

PQA Quality Connection

A Bi-Monthly Briefing on PQA Initiatives and Broader News about High Quality Healthcare Issues

May/June 2019 (Issue #58)

PQA Endorses Four New Quality Measures



PQA has endorsed four new quality measures, through a majority vote of its members. Three are performance measures that evaluate initial opioid prescriptions : at high dosage, for long duration, or for long-acting or extended-release opioids. They are aligned with the CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain. The fourth measure is a monitoring measure that evaluates interventions to resolve patients' medication therapy problems in health plans' medication therapy management (MTM) programs. This is PQA's first monitoring measure .

Resolving Medication Therapy Problems: A Major Step Toward Measuring MTM Outcomes

A June 18 PQA Quality Forum Webinar discussed the new monitoring measure, its development and implementation opportunities. PQA's Lisa Hines was joined on the webinar by a panel of experts, including Samm Anderegg of DocStation, Amanda Brummel of Fairview Pharmacy Services, Jessica Frank of OutcomesMTM, and Ann Wild of SinfoníaRx. You can listen to the recording and PQA members can download the slides from our Member Resources Library .



In Focus: PQA Member Engagement Opportunity *Measure Development*

PQA members are invited to get involved in our 2019 measure development efforts. "2019 Stakeholder Advisory Panel A: Measure Development" will hold its third meeting on **Monday, July 22.** It's not too late to join. PQA member organization Key Contacts can appoint their representatives by completing the SAP appointment form . Individuals interested in participating on SAP A should contact the PQA Key Contact for their organization to express interest. If you do not know your Key Contact, email us .

PQA Measure Development Update

PQA's Measure Development Teams and Task Forces meet monthly via webinar, and the Stakeholder Advisory Panels meet every two months. Additionally, the Risk Adjustment Advisory Panel, Patient & Caregiver Advisory Panel, Implementation Advisory Panel, Measure Update Panel and Quality Metrics Expert Panel meet regularly to continue their work.

Read more about our recent measure development activities with a focus on:

- Measure Development Team (MDT) 16: Use of Medications to Prevention Cardiovascular Outcomes in Persons with Diabetes
- Specialty Pharmacy – Turnaround Time Task Force
- Measure Testing Opportunities

PQA's Quality Measure for Completion of Chronic Hepatitis C Therapy

An Opportunity to Evaluate the Success of Chronic Hepatitis C Treatment in Medicaid

More than 20 state Medicaid programs in the last year have eliminated or reduced restrictions to accessing medications that can cure the hepatitis C virus. Some states, including Washington and Louisiana , are adopting innovative, CMS-approved payment models to expand access to these treatments.

The PQA measure of completion of therapy is a valuable tool among performance metrics that evaluate chronic hepatitis C care. See our new fact sheet and email Norris Turner for additional information on how this measure can be used to evaluate treatment adherence and demonstrate the impact and quality of specialty pharmacy services.



Quality Forum Webinars

Join us for the next PQA Quality Forum Webinar!

Pharmacists' Expanding Scope of Practice: Are We Ready?

Thurs., July 11, 1:00-2:00 pm ET

Todd Dankmyer and Jill Corso McNabb of Pharmacy Profiles are the presenters for this webinar with Brad Tice of Aspen Rx Health.

If you've missed past webinars, they're all archived on the PQA website. Log in to access webinar recordings and presentation slides.

Revisit the PQA Annual Meeting

The 2019 PQA Annual Meeting was another great success thanks to the hundreds of members and quality professionals, who gather each year to learn, network and collaborate.

If you missed any sessions or want to revisit a presentation, a PDF copy of slides from each plenary, breakout and quick quality quip is now available in the PQA Member Resources Library . Slides from 23 sessions total are available!

PQA Research: Building Partnerships to Advance Quality

PQA's research program is grown and new testing and research partnerships are enhancing our capabilities, while a new advisory council is helping identify where PQA-led research can advance the value of quality measurement and the role of the pharmacist in value-based care.

PQA and University of Mississippi Establish Medication Quality Research Partnership

Collaboration Expands PQA's Analytical Capabilities and Access to Data for Measure Development

Read the release

PQA and OptumLabs Establish a Research and Quality Measurement Partnership

Data-focused partnership will enhance PQA's research and quality measurement capacity

Read the story

PQA Establishes an Executive Research Advisory Council

Council Will Advise on the Focus of PQA's Growing Research Portfolio

Read the release

PQA News

Executive Order for Establishing a Health Quality

PQA & CPF Announce 2019 Community

PQA Recognizes 18 Medicare Plan Contracts for High

Roadmap

Read PQA's statement in response to President Trump's June 24 call to establish a health quality roadmap that aims to align and improve reporting on data and quality measures .

Pharmacy Innovation in Quality Award Recipients

Awards Honor an Individual and Community Pharmacy for Innovative, Pioneering Practices

Read the release

Achievement in Medication Quality Measures Based on CMS' Medicare Star Ratings

Awards Honor Excellence and Improvements in Overall Star Ratings and PQA Medication Measures

Read the release

PQA Job Opening

Our team is growing and we're looking for a talented professional, who will lead PQA's strategic initiatives related to measure testing. See the full position description and instructions on how to apply:
Associate Director of Measurement Science & Analytics



Follow PQA on Twitter and LinkedIn for the Latest News and Updates

@PQAalliance : " Reflections from the 2019 PQA Annual Meeting: "Patient-Centered Multidisciplinary Care Key to Value-based Care" https://shar.es/a0zsxj via @SpecialtyPTimes "

PQA : " PQA has developed a "Medication Access Framework for Quality Measurement" to address the #SDOH that hinder patient medication access and contribute to poor health outcomes. Learn more... "

MEMBER CORNER

PQA Member Spotlight



Lou Dallago
Vice President, US Trade Group
Pfizer, Inc.

" Pharmacy can play a significant role in making sure patients can take their medications properly. PQA provides the work and the measurements to help pharmacists get to that point where they can improve adherence and increase value to the patient. "

Read Lou's Q&A

PQA Welcomes New Members

PQA welcomes six new organizations into its membership. Our members' support is key in achieving PQA's mission of optimizing health by advancing the quality of medication use. Thank you for your continuing support!

- Amplicare
- Geritom Medical
- Healthpointe Solutions
- Oak Street Health
- The Compliance Team
- Wilkes University

PQA Member-Provided Resources

PQA periodically will share resources from our members we believe have broad value for our members. These resources are provided as a courtesy and they have not be reviewed or endorsed by PQA.

- PQS Industry Trend Report - This inaugural report sheds light on how patients, pharmacies and payers view pharmacist-provided services and value-based performance programs.
- University of Wyoming School of Pharmacy offers an online MS program in Health Services Administration - with a new track in healthcare quality improvement. PQA members are eligible for instate tuition (20% discount).
- STC Immunization Intelligence News - Who Needs an Adult Measles Shot? A Decision Tool

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