



## September 2022

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

#### Dear QIP-NJ Program Participants,

Welcome to the QIP-NJ newsletter! 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.

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#### DOH Corner

We are now approximately nine months through MY2 of QIP-NJ, which began on January 1, 2022, and will continue through December 31, 2022. As always, DOH continues to appreciate the dedication and perspectives that all of our participating hospital partners bring to the program. To that end, DOH is very pleased to report that the QIP-NJ team recently held this year's convening of the Quality Measures Committee (QMC) on September 19, 2022 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM, as described in more detail below. Through discussions with QMC members, DOH gained valuable insight into key areas of the program that it will use to help further refine and adjust certain

measures for MY3 and ongoing. DOH wants to once again thank the QMC members for their time and reminds all hospital partners that the QIP-NJ team remains committed to continuing to work in close partnership throughout the remainder of MY2 and future years of the program.

### **Important: MY1 NCB Results Released**

The Department has completed its review of MY1 NCB measure performance for the Quality Improvement Program - New Jersey (QIP-NJ). Results are available in each hospital's MY1 folder, in the DOH Materials folder in the [QIP-NJ Secure File Transfer Portal \(SFTP\)](#). Hospitals will have until **5:00PM EST on October 14, 2022** to initiate the appeal process by submitting a completed MY1 Non-Claims-Based Measure Appeals Workbook (Workbook) and all necessary supporting documentation via the SFTP. The MY1 NCB Measure Appeals Guidance Document is posted on the [Participants & Stakeholders page](#) of the QIP-NJ website. Please email the [QIP-NJ@pcgus.com](mailto: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](mailto:QIP-NJ@pcgus.com).

### **MY1 Claims-Based Measure Appeals Under Review**

The claims-based measure appeals process began August 15, 2022 and ended August 29, 2022. Each hospital received measure results and Patient Level Reports (PLRs) for all claims-based measures. DOH is now actively reviewing claims-based measure appeals and hospitals will be notified of results in mid-October.

As a reminder, only reporting and computational errors may be appealed in QIP-NJ. Disputes related to CMS and DOH-approved QIP-NJ protocols, including, but not limited to, program policy, formula designs, or statewide targets, are not appealable and such requests were not reviewed.

### **BHLC Action Period 3 & Celebration Event CME Credits**

To claim **CME credits for the BHLC Action Period 3**, participants are required to complete the final program evaluation. Instructions to claim CME credits are provided at the end of survey.

**BHLC final program evaluation survey link:**

[https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bEMl0kjkmN9RRQ2](https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bEMl0kjkmN9RRQ2)

**To claim CME credits for the BHLC Final Celebration, participants are required to complete the session evaluation at the following link:**

[https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_a430Q6MrhpzY4Sy](https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a430Q6MrhpzY4Sy)

### **MLC Learning Session #1**

Mark your calendars for the first Learning Session (LS1) of the MLC, on October 4 & 5, 2022, from 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM EST each day! Hospitals can register for the session [here](#). Hospital teams will have the opportunity to present storyboards at LS1. **Storyboards were submitted on September 28, 2022,** via email to [QIP-NJ@pcgus.com](mailto:QIP-NJ@pcgus.com).

**Event:** QIP-NJ MLC Learning Session #1  
**Date and Time:** October 4 & 5, 2022: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM EST  
**Zoom Meeting Information:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87858211936>  
**Meeting ID:** 878 5821 1936  
**Passcode:** 659259

### **Update: QMC Meeting**

DOH, in partnership with PCG, convened the ninth QMC for QIP-NJ on Monday, September 19th, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM ET. In advance of the September 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, DOH invited QMC members to review the QIP-NJ QMC Proposed Screening Tools Guide for MY3 and provide targeted feedback on proposed screening tools for MY3 by filling out a prework survey. During the meeting, DOH/PCG provided programmatic updates gathered targeted feedback on updates to, and clarifying questions about, the QIP-NJ measure portfolio. Specifically, the agenda included the following:

- Revisiting overall goals of QIP-NJ and associated timelines;
- Sharing program updates, including measure and target updates based on Evaluation of MY0 (baseline year);
- Reviewing requests and clarifying questions about measure compliance and possible adjustments for MY3;
- Considering a short list of additional screening tools identified during MY2 by hospital partners for inclusion in for MY3 and beyond; and
- Discussing next steps for the QMC and expected communications in preparation for MY3.

### **Update: Pre-Print Development and Submission to CMS**

We are excited to share that DOH, in partnership with PCG and the Department of Human Services (DHS), have been working hard on the proposed Pre-Print submissions for MY3, which are now close to completion following DOH/PCG making final revisions/adjustments based on feedback received during the recent convening of the QMC. DOH/DHS and PCG anticipate submitting the Pre-Prints to CMS sometime in early October. The most notable adjustment to the proposed Pre-Prints for MY3 includes adjustments to certain measure targets based upon MY0 (baseline) evaluation findings, as discussed recently with the QMC. DOH/PCG will let hospital partners know when the Pre-Prints are formally submitted and also provide regular updates as our team works with CMS to secure necessary approvals.

## 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.
  - Recently, the Nurture NJ team shared an update that their partners at the Doula Learning Collaborative (NJDLC), which is a statewide organization dedicated to supporting and developing New Jersey's growing doula workforce, will be hosting office hours! During NJDLC's office hours, seasoned and experienced doulas will be available to answer questions about general doula practice as well as Medicaid enrollment and billing in New Jersey.
    - Office hours will be held on [Mondays](#) (11:30am-1:30pm), facilitated by Danica Lafortune, NJDLC Co-Director, and [Wednesdays](#) (1:00pm-3:00pm), facilitated by Jodi Green, NJDLC Co-Director.
    - To stay up to date with all NJDLC news, you can subscribe to the NJDLC newsletter [here](#) and visit their [website](#).
    - For any further questions or inquiries, email [njdlc@healthconnectone.org](mailto:njdlc@healthconnectone.org).
- 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 most recent public meeting was held on September 27, 2022, via Microsoft Teams.
  - The most recent public meeting was held on **Tuesday, September 27, 2022**, and included topics including but not limited to updates on NJMCQC materials and workgroups, as well as public comment. As always, please continue to check the NJMCQC's website for more information and instructions on how to sign-up for future public meetings. 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. Staffed with Tobacco Treatment Specialists, they offer an individualized treatment planning session, individual and group counseling, Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT), and information and materials about lung cancer screening all free of charge. 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. Currently, Inspira Quit Center and RWJ Barnabas Health Institute for Prevention and Recovery (IFPR) Nicotine and Tobacco Recovery Program are actively providing screening services and connection to resources for their hospital systems. More information

regarding Quit Centers, including contact information, can be found here: <https://www.tobaccofreeNJ.com/quit-smoking>.

- **BPU' New Jersey Clean Energy Program** is a statewide program that offers incentives, programs, and services that benefit New Jersey residents, businesses, educational and non-profit entities, and government entities to help them save energy, money, and the environment. Income-eligible customers can apply to participate in The New Jersey Comfort Partners Program, a free program to reduce utility bills through implementing cost effective measures which save energy and money while improving home safety and comfort. Please check <https://njcleanenergy.com/> for more information.
- **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. The EOC Pilot began on April 1, 2022, and the three Performance Periods are as follows (see [Key dates](#)):
  - Performance Period 1 (15 months): April 1, 2022-June 30, 2023
  - Performance Period 2 (12 months): July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024
  - Performance Period 3 (12 months): July 1, 2024-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).

## Questions?

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,

QIP-NJ Team

