



February 2023 Quality Improvement Program - New Jersey (QIP-NJ) Announcements & Updates

Dear QIP-NJ Program Participants,

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

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DOH Corner

We are now approximately two months into MY 3 of QIP-NJ, which began in January and will run through the end of the year. As shared in last month's newsletter, DOH received approval for MY 3 of QIP-NJ from CMS at the end of January. You can find the [CMS Approval Announcement: QIP-NJ MY3](#) on the QIP-NJ website.

As we look forward, DOH continues to appreciate all of the time, effort, and resources that participating hospitals are putting into QIP-NJ, and looks

forward to seeing continued quality improvement for both the maternal health and behavioral health (BH) populations. As always, should participating hospitals have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the QIP-NJ team via email at QIP-NJ@pcgus.com.

MY1 Performance Payments

In January, hospitals received a notice containing their individual MY1 payment amounts. The notice provided a breakdown of Performance Payments and Redistribution Performance Payments, if applicable, by Medicaid Managed Care Organization (MMCO), that each hospital will receive.

DOH, in coordination with the Department of Human Services (DHS), communicated MY1 payment amounts and provided guidance and instructions to MMCOs to disburse funds to individual hospitals within 30 days upon receipt of the funds. DOH continues to anticipate that all hospitals will receive MY1 payments by the end of the first quarter, i.e., mid-to-late March.

Update: QIP-NJ MLC

Learning Session (LS) #2 Materials

The MLC LS#2 was held on January 31, 2023 and February 1, 2023, from 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM EST each day. You can find the session materials below, and on the [Participant Materials tab](#) of the LS #2 page of [the MLC portal](#). Please note that you must be logged into the portal for all the links to work.

- [Day 1 Slides](#)
- [Day 2 Slides](#)
- [Day 1 Recording](#)
 - Introduction: 0:00
 - Data to Action: 8:17
 - Race and Ethnicity Data Collection: Deeper Understanding of Opportunities and Inequities in New Jersey: 1:14:00
 - Leveraging Data to Support Improvement (Data Visualization): 2:19:00
- [Day 2 Recording](#)

Data Submission Reminder

This is a reminder that the MLC data report for February is requested by **5:00 PM EST on March 15, 2023**. The de-identified data that hospitals submit will be used in the Action Period monthly coaching sessions. Hospital teams can submit the monthly data [here](#), and find a PDF version of the form [here](#).

February Group Coaching Call:

Please mark your calendars for the February Group Coaching Call, which is scheduled for February 28, 2023, from 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM EST on Zoom! The session's topic will be home blood pressure cuff monitoring. Please take a moment to answer the following [brief poll questions](#) about your team's

experience with the implementation of home blood pressure monitoring and a few other practice changes.

QIP-NJ MLC Schedule

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
Action Period #3	June 2023 to September 2023
LS#3	June 20-21, 2023, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
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.

Coming Soon: MY3 Databook and VSC Updates

Last month, DOH published updates to the MY0-MY1 versions of the Databook and corresponding VSC (i.e., v1.6) on the QIP-NJ website. These updates were related to recalculated MY0-1 performance.

At the end of this month, DOH will publish a draft MY3 version of the Databook and VSC (v3.0) with the intent of having the final version of the same published by the end of March. In the interim, and since MY3 is already underway, hospitals should work off Databook and VSC version 2.1 which can be found on the QIP-NJ Documents & Resources page. Please look for an email from QIP-NJ announcing the publication of the MY3 Databook and VSC v3.0.

In late March, DOH will also publish an update to the MY2 Databook and VSC, which will carry through the MY0-1 recalculation updates referenced in last month's newsletter and are summarized in the document, "[MY0 MY1 Recalc MY2 Target Appendix](#)" under 'Protocols & Guidance' on the QIP-NJ website.

If hospitals have any questions/concerns, please reach out via email to QIP-NJ@pcqus.com.

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. Future public 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 \(nj.gov\)](#). For questions, please send an email to the DHS team at mahs.maternityepisode@dhs.nj.gov.