



February 2024
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 4 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 4 of QIP-NJ from CMS at the end of December.

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.

Upcoming Learning Collaborative Needs Assessment

The Learning Collaborative team hopes this email finds you well. As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting hospital teams participating in QIP-NJ, we are preparing to circulate a needs assessment for the upcoming Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)-focused learning collaborative!

Your response will help shape the curriculum design and content focus of the learning collaborative to best support the needs of your team and your patients. The survey will be released in early March to QIP team leaders and previous collaborative team leads and we appreciate your attention and response to this forthcoming survey.

Thank you,
The Learning Collaborative Team

Important: MY 2 Results and Payment Advice

On February 16, 2024, final MY 2 measurement results were communicated to participating hospitals along with MY 3 targets and made available via hospitals' SFTP. Additionally, the QIP-NJ team anticipates that MY 2 payment amounts, and guidance will be communicated to Medicaid Managed Care

Organizations (MMCOs) and hospitals in March. Earlier this month, QIP-NJ program leads were notified that due to payment calculation delays, the QIP-NJ team anticipates that MY 2 payments will be issued by MMCOs within the second quarter.

[LOI 4 Submission and Verification](#)

MY 4 LOI materials were distributed in December and required all NJ acute care hospitals to affirmatively respond indicating whether they intend to participate in MY 4 of QIP-NJ. The LOI process included a Medicaid ID/billing provider NPI validation section and DOH is working with DHS to verify that appropriate IDs are captured for purposes of MY 3 reporting.

[Coming Soon: MY 3 and 4 Databook, SRT, and VSC Updates](#)

The QIP-NJ team is currently finalizing version 3.1 of the MY 3 Databook, Standard Reporting Template (SRT) and SRT Guide, and Value Set Compendium which will be necessary for MY 3 reporting later this year. The QIP-NJ team is also developing in tandem MY 4 draft versions of these documents for hospitals' review. Both sets of documents will be posted to the QIP-NJ website in early March and an announcement will be sent to QIP-NJ program leads informing them of their availability.

Other State Initiatives and Programs

- **Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics (ALSO)** training is an evidence-based training used by birthing providers and interprofessional maternity care teams to handle obstetric emergencies. NJ DOH encourages teams to look into the components of the training. You can find more information on the training program [here](#).
- 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 this year was held in December 2023. Additional information, including meeting materials, 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 BH 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 ran from April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Performance Period 2 (12 months) began on July 1, 2023 and will run through June 30, 2024. Performance Period 3 (12 months) will run from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. 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.

