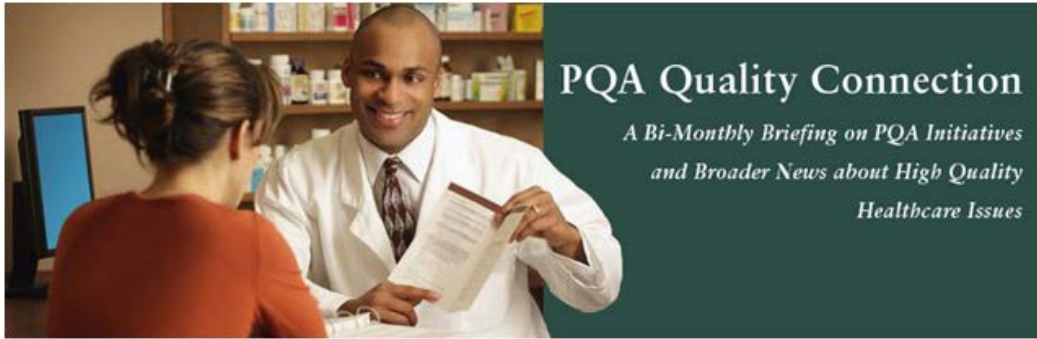




Hot Off the Press: Connections to Key Quality Publications

Hot Off the Press seeks to connect the reader to the most relevant and recent trials, reviews and commentaries related to health care quality with a focus on medication- and pharmacy-related topics.

Topic: Patient Centered Medical Homes

- **Citation:** Friedberg MW, Schneider EC, Rosenthal MB et al. Association between participation in a multipayer medical home intervention and changes in quality, utilization, and costs of care. JAMA. 2014 Feb 26;311(8):815-25. doi: 10.1001/jama.2014.353.
- **Description:** With the increasing conversion of primary care practices to medical homes, the study authors sought to examine the impact of medical homes on health care quality, utilization, and cost of care through an examination of 32 primary care practices that were converted to medical homes. The pilot practices did not demonstrate statistically significant changes in utilization or cost of care and only demonstrated a change in 1 of 11 quality measures (nephropathy screening in diabetes). The study authors suggested further refinement in medical homes may be necessary to produce greater results on surveyed metrics.

Topic: Medication Adherence

- **Citation:** Marcum ZA, Driessen J, Thorpe CT, et al. Effect of multiple pharmacy use on medication adherence and drug-drug interactions in older adults with Medicare Part D. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2014 Feb;62(2):244-52. doi: 10.1111/jgs.12645. Epub 2014 Jan 21.

- o **Description:** The use of multiple pharmacies by patients is of concern to the health care industry due to its possible adverse effects on health care. The authors examined the relationship between multiple pharmacy use and medication adherence in drug-drug interactions in over 925,000 beneficiaries. 38.1% of the beneficiaries used multiple pharmacies and greater non-adherence with chronic medications was found in these patients along with a slightly elevated risk of drug-drug interactions as compared to single pharmacy users.

Topic: Performance Measures:

- o **Citation:** Berenson RA, Pronovost PJ, Krumholz HM. Policy Recommendations: Achieving the Potential of Health Care Performance Measures: Timely Analysis of Immediate Health Policy Issues. May 2013. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
- o **Description:** Highlighting the shortcomings in the quality of the U.S. health care system, the authors suggest that improved performance can result out of a stronger infrastructure and proper use of measures. The key recommendations from the paper are:
 - 1) Decisively move from measuring processes to outcomes,
 - 2) Use quality measures strategically, adopting other quality improvement approaches where measures fall short,
 - 3) Measure quality at the level of the organization, rather than the clinician.
 - 4) Measure patient experience with care and patient-reported outcomes as ends in themselves.
 - 5) Use measurement to promote the concept of the rapid-learning health care system.
 - 6) Invest in the basic science of measurement development and applications, including an emphasis on anticipating and preventing unintended adverse consequences.
 - 7) Task a single entity with defining standards for measuring and reporting quality and cost data, similar to the role the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) serves for the reporting of corporate financial data, to improve the validity, comparability, and transparency of publicly- reported health care quality data.