





**January 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](mailto:QIP-NJ@pcqus.com). Thank you!

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## **DOH Corner**

Happy New Year! As you are aware, MY3 of QIP-NJ concluded on December 31, 2023. DOH wants to congratulate all of our hospital partners on completing another year of the program, which DOH hopes will show continued progress in terms of quality improvement and achievement of individual performance targets.

MY4 of QIP-NJ is now officially underway! MY4 began on January 1, 2024 and will run through the end of the year. DOH is pleased to announce that on December 22, 2023, we received one-year approval from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for MY4 of QIP-NJ.

As always, should you have any questions, please reach out to the [QIP-NJ@pcgus.com](mailto:QIP-NJ@pcgus.com) email inbox.

## **Important: MY 2 Results**

QIP-NJ has completed the review of Non-Claims Based appeals. Results will be combined with MMIS results and MY 3 targets in a forthcoming notice later this month or early February. Separately, QIP-NJ will send letters to hospitals notifying them of the expected MY 2 payments that that each Medicaid Managed Care Organization will be authorized to make to hospitals within 2024 Q1.

## **MY 4 LOI Submission**

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. In addition, the LOI process included a Medicaid ID/billing provider NPI validation section and DOH has worked with DHS on this front to ensure appropriate IDs are captured for purposes of QIP-NJ. Responses from hospitals were due **December 22, 2023**. DOH has reviewed all LOI submissions for MY4 and will be sending out confirming letters shortly.

### **MY 4 Preprint**

DOH, in partnership with PCG and DHS, received one-year approval from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for MY4 of QIP-NJ on December 22, 2023.

### **Quality Measures Committee (QMC) #10 Meeting**

Following the tenth QMC meeting for QIP-NJ, DOH invited QMC members to review codes adjustment for consideration in MY 4. Results were reviewed and disseminated earlier this month to QMC members with a high degree of concurrence among members. DOH sincerely appreciates QMC members for their time and attention in supporting QIP-NJ measurement policies.

### **Forthcoming Program Measurement Policies and Documents**

QIP-NJ 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. QIP-NJ 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 February 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](mailto: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](mailto:mahs.maternityepisode@dhs.nj.gov).

