



December 2022

Quality Improvement Program - New Jersey (QIP-NJ) Announcements & Updates

Dear QIP-NJ Program Participants,

Welcome to the QIP-NJ newsletter! The Department of Health (DOH) encourages hospitals and other interested parties to review this newsletter to help ensure your teams stay up-to-date on important news and announcements regarding QIP-NJ. As always, all newsletters will be posted to the QIP-NJ Documents & Resources webpage within approximately one week of distribution.

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DOH Corner

MY2 of QIP-NJ concludes on December 31st, which just around the corner. To that end, DOH wants to sincerely thank all of our hospital partners as they work to complete MY2 and close out any remaining deliverables.

As we look forward, DOH wants to remind our hospital partners that MY3 starts on January 1, 2023, subject to federal approval by CMS. More information regarding CMS approval will be released once it becomes available.

As we look ahead towards the new year and MY3 of QIP-NJ, DOH wishes all of our hospital partners and their families a happy and healthy holiday season!

MY1 Performance Results and Payment and MY2 Targets

Earlier this month, final (post-appeal) recalculated MY 1 results were communicated along with hospital-specific MY2 targets and statewide targets. Additionally, a summary of the changes related to the MY0 and MY1 recalculations has also been posted to the QIP-NJ website. The document, called "[MY0 MY1 Recalc MY2 Target Appendix](#)" is under 'Protocols & Guidance'. The changes summarized in the document apply to the MY0 and MY1 Value Set Compendia (VSC) and will be incorporated for subsequent MYs.

As a reminder, DOH anticipates that MY1 payment amounts and guidance will be communicated to Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and hospitals in mid-January. As MCOs have 30 days to disburse funds to hospitals, DOH expects that hospitals will receive MY1 funds by the end of the 1st quarter of 2023 (i.e., mid-to-late March 2023). Please note that there are many payment-related activities that must occur before payment is distributed, which includes but is not limited to: claims run out, performance calculations, hospital reporting periods, appeals periods, and the MCO transfer and distribution of payments.

If you have any questions, please email us at QIP-NJ@pcqus.com.

Update: QIP-NJ MLC

December Group Coaching Call Information

The December Group Coaching Call took place on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, from 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM EST. The topic of this session was patient engagement. We had representatives from MoMMA's Voices on the call and learned many strategies your fellow teams are using to incorporate meaningful and relevant patient experience data in the MLC work. You can find the materials from the session listed below:

- [December Group Coaching Call Slides](#)
- [December Group Coaching Call Recording](#)

If your team is interested in working with a certified Patient Family Partner to provide a patient perspective on your MLC team, you can fill out [the matchmaking form](#) on the MoMMA's Voices website.

January Group Coaching Call: Learning Session (LS)# 2 Preparation and Q&A

Mark your calendars for the January Group Coaching Call on January 17, 2023, from 12:00 PM – 12:30 PM EST on [Zoom](#)! This session is intended to prepare teams for LS# 2 participation and will include an opportunity for Q&A with the faculty team.

QIP-NJ MLC Schedule

January LS#2 Overview Call	January 17, 2023, 12:00 PM to 12:30 PM
LS #2	Jan. 31 – Feb. 1, 2023, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Action Period #2	February 2023 to May 2023
February Coaching Call	February 28, 2023, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
March Coaching Call	March 28, 2023, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
April Coaching Call	April 25, 2023, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
May Coaching Call	May 30, 2023, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
LS#3	June 20-21, 2023, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Action Period #3	June 2023 to September 2023
July Coaching Call	July 25, 2023, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
August Coaching Call	August 29, 2023, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
September Coaching Call	September 26, 2023, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
October Coaching Call	October 31, 2023, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
Final Celebration Event	December 1, 2023 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

* Please note that all times are in EST.

Reminder: MY3 LOI Materials Due

For MY3 of QIP-NJ, DOH used the same LOI process that was used for prior MYs. MY3 LOI materials were distributed earlier this month and require all NJ acute care hospitals to affirmatively respond indicating whether or not they intend to participate in MY3 of QIP-NJ. In confirming or declining participation, hospitals must have acknowledged and agreed to the set of conditions listed in the LOI materials. The LOI materials are available on the [Documents and Resources](#) page of the QIP-NJ website. Responses from hospitals were due **December 9th, 2022**. While the QIP-NJ LOI is a formal indication to DOH of a hospital's intention, it is not a legally binding document. DOH is now reviewing all LOI submissions for MY3 and updated participation statistics will be posted to the QIP-NJ website in January 2023.

QMC Meeting

Following the 9th convening of the QIP-NJ QMC this fall, DOH invited QMC members to review additional codes for consideration in the VSC and Databook for MY3. Additionally, QMC members received a survey to gather feedback relative to HEDIS specification updates. Responses for that survey were due on December 19th, 2022. Feedback from QMC members is being incorporated into the final MY3 VSC and Databook that will be disseminated in early 2023, pending CMS approval of the program design. Additionally, as referenced earlier in this newsletter, engaging with the QMC and stakeholders enabled QIP-NJ to identify the opportunity to make one-time retrospective changes to MY0 and MY1 to ensure clinically appropriate service capture that is consistent with measure specifications and will not introduce issues with CMS approval nor unintended downstream impacts.

Update: Pre-Print Development and Submission to CMS

DOH, in partnership with PCG and the Department of Human Services (DHS), submitted the Pre-Prints to CMS in late October. The most notable updates to the Pre-Prints for MY3 included adjustments to certain measure targets based on MY0 (baseline) evaluation findings, as discussed recently with the QMC. DOH/PCG will provide regular updates as our team works with CMS to secure necessary approvals.

Other State Initiatives and Programs

- The **Nurture NJ Strategic Plan**, which aims to make NJ the safest and most equitable place in the national to deliver and raise a baby. Please check the [Nurture NJ website](#) for more information and to discover new ways to become engaged.
- The **NJ Maternal Care Quality Collaborative (NJMCQC)** aims to achieve a significant and sustained improvement in overall maternal and infant morbidity and mortality rates statewide. The final public meeting for calendar year 2022 was held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022. Additional meeting information will be published on the NJMCQC website, so please continue to check back regularly. For additional information about the NJMCQC, please also feel free to email the team at doh-mcqc@doh.nj.gov.
- Funded by DOH, **NJ Quit Centers** provide residents of New Jersey with resources and support to stop or reduce their use of tobacco including e-cigarettes, disposables, pouches, and other related products. Quit Centers can and do play an integral role in helping clinical facilities meet their goal of advancing statewide quality improvements for BH under QIP-NJ Measure BH8: Substance Use Screening and Intervention Composite. More information regarding Quit Centers, including contact information for the Inspira Quit Center and RWJ Barnabas Health Institute for Prevention and Recovery (IFPR) Nicotine and Tobacco Recovery Program, can be found here: <https://www.tobaccofreenj.com/quit-smoking>.
- **DHS' Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)**, which serves as the Single State Agency (SSA) for Substance Abuse and the State Mental Health Authority (SMHA), as designated by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), also oversees NJ's adult system of community-based behavioral health services. Please [check DMHAS' website](#) for more information and discover new ways to become engaged.
- **DHS' Episode of Care (EOC) Pilot** is a three-year pilot to test a new alternative payment model for prenatal, labor, and postpartum services statewide. More information regarding the EOC Pilot can be found on DHS' [website](#) at the link below. Performance Period 1 (15 months) of the EOC Pilot began on April 1, 2022 and will run through June 30, 2023. Performance Periods 2 and 3 (each 12 months) will run from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, and July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, respectively. For more information about the EOC Pilot, please visit DHS'

website at: [Episode of Care Pilot \(nj.gov\)](https://www.nj.gov/episode-of-care-pilot). For questions, please send an email to the DHS team at mahs.maternityepisode@dhs.nj.gov.

Questions?

If you have any questions, concerns, or to unsubscribe from this newsletter, please email QIP-NJ@pcgus.com.

Thank you,

QIP-NJ Team

