According to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the United States spends a larger share of its gross domestic product on health care than any other major industrialized country. With the advent of value-based payment and quality reporting programs, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is encouraging eligible physicians, physician groups and certain hospitals and health care settings to promote higher-quality and more efficient care for beneficiaries at a lower overall cost.

A Community-Based Approach

TMF Health Quality Institute has partnered with the Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care, Primaris in Missouri, the Quality Improvement Professional Research Organization, Inc. and Ponce Medical School Foundation in Puerto Rico to form the TMF Quality Innovation Network Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO), under contract with CMS. Through the Value-Based Improvement and Outcomes Learning and Action Network, the TMF QIN-QIO works throughout Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas to help eligible physicians and physician groups, health care providers, inpatient and outpatient hospital settings, acute care and critical access hospitals, inpatient psychiatric facilities, ambulatory surgery centers and Prospective Payment System (PPS)-exempt cancer hospitals to improve quality of care and performance on quality measures, which can maximize reimbursement.

Our Goals

By establishing a robust exchange of best practices and providing expert consultation, the TMF QIN-QIO seeks to help physicians, practitioners and other health care settings who are members of our network with quality reporting and identifying opportunities to improve care coordination and performance improvement on measures that will be used in upcoming value-based payment programs.

Participating Physicians and Practitioners

- Eligible physicians and provider groups: Receive guidance on ways to improve care by streamlining resource use to improve quality and reduce cost in order to improve value modifier scores, identify processes or resources needed for improvement by using available data, such as the QRUR, PQRS feedback reports and other quality reporting reports
- All network members: Attend live webinars to learn more about quality reporting and incentive programs from subject matter experts and thought leaders, exchange best practices with peers and TMF QIN-QIO consultants via our online forums and gain access to case studies, articles, tip sheets and other helpful tools and resources
- All network members: Receive timely updates about quality reporting deadlines and submission requirements, national provider calls and CMS notifications

As of Jan. 1, 2017, TMF QIN-QIO consultants are providing support for Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) reporting through the Quality Payment Program network.
Participating Health Care Settings

- Hospital inpatient settings: Receive more information about quality reporting, quality improvement, patient safety, coordination of care, health information exchange and consultative assistance to improve value-based purchasing scores to maximize reimbursement.
- Hospital outpatient settings: Receive assistance to improve outpatient quality reporting measures, care coordination, patient safety and patient and caregiver experience of care.
- Critical access hospitals: Learn how to improve inpatient and/or outpatient quality reporting measures, care coordination and patient safety.
- Ambulatory surgery centers: Receive technical assistance on quality reporting and how to improve the measures your facility reports, and learn ways to improve data submission and patient safety in your facility.
- Inpatient psychiatric facilities: Receive education and consultation with regard to the reporting of quality measures, patient safety and submission of data.
- PPS-exempt cancer hospitals: Gain access to tools to assist with quality reporting and quality improvement efforts.

Key Strategies and Interventions

TMF QIN-QIO consultants provide technical assistance to physicians, hospitals and other health care settings to help them better understand new reporting requirements to improve quality and cost of care, performance goals and sustain reimbursement. TMF QIN-QIO consultants:

- Educate network members how to use PQRS feedback reports and QRURs as they prepare for MIPS.
- Provide education on the Hospital Value-Based Purchasing and the selected facility quality reporting programs to help our network members better understand these programs and make improvements.
- Assist with identifying gaps in quality of care, including disparity and care coordination, and providing strategies and interventions to improve quality metrics that demonstrate improvement.

Join the Value-Based Improvement and Outcomes Network

Visit the TMF QIN-QIO website and locate the Value-Based Improvement and Outcomes Network, under the Networks tab, to learn more about this initiative and how you and members of your practice or hospital can benefit: http://www.tmfqin.org.

Contact Us

Please email QualityReporting@tmf.org for more information.