patients do not count against the evaluation of your quality, as long as you designate them as Exceptions to the Quality Measure. PQRI Quality Measures use specific G-Codes to indicate the reason for the Exception. **Welford Chart Notes** automatically assigns such G-Codes if it knows that the treatment is contraindicated in a particular patient. However, it can't know which patients refused to take the treatment unless you record such information. Let's see how to do this:

1. Press Reports\Quality Measures.
2. Highlight the Quality Measure to which the patient is an Exception.
3. Double-click it, or press **EDIT**.
4. Press the **ADD** button to the right of the **Exceptions** list.
5. Enter the name of the patient.
6. Type in the **Reason** that the patient is considered an Exception. For example, type in "The patient refuses to take any of the recommended medications due to fear of side effects."
7. Choose the **Reason Type**. In this example, you would choose **Patient**, because it is the patient's decision to not comply with the Quality Measure.
8. Press **OK** to store this Exception.



### ADDING YOUR QUALITY MEASURE TO YOUR RULE REMINDERS

Once you have chosen your PQRI Quality Measures, you should strongly consider converting them to Rule Reminders. Once stored as Rule Reminders, you will then be reminded if the patient falls out of that Quality Measure whenever that patient's Rule Reminders are triggered. You can then order the recommended treatment or test, or specify the patient as an Exception to the Quality Measure, thus reducing the number of patients who are receiving suboptimal care. To do this:

1. Press Report\Quality Measures.
2. Highlight the Quality Measure that you want to convert to a Rule Reminder.
3. Double-click it, or press **EDIT**
4. Fill in the **Reminder** field if it is not already filled in to remind you what needs to be done if this patient triggers this Rule Reminder. (For example, "start the patient on a beta blocker").
5. Press the **ADD TO RULE REMINDERS** button.
6. Check the names of the Users who wish to have this added to their Rule Reminders and press **OK**. (Note that you can add this Quality Measure to the Rule Reminders of many different users in one step).

### OCTOBER QUARTERLY UPDATE RELEASED

This month we are releasing the October, 2007 Quarterly update. The update includes new medications, diagnostic terms, drug interactions, drug dosing information, spelling words, drug-disease Alerts, Web Links, algorithms, medication test reminders, cross-reacting allergies, indications, and dozens of new patient education brochures. This update has over 7300 drug interactions with over 2700 references, over 11,700 Alerts, over 9900 Web Links, over 7500 Indications, and over 1400 Brochures, including new or revised Brochures on attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder, brain arteriovenous malformation, colorectal cancer, diabetes mellitus, hepatic cancer, malaria, malignant melanoma, oral cancer, ovarian cancer, peptic ulcer disease, vitamin D deficiency, amlodipine-valsartan, bismuth-metronidazole-tetracycline, budesonide-formoterol, omalizumab, selegiline transdermal, and others.

### SEND US YOUR TIPS

If you have tips, shortcuts, questions, or suggestions for future newsletter topics, please send them to us at:

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