



Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative

Your Learning and Action Network

Medicare Quality Improvement Organizations engage providers at all levels of performance in projects for collaborative learning and action that accelerate healthcare quality improvement.

Join us in leading rapid, large-scale improvement in health quality.



Health Services Advisory Group of California, Inc.
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Quality Improvement Organizations
 Sharing Knowledge. Improving Health Care.
 CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES



As the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for California, Health Services Advisory Group of California, Inc. (HSAG-California) invites your nursing home to participate in the Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative. As a participant, you will strive to instill quality and performance improvement practices, eliminate healthcare-acquired conditions, and dramatically improve resident satisfaction.

The Collaborative offers a rewarding opportunity to learn from high-performing nursing homes regarding their processes as they pertain to resident safety and clinical outcomes. The Collaborative aligns national nursing home quality initiatives and partnerships such as the Advancing Excellence in America's Nursing Homes Campaign, The Partnership to Improve Dementia Care, and Quality Assurance Performance Improvement (QAPI).

Who is invited to participate?

All nursing homes are eligible for the Collaborative. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) encourages the participation of facilities that are able to commit to remain active in the project beginning January 2013 through July 2014.

The Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative will:

- Provide the foundation to focus on quality, data-driven, resident-centered care;
- Support the development of strategies for overall quality;
- Identify opportunities for improvement; and
- Address systems gaps through planned interventions in order to improve overall quality of care.

Quality areas of focus:

CMS requires all participating nursing homes to work on the reduction of the use of unnecessary antipsychotics in residents with dementia. Other areas Collaborative members may choose to focus on include consistent/permanent staff assignment; healthcare-acquired conditions such as falls, high-risk pressure ulcers, and urinary tract infections; avoidable hospital readmissions; finance; team-building; quality of life; healthcare-associated infections such as *Clostridium difficile*; and vaccinations.

Nursing homes actively participating in the Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative are expected to benefit from:

- Learning and Action Network sessions that bring together participating nursing homes for networking, learning, and sharing;
- Access to best practices and strategies of high-performing nursing homes;
- QAPI tools and resources; and
- Intervention development ideas and assistance.

The success of this initiative depends on the mutual commitment and collaborative efforts of the QIO and participating nursing homes. While there is no fee to participate in the Collaborative, partners and QIO will commit to the following:

<i>Quality Improvement Organization</i>	<i>Participating Nursing Home</i>
✓ Provide qualified staff with expertise in nursing home quality improvement.	✓ Form an interdisciplinary team to work with the Collaborative and apply strategies and principles of overall nursing home quality.
✓ Provide best practices, tools, and resources to support overall nursing home quality.	✓ Commit to remain active in the project through July 2014.
✓ Provide training to support QAPI.	✓ Implement strategies for QAPI.
✓ Develop and facilitate opportunities for participating nursing homes to come together in collaborative educational workshops for learning, sharing, and networking.	✓ Participate in educational Collaborative sessions, teleconference calls, and Webinars.
✓ Provide comparative data reports, practical assistance, and best practice resources to sustain and challenge participating nursing homes.	✓ Collect data to measure the impact of changes and submit the data to the QIO.
✓ Maintain a strong commitment to advance the project through partners and stakeholders, and to promote the accomplishments and best practices of participant nursing homes.	✓ Actively share best practices and lessons learned.

Thank you for your commitment to improving healthcare quality and the lives of residents in nursing homes. Please return the participant agreement form by fax or e-mail by December 31, 2012. For additional information, please contact Joseph M. Bestic, Director, Nursing Home, jbestic@hsag.com or 818.409.9229.