

PQA Quality Connection

A Bimonthly Digest of PQA News,
Events and Engagement Opportunities



July 2026 (Issue #98)

2026 PQA Leadership Summit and pre-meeting PQA Workshop: Using the PQA Medication Therapy Problem Categories Framework in Practice



PQA is developing a national recognition program for pharmacies that consistently deliver high-quality care and demonstrate readiness for value-based arrangements. This program is the focus of the [2026 PQA Leadership Summit](#), November 5-6, at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel in Arlington, Va. Registration will open soon.

Immediately preceding the summit, a [PQA Workshop: Using the PQA Medication Therapy Problem Categories Framework in Practice](#) takes place on November 5, from 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. ET. This in-person educational program features interactive instruction, case-based learning, and facilitated discussion on applying the PQA Medication Therapy Problem Categories Framework in practice.

Join Us Next Week for A Quality Forum Webinar: AI-Driven Medication Use Quality as a Vehicle for Value-Based Care

Join us for the next PQA Quality Forum Webinar on **Thursday, August 6, from 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET**, for an encore presentation from the highest-rated breakout session from the 2026 PQA Annual Meeting. Amy Chuang and Yoona Kim will share how integrated clinical and pharmacy data, AI-driven risk prediction, and targeted pharmacy interventions helped identify high-need members, close therapy gaps, and improve medication adherence. [Register here.](#)



Medicare Part D Stars: Legal Actions, Recalculations and Impact on Quality Medication Use

A U.S. district court ruling and CMS's subsequent decision to recalculate Star Ratings has raised questions and sparked debate among stakeholders in the medication use process. PQA is monitoring the situation closely and hosted a webinar on Thursday, July 23, 2026, to provide our members with insights on the case. PQA CEO Micah Cost opened the webinar with brief remarks. This webinar was available to PQA member organizations only.



Mark Newsom, president and founder of Health Evaluations, shared insights on the CMS perspective and what this means for health plans, pharmacy benefit managers, pharmacies and stakeholders in the broader ecosystem. Nick Bath and Adam Finkelstein, partner and counsel, respectively, at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP, explained the

Quality Medication Use as an Imperative for the Health Care System

How do we define quality in health care and where should it go next? In a new blog, PQA CEO Micah Cost reflects on how quality measurement has evolved over the past 20 years and where it's headed. He shares his perspective on the future of quality medication use and how PQA is working to advance measures that improve outcomes for patients. [Read here](#).

PQA and Inovalon Evaluate Impact of Medicare Cost Cap

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) provisions to limit out-of-pocket insulin costs for Medicare beneficiaries was associated with a statistically significant increase in persistence to basal insulin in the Medicare Advantage population in 2023, the policy's first year of implementation, [according](#) to a PQA and Inovalon analysis [published](#) in *The American Journal of Managed Care*.

Celebrating 20 Years of PQA

For 20 years, PQA has brought together diverse stakeholders to advance quality medication use and improve health outcomes. Join us in celebrating this milestone by exploring our 20th Anniversary webpage, where you'll find stories, highlights, and opportunities to celebrate with us throughout the year. [Learn more](#).

The Next Generation of Quality Leaders

As part of PQA's 20th Anniversary, discover how PQA's Postdoctoral Fellowship has helped shape the next generation of health care quality leaders. [Read more](#).



Complete the MUQC Before August 26

One of PQA's education offerings is the Medication Use Quality Certificate (MUQC), a comprehensive program designed to build foundational knowledge in medication use quality and quality measurement. The current MUQC program will expire on August 26, 2026. PQA will release updated on-demand educational offerings in 2027. Existing content will be updated and integrated into PQA's new website. [Learn more](#).

Learn More About PQA's New Website

PQA launched a new PQA website and MyPQA portal in May. Learn more about website features.

- [Welcome to the new site and portal](#)
- [PQA News](#)
- [Educational Webinars](#)

Refocusing Quality Measures Through the Patient Lens

Wenora Johnson is a three-time cancer survivor, patient and research advocate, and a member of the PQA Patient Advisory Council. She shared her experience attending and speaking at the 2026 PQA Annual Meeting. "While metrics, adherence rates, and medication safety remain critically important, the conversation is evolving toward something deeper: *understanding whether healthcare is truly helping patients live better lives*." [Read more](#).

Behind PQA's Education Program: Education Advisory Council

Composed of medication use quality experts representing a broad range of stakeholder perspectives and practice settings, PQA's Education Advisory Council (EAC) plays a critical role in ensuring that PQA's education programs remain timely, relevant and responsive to our members' needs. If you're passionate about advancing medication use quality and want to contribute your expertise, consider joining the EAC. [Read more](#).

Explore recent media coverage featuring PQA's work and perspectives on quality medication use.

- [From Policy to Practice: Key Takeaways from the 2026 PQA Annual Meeting](#) (June 8)
- [PQA's Quality Roadmap](#) (June 15)
- [Making Medication Management Services Measurable and Visible](#) (July 1)

Catch up on news from PQA's performance measurement and research work on October 28 for the 4th quarter PQA Member Webinar. [Register here](#). Members can watch previous PQA Member Webinars in the [Members Resources Library](#).



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, June 5](#)
- [Five for Friday, June 19](#)
- [Five for Friday, July 17](#)
- [Five for Friday, July 31](#)

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.



- [Integrating Pharmacy into AI Innovation and Governance](#)
- [PQA's 20th Anniversary](#)
- [From Barriers to Better Outcomes: The Value of Community Health Workers](#)

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

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[PQA](#): "How do we define quality in health care and where should it go next? In a new blog, PQA CEO Micah Cost reflects on how quality measurement has evolved over the past 20 years and where it's headed..."



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