



## April 2021 QIP-NJ Announcements & Updates

### Dear QIP-NJ Program Participants,

Welcome to the first Quality Improvement Program – New Jersey (QIP-NJ) newsletter! The Department of Health (DOH) is excited for your participation in QIP-NJ and will be using this newsletter to communicate any upcoming QIP-NJ announcements. All newsletters will be posted to the [QIP-NJ Website](#) within approximately one week of distribution.

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### DOH Corner

DOH, in partnership with the Department of Human Services (DHS), is excited to launch QIP-NJ on July 1, 2021 and to focus on driving statewide quality improvements in maternal and behavioral health (inclusive of both mental health and substance use disorder services services). Additionally, QIP-NJ aligns with and furthers the goals of New Jersey (NJ) State leaders, including the Murphy Administration and the First Lady's Office, through the Nurture NJ initiative and strategic plan, among other key policy frameworks.

Lastly, DOH would also like to welcome and introduce a new member of the DOH team – Erica Bonnifield, who will serve as the state lead for QIP-NJ. Erica joins us after working for approximately six years at the California Department of Health Care Services, as part of the team responsible for setting benefits and eligibility policy for California's Medicaid program (Medi-

Cal). Erica is excited to provide support to New Jersey hospitals participating in QIP-NJ as they work towards achieving stated performance targets and looks forward to working with other key partners and stakeholders to make QIP-NJ successful.

### **CMS QIP-NJ Approval**

DOH is awaiting approval of QIP-NJ from the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). DOH submitted QIP-NJ via a Section 438.6(c) Preprint for a one-year approval and has been actively working with CMS to obtain approval. Please note that QIP-NJ is envisioned as a five-year initiative, and DOH is actively working with CMS to secure a subsequent multiyear approval. DOH will provide updates on the status of QIP-NJ approvals in future communications.

### **QIP-NJ Measure Specifications & Submission Guidelines: Available Soon!**

The Measurement Year 1 (MY1) QIP-NJ Measure Specifications & Submission Guidelines (also known as the Databook) will be posted to the [QIP-NJ Resources](#) webpage in early May 2021. The Databook will provide the submission guidelines and specifications for the QIP-NJ performance measure set in MY1. Please note the measure specifications will be reviewed and updated as needed each measurement year.

In addition to the QIP-NJ Measure Specifications & Submission Guidelines, the Value Set Compendium (VSC) and Q&A document will also be available upon CMS approval. The VSC will contain all the value and code sets (e.g. Current Procedural Terminology (CPT), Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS)) referenced in the Databook and the Q&A document will answer questions DOH has received regarding the measure specifications since posting the draft version of the Databook back in November 2020. Questions regarding the submission process measure specifications or program mechanics may be forwarded to [QIP-NJ@pcgus.com](mailto:QIP-NJ@pcgus.com).

### **SAVE THE DATE! QIP-NJ Learning Collaborative Information Session on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm EST**

The QIP-NJ Learning Collaborative Information Session #1 webinar will be held on Friday, May 14, 2021 from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm EST. The webinar will provide an overview of the QIP-NJ Learning Collaborative and review the expectations for hospital participation. Please see below for the webinar details:

**Event:** QIP-NJ Learning Collaborative Information Session #1  
**Date and Time:** Friday, May 14, 2021 11:00 am – 12:00 pm EST  
**Microsoft Teams:** [Microsoft Teams Web Link](#)  
**Phone Number:** (866) 619-5581

Conference ID: 839 427 860#

## **SAVE THE DATE! QIP-NJ Measure Specifications & Submission Guidelines (Databook) Overview Webinar on May 25<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 4:30 pm EST**

The QIP-NJ Measure Specifications and Submission Guidelines (Databook) Overview webinar will be held on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm EST. The webinar will provide a high-level overview of the Databook, measure specifications, and measure submission guidelines. The webinar details will be shared on the [QIP-NJ Website](#) and via an email announcement once available. If you have any specific questions you would like answered during this webinar, please email us at [QIP-NJ@pcgus.com](mailto:QIP-NJ@pcgus.com) with the subject “QIP-NJ Databook Webinar Question”.

## **QIP-NJ Introductory Webinar Materials: Now Available Online!**

Thank you to all of our key partners and stakeholders who attended the QIP-NJ Introductory Webinar held on Thursday, April 15, 2021 from 3:00 to 4:00 pm EST. If you were unable to attend the webinar, and/or would like to access the webinar materials for further review, please visit the [QIP-NJ Resources](#) webpage for the webinar recording, slides, and Q&A document.

## **QIP-NJ MY1 “Letter of Intent” Materials**

As announced during the QIP-NJ Introductory Webinar, DOH is implementing a “Letter of Intent” process, which requires all NJ acute care hospitals to actively respond indicating whether or not they intend to participate in QIP-NJ MY1. In confirming or declining participation, hospitals will acknowledge and agree to set of conditions listed in the Letter of Intent materials. The Letter of Intent must be completed by an approved hospital representative and signed by the hospital Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Chief Medical Officer (CMO), or Chief Quality Officer (CQO). While the QIP-NJ Letter of Intent is a formal indication to DOH of a hospital’s intention whether or not to participate in QIP-NJ, it is not a legally binding document.

The QIP-NJ MY1 Letter of Intent materials will be posted to the [QIP-NJ Participants](#) webpage in early May. All NJ hospitals will be informed of the availability of these materials and are expected to complete and submit the signed QIP-NJ MY1 Letter of Intent to DOH by Tuesday, June 15, 2021.

## **Questions?**

If you have any questions or concerns, please email [QIP-NJ@pcgus.com](mailto:QIP-NJ@pcgus.com).

Thank you,  
QIP-NJ Team



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