



March 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 three months into MY 4 of QIP-NJ, which began in January and will run through the end of the year.

DOH is thrilled with the performance of our hospital partners and appreciates the high level of effort and time demonstrated by hospitals throughout MY2. Please note that the original batch of MY2 performance results and payment letters contained an error. Therefore, DOH is re-issuing these results and payment letters to ensure that hospitals have the most accurate information. Hospitals can continue to expect to receive their payments for MY2 by the end of the second quarter.

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

Thank you to our QIP-NJ hospitals for your active engagement in the Learning Collaborative 3: Social Determinants of Health Needs Assessment Survey! We received responses from almost all hospitals and are currently analyzing your responses to develop a proposed curriculum and Collaborative design that will be communicated to you in April.

Thank you,
The Learning Collaborative Team

Important: MY2 Payment Advice

In early March, hospitals received a notice containing their individual MY2 payment amounts. The notice contained minor errors and will be reissued in April. The re-issued notice will provide 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), communicates MY2 payment amounts and provides 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 MY2 payments by the end of the second quarter.

Revised MY2 Results and MY3 Targets

Last month, final MY2 measurement results were communicated to participating hospitals along with MY3 targets. After subsequent review, it was discovered that there were errors in some of those results. The QIP-NJ team is currently in the process of finalizing the revised MY2 results and MY3 targets, which we anticipate will be accessible to hospitals via their SFTP portals in the coming weeks.

MY4 LOI Submission and Verification

MY4 LOI materials were distributed in December and required all NJ acute care hospitals to affirmatively respond indicating whether they intend to participate in MY4 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 MY3 attribution.

MY3 and MY4 Databook, SRT, and VSC Updates

The QIP-NJ team has finalized the MY3 Databook, Standard Reporting Template (SRT) and SRT Guide, and Value Set Compendium which will be necessary for MY3 reporting later this year. An announcement with links was sent out to Program Leads on March 21, 2024, and these documents have been posted to the QIP-NJ website.

The QIP-NJ team is also developing MY4 draft versions of these documents for hospitals' review. An announcement will be sent to QIP-NJ program leads informing them of their availability in the coming week.

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 last meeting was held on March 26th and the next meeting will be held on June 25th. 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.

