



February 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.

- [DOH Corner](#)
- [Now Available: Draft QIP-NJ Measurement Year \(MY\) 2 Databook and Value Set Compendium \(VSC\)](#)
- [Now Available: Databook Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) Document v1.3](#)
- [Now Available: QIP-NJ Comprehensive FAQ and Governing Document Updated Versions](#)
- [Update: Non-Claims Based Measure Appeals](#)
- [Update: Screening Tool Guidance](#)
- [Reminder: QIP-NJ Survey Due Today, February 25th](#)
- [Behavioral Health \(BH\) Learning Collaborative \(LC\) February Update](#)
- [Other State Initiatives and Programs](#)

DOH Corner

We are now approximately two months into MY2 of QIP-NJ, which will continue through December 31, 2022. DOH appreciates all of the hard work and dedication that our hospital partners have already put into MY2, and we look forward to continuing to work in close partnership throughout the entire MY. DOH wants to remind our hospital partners that although MY2 started on January 1, 2022, DOH – in collaboration with the Department of Human Services – continues to actively work to secure necessary federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approvals. More information regarding CMS approvals will be released once it becomes available.

Now Available: Draft QIP-NJ MY2 Databook and VSC

The draft MY2 QIP-NJ Databook and VSC, which are intended for use only during MY2 (which runs from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022), are now available on the QIP-NJ [Documents & Resources](#) webpage. As a reminder, this includes the draft Performance Measurement Specifications, and Data Submission Guidelines and accompanying VSC intended for use during MY2 reporting for QIP-NJ. Please note the measures, measure specifications, and value code sets are in draft form as DOH is actively working with CMS to secure necessary approvals for MY2. Therefore, all information contained within, and the draft value code sets themselves, are subject to change. Since MY2 non-claims-based measures will not be reported until Summer 2023 and MY2 is still pending CMS approval, DOH does not advise hospitals to begin programming MY2 codes into their systems at this time. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available, but we encourage you to check back in regularly for status updates.

Please note that for MY1, which ran from July 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, hospitals must use MY1 Databook v1.4 to submit their non-claims-based measures in Summer 2022.

If you have any questions regarding the draft MY2 QIP-NJ Databook and/or the VSC, please email QIP-NJ@pcgus.com.

Now Available: Databook FAQ v1.3

DOH has also posted an updated version of the Databook FAQ (v1.3), which is also available for download from the [Documents & Resources](#) webpage on the QIP-NJ website. This FAQ document was created to support the QIP-NJ Databook and VSC and is comprised of questions DOH has received in the QIP-NJ inbox, as well as through both Databook webinars and Hospital Technical Contact Forums. Any new and/or revised questions or language from the prior version of the FAQ are denoted with bold and underlined text, e.g., "**Sample**".

Now Available: QIP-NJ Comprehensive FAQ and Governing Document Updated Versions

DOH would like to flag for hospitals that updated versions of the QIP-NJ Comprehensive FAQ and Governing Documents are now available on the QIP-NJ [Documents & Resources](#) page. As a reminder, the QIP-NJ Comprehensive FAQ document provides additional guidance and clarification to key partners and stakeholders relative to QIP-NJ and covers topics including but not limited to general information, eligibility and participation, attribution, measure selections and updates, measurement and payment calculations, hospital funding and payments, LCs, and program support. The QIP-NJ Governing Document provides a high-level overview of all aspects of QIP-NJ for hospitals' benefit. Thank you to all hospitals who contributed feedback and asked questions that were incorporated into these documents. For any questions about these two documents, please email QIP-NJ@pcgus.com.

Update: Non-Claims Based Measure Appeals

DOH has completed its review of the baseline period MY0 non-claims-based measure performance for QIP-NJ and results are available in each hospital's "DOH Submissions" folder on the QIP-NJ SFTP. Upon receipt of this communication through the SFTP, hospitals will have 10 business days to appeal results. The document with information outlining the QIP-NJ non-claims-based measure appeals process can be found in your hospital's "DOH Submissions" SFTP folder.

To initiate the non-claims-based measure appeals process, hospitals must submit a completed MY0 Non-Claims-Based Appeals Workbook and all necessary supporting documentation via the SFTP no later than 5:00 PM on March 9, 2022. Please email QIP-NJ@pcgus.com following your submission to confirm receipt of the files. If you have any questions, please email us at QIP-NJ@pcgus.com.

Update: Screening Tool Guidance

DOH would like to remind hospitals that since the deadline for screening tool submission has passed, we will not be considering additional screening tools for purposes of MY2 of QIP-NJ. As a result, all hospitals will need to utilize one of the previously approved tools for the necessary measures. A full listing of the approved screening tools for each measure can be found in the Databook. DOH understands this decision may require hospitals to transition to a new tool during the current MY; therefore, DOH will continue to provide technical assistance to mitigate and/or resolve any potential difficulties and will also support hospitals throughout QIP-NJ to ensure accurate reporting for these measures. Please note that formal guidance on the submission process for additional screening tools to be considered for MY3 has been released with the first iteration of the Databook for MY2, which is now available on the QIP-NJ website.

Reminder: QIP-NJ Hospital Survey Due Today, 2/25

Thank you to all of our hospital partners who have completed the QIP-NJ Hospital Survey. Your responses will provide valuable insight into state-wide infrastructure and data-driven change processes at hospitals. For hospitals that have not yet submitted their survey responses, we have extended the deadline for the survey. If you have not yet submitted your survey, we kindly request your response before the survey closes at **5:00 PM EST on Friday, February 25th**. Thank you once again for taking the time to complete the survey.

BH LC February Update

This month, DOH held two coaching sessions for BH LC participants. Instead of dividing the BH LC cohort into separate group coaching sessions for North and South Jersey, each of February's sessions were open to all participants and provided an open space to discuss the challenges in BH care presented by the most recent COVID-19 surge. BH LC faculty facilitated conversations

about how the most recent Covid-19 surge exacerbated the already existing challenges of serving the BH population in the ED and any bright spots or emerging best practices that teams found useful during this time. DOH also prepared BH LC participants for Learning Session #2, which will be held on March 15-16, 2022.

Other State Initiatives and Programs

- The **NJ Maternal Care Quality Collaborative (NJMCQC)**, which aims to achieve a significant and sustained improvement in overall maternal and infant morbidity and mortality rates statewide. The NJMCQC held its most recent public meeting on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Meeting materials are now available for download on the [NJMCQC website](#). Please continue to check the [NJMCQC's website](#) for more information and instructions on how to sign-up for future public meetings. For additional information about the MCQC, please email doh-mcqc@doh.nj.gov.
- DOH -- in partnership with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) -- has completed a comprehensive review of birthing hospital responses relative to the CDC **Levels of Care Assessment Tool (LOCATe) survey**, which was released last summer to assess the maternal and neonatal care capabilities of hospitals in alignment with recommendations from the American College of Gynecologists, the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Based upon preliminary assessments for both maternal and neonatal levels of care, DOH will be conducting targeted follow-up to the original survey responses. Soon, each hospital that completed the survey last summer will receive an e-mail with their results and also be afforded an opportunity to review and correct any information regarding services available. To that end, please be on the lookout for an email message with the subject line, "*NJ LOCATe Survey Results, coming soon!*". DOH appreciates your attention to this matter.

- 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 **Department of Human Services' 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), and 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.

Questions?

If you have any questions, concerns, or to unsubscribe please email QIP-NJ@pcqus.com.

Thank you,

QIP-NJ Team



Copyright © 2019. All Rights Reserved.