

PQA Quality Connection

A Bimonthly Digest of PQA News,
Events and Engagement Opportunities



January 2026 (Issue #95)

PQA SDOH Resource Guide Companion



PQA has released a [PQA Social Determinants of Health \(SDOH\) Resource Guide Companion](#), which provides insights on key characteristics of effective partnerships among pharmacies, other health care organizations and community organizations to address SDOH barriers affecting medication access, use and outcomes.

The companion builds on the [PQA SDOH Resource Guide](#), which profiles 40 SDOH services focused on screenings, referrals and interventions to improve medication use quality.

From the first-hand perspectives of individuals leading SDOH programs featured in the guide, the companion discusses types of partnerships in SDOH initiatives and the strategic approaches and supporting program attributes that are common. The strategic approaches documented in the companion that were deemed important to success are: identifying one key SDOH barrier to address, assembling a skilled team, on-site engagement, partnering with a community-based organization and defining measurable success.

PQA welcomes feedback on this guide companion. Feedback or questions can be directed to Education@PQA.org.

PQA Prioritizes Health Plan Measure Concepts for Future Development

To support measure conceptualization in 2025, PQA convened a Measure Concept Advisory Group (MCAG) and conducted a public comment period to inform future measure development, with a particular focus on addressing meaningful gaps in medication use quality while ensuring measure concepts are evidence-based and usable in real-world settings. The MCAG also reviewed and ranked five specific measure concepts based on their importance, feasibility, and usability.



PQA will use input from the MCAG and public comment period to prioritize a measure concept for development in 2026. A Technical Expert Panel (TEP) will be convened in 2026 to begin the specification of the selected measure concept. [Read more](#) about the measure concepts.

PQA Quality Leadership Program



The [PQA Quality Leadership Program](#) expanded in 2025 to increase opportunities for all professionals at PQA member organizations and students to hone their skills in medication use quality and gain valuable knowledge about PQA's measure development process and the measure life cycle. [Read more](#) about the program.

2026 Health Care Outlook

In a recent *Chain Drug Review* column, PQA CEO Micah Cost shares insights on the future of health care and what to expect in 2026.

"Value-based care design and delivery, including incentives for driving quality of care, will accelerate in the year ahead." Cost writes. [Read more](#).



PQA Prepared Summary for Members

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued on November 28, 2025, a proposed rule [2027 Medicare Advantage and Part D Proposed Rule \(CMS-4212-P\)](#).

PQA has prepared a summary for our members, available in the [Member Resources Library](#).

New Members to Serve on MUP & QMEP

PQA has appointed individuals from member organizations to serve on the 2026 PQA Measure Update Panel (MUP) and Quality Metrics Expert Panel (QMEP). The MUP and QMEP are standing PQA panels that meet monthly starting in January 2026. [Read more](#) about these panels.

First Quarter 2026 PQA Member Webinar

Catch up on news from PQA's performance measurement and research work in the January 28 first quarter PQA Member Webinar (*formerly SAMs*).

February Quality Forum

Join us for the next PQA Quality Forum Webinar on **February 12, 1-2 pm ET**, focused on SDOH and the role of community health



The meeting featured educational content, frequently asked measure questions, relevant policy updates, and opportunities for members to get involved. Watch the entire recording, linked in the [Member Resources Library](#).

workers as partners to address barriers that affect medication access, use and outcomes. [Register here](#).

Share Your Quality News with PQA



"Five For Friday" is a biweekly celebration of our collective work to improve medication use quality. Catch up on recent editions.

- [Five for Friday, December 5](#)
- [Five for Friday, December 13](#)
- [Five for Friday, January 16](#)
- [Five for Friday, January 30](#)

PQA's Five for Friday features three stories on our member's work, one on a PQA initiative and ways to engage in our work. [Email](#) us your news that we can spotlight.

Subscribe to PQA's YouTube Channel

PQA's [YouTube channel](#) is growing fast. [Subscribe today](#) to receive updates and notifications when new videos are added. Revisit recent posts.



- [Medicare 2026 Star Ratings Update](#)
- [Driving Quality Medication Use: PQA's Plan for the Next Five Years](#)
- [Improving Quality Through Health Plan and Pharmacy Value-Based Partnerships](#)

You can also revisit select content from Annual Meetings, Leadership Summits and historical Quality Forums.

Follow PQA on Twitter and LinkedIn...



[@PQAalliance](#): "PQA releases new SDOH Resource Guide Companion via [@Drug_Topics...](#)"



[PQA](#): "Noel Baham details health plan measure concepts that PQA will prioritize for future development, identified through multi-stakeholder input and public comment...."



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