

**Aetna Institutes of Quality<sup>®</sup> Cardiac Surgery**  
**Summary of Criteria**  
**Facility Requirements for Consideration**

We may select facilities for our Institutes of Quality (IOQ) Cardiac Surgery network that meet our requirements for quality, value, and access. The evaluation for Cardiac Surgery includes coronary artery bypass surgery (CABG) and atrial valve replacement (AVR) based on the facility's publicly available data and other data, including our own.

We may select a facility to participate in the network if it meets certain measures of:

- Clinical quality
- Contract requirements
- Cost efficiency
- Access for cardiac surgery services

**Designation process**

1. We review the facility's publicly reported data to determine clinical eligibility. If the facility does not meet all applicable clinical criteria, the facility is not eligible for designation. We evaluate no further.
2. If the facility meets all applicable clinical criteria, we determine if the facility meets contract, cost efficiency, and network access criteria. If the facility meets all these requirements, we'll designate the facility into the network.
3. We'll let the facility know if it's designated into the network.
4. We'll list the designated facility in our DocFind<sup>®</sup> online provider directory.

Designation is valid for three years and is dependent upon ongoing compliance with program requirements. All designated facilities will be re-evaluated for continued IOQ designation every three years. The Cardiac Surgery IOQ network applies to Aetna members age 18 and over.

**Data management**

To maintain designation, the facility must comply with IOQ program requirements. Programs must be able to collect, analyze, and report data, and they must submit updated information upon request.

**Program requirements**

To be considered for designation, facilities must meet program requirements listed below.

Cardiac Surgery program business requirements

1. The facility and the surgeons must be credentialed by Aetna, and they must participate in Aetna's provider network for all benefit plans and products available in their geographic area.
2. The inpatient facility must report CABG and AVR data to the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) and make that data public in the STS National Adult Cardiac Surgery Database.

Cardiac Surgery program clinical requirements

A facility is eligible for IOQ Cardiac Surgery designation by meeting one or more of the following:

1. The facility has a CABG STS Star Rating of 2 or 3 with Absence of Operative Mortality and Absence of Major Morbidity and Use of Internal Mammary Artery scores of 2 or 3 and an AVR STS Star Rating of 2 or 3 with Absence of Operative Mortality and Absence of Major Morbidity scores of 2 or 3.
2. The facility has a current Comprehensive Cardiac Center Certification with The Joint Commission and a CABG STS Star Rating of 3.
3. The facility has a current Institutes of Excellence Adult Heart Transplant designation and a CABG STS Star Rating of 3.