

Introduction to the Data Accuracy Validation Engine (DAVE) Tool



Background

Participants in the Maryland AHEAD Primary Care Programs – Medicaid Advanced Primary Care Program, Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP-AHEAD) and Primary Care AHEAD (PC AHEAD) – are all required to submit Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQMs) for quality reporting. Many participants are enrolled in more than one program, requiring quality data submission for multiple programs.

For PY 2026 eCQM reporting, all Maryland AHEAD Primary Care Program participants will submit quality data through the Data Accuracy Validation Engine (DAVE) tool. For participants that have been in MDPCP-AHEAD, this will be a transition from the previous manual submission tool.

The DAVE tool is a secure, web-based platform in the CRISP Reporting Services Portal (Reports tile). This tool allows practices to streamline their submissions across their program participation, reducing the administrative burden while also providing a more accurate, complete, and standardized quality measurement.

Data Privacy

Data sharing with CRISP through the DAVE tool is covered under the CRISP [Quality Improvement & Care Coordination use case for eCQM Collection](#).

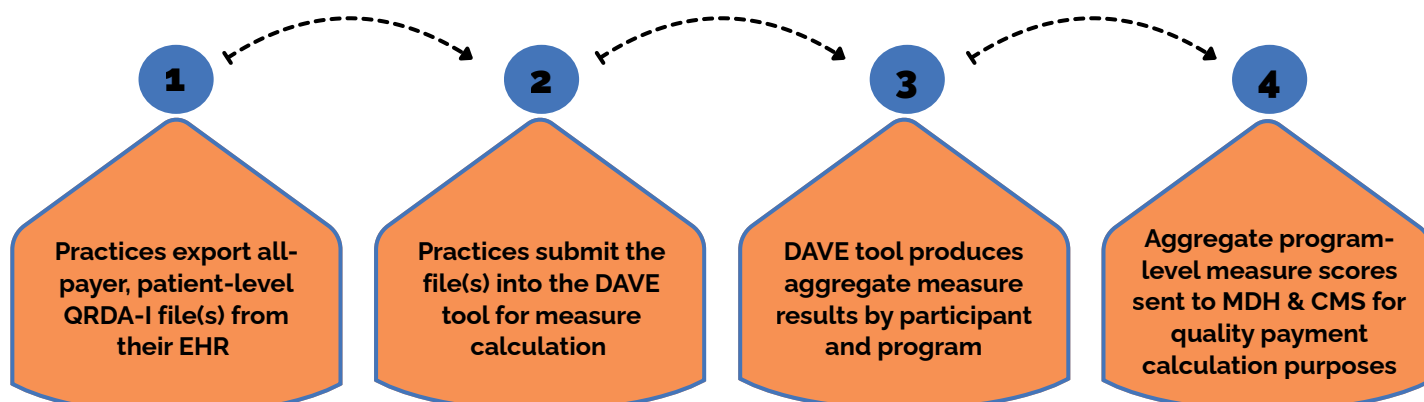
Submitted data is used solely for aggregate quality measure calculation and not for any other purpose.

Submitted patient-level data is fully siloed within the DAVE Tool and will not be accessible to any organizations, providers, or users via CRISP HIE Portal or any other mechanism.

eCQM results are presented to MDH and CMS, as well as any user of the DAVE tool within your organization, only in aggregate form. No patient-level information will be shared.

Submission Information

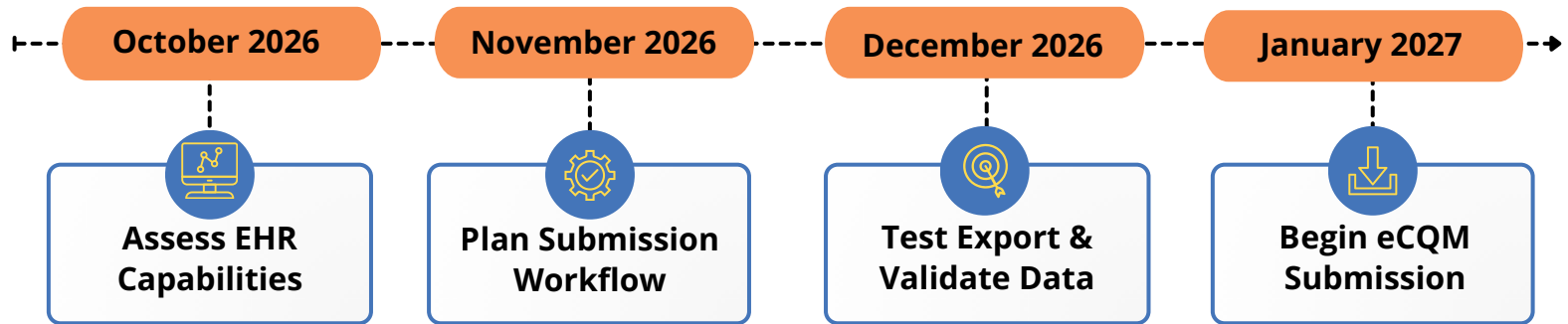
The DAVE tool opens for submissions in January 2027. Practices will submit standardized patient-level files that can be directly exported from their EHR called Quality Reporting Document Architecture Category I (QRDA-I) files. The files will capture the all-payer population of the practice, fulfilling program measure requirements. The DAVE tool will calculate eCQM results across all primary care program participation.



Exemption Requests

Exemption Request Applications will be available for practices whose EHRs are unable to produce QRDA-I files for PY 2026 eCQM reporting. For more information please contact the Office of Advanced Primary Care (OAPC) at mdh.pcmoel@maryland.gov.

Next Steps & Suggested Timeline



1

ASSESS YOUR EHR CAPABILITIES

Work with your EHR vendor to determine whether your system can generate QRDA-I files for the required measures and identify any configuration, licensing, or updates that may be needed. Please refer to the [AHEAD Primary Care Comparison Tool](#) for a list of measures required for each program.

Questions to consider when working with your EHR vendor:

- Who should you contact for support with generating these files?
- Can your vendor provide you with instructions or training materials for exporting QRDA-I files for specific providers?
- Can your vendor review sample files with you?
- Are there any settings that must be enabled to generate these files?
- If configuration changes are required, what is the expected timeline and cost?
- How can you verify that all required clinical data are included in the export?
- Does your EHR suppress confidential clinical data* from QRDA-I exports? If so, what options are available to include the data needed for eCQM reporting?

2

PLAN YOUR SUBMISSION WORKFLOW

Beginning in November 2026, a DAVE registration form will be available in the CRISP Reporting Services Portal. Submitters will use this form to identify the providers and practices associated with their TIN. This information will define the reporting universe for their eCQM submission.

3

TEST FILE EXPORT & VALIDATE DATA

Generate sample QRDA-I files from your EHR and confirm that the export process works successfully. Review the files to confirm they:

- Include patients from all payers for the applicable practices and providers
- Contain complete and accurate clinical information, including confidential data*
- Accurately reflect the information documented in the EHR

4

SUBMIT ECQMS THROUGH THE DAVE TOOL

When the reporting period opens, generate your QRDA-I files and submit them through the DAVE tool in the CRISP Reporting Services Portal. Training sessions and live demonstrations will begin in January 2027 to support practices with submissions.



Some clinical information, such as PHQ-9 results, may be flagged as confidential in your EHR. In many EHRs, authorized users must override confidentiality restrictions for this data to be included in exports. MDH and CMS receive aggregate measure results only; no patient-level data is shared.

