



November 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@pcgus.com. Thank you!

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DOH Corner

QIP-NJ is now approximately eleven months into MY 3, which began in January 2023 and will run through the end of the year. DOH continues to appreciate all 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.

Earlier this month MY 2 NCB results and PLRs were made available to MY 2 participating hospitals via the Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP). The appeals period for measures BH09, BH10, BH11, BH12, M002, M003, M006, M007, M008, M009, and M010 closed on November 27, 2023. The QIP-NJ team is currently reviewing and adjudicating timely appeals received from participating hospitals.

As described in greater detail later in this newsletter, revised PLRs were released for measures BH07 and BH08. Appeals for these two measures are due no later than 5:00 PM EST on December 11, 2023. Hospitals submitting an appeal must also send a separate email notice to QIP-NJ@pcgus.com.

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. Thank you

Update: QIP-NJ Maternal Learning Collaborative (MLC)

The MLC Celebration Event will take place on **December 1, 2023 from 12PM to 1:00PM EST!** This is the last MLC event. The session will include the following highlights:

- MLC data review to show the fantastic progress teams made related to MLC measures.
- A highlight video with clips submitted from your colleagues about the MLC.

Please celebrate with us and register for the session [HERE](#).

We look forward to celebrating your success next week!

Important: MY2 NCB Results and BH07/BH08 PLR Re-release

Appeals for NCB measures BH09, BH10, BH11, BH12, M002, M003, M006, M007, M008, M009, and M010 were due by 5:00 PM EST on November 27, 2023. QIP-NJ is currently reviewing these submitted appeals. If you submitted an appeal for one of these measures, please ensure that you have notified QIP-NJ@pcgus.com following your submission to confirm receipt of the files.

As communicated on November 20, 2023, QIP-NJ will release revised PLRs for measures BH07 and BH08 on November 30, 2023. The appeal deadline for these measures is **5:00 PM EST on December 11, 2023**. The MY2 NCB Measure Appeals Guidance Document is posted on the [Participants & Stakeholders page](#) of the QIP-NJ website. **Hospitals must email the 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.

MY 2 Claims-Based Measure Appeals Results Released

The Department has completed its review of MY 2 claims-based measure appeals for QIP-NJ. Hospitals that submitted appeals were sent an email directing them to the results posted to the [QIP-NJ Secure File Transfer Portal \(SFTP\)](#). See “DOH Materials” → MY 2”. Results will be combined with NCB results, MY 3 targets, and payment amounts in a forthcoming notice.

Reminder: MY4 LOI Materials Due

For MY4 of QIP-NJ, DOH used the same LOI process that was used for prior MYs. MY4 LOI materials were distributed via email earlier this month and require all NJ acute care hospitals to affirmatively respond indicating whether they intend to participate in MY4 of QIP-NJ. In confirming or declining participation, hospitals must have acknowledged and agreed to the set of conditions listed in the LOI materials. The LOI materials are available on the [Documents and Resources](#) page of the QIP-NJ website. Responses from hospitals are due at **5:00 PM EST on December 22, 2023**. While the QIP-NJ LOI is a formal indication to DOH of a hospital’s intention, it is not a legally binding document.

MY 4 Preprint

DOH and the Department of Human Services (DHS), has submitted the MY4 Preprint under 438.6c for QIP-NJ to CMS. DOH will provide regular updates as our team works with CMS to secure necessary approvals.

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 the Value Set Compendium (VSC) and Databook for MY4. Feedback from QMC members is being incorporated into the final MY4 VSC and Databook that will be disseminated in early 2024, pending CMS approval of the program design.

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 public meeting was held on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, and the next and final public meeting for this year will be held on December 12, 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.

