



## Join Us for Safer Hospital Care

Join hospitals across the country that are receiving no-cost support to improve their Medicare star rating and avoid payment penalties by implementing processes associated with safer, more effective care. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) selected Health Quality Innovators (HQI) to assist qualifying hospitals in your area as a Hospital Quality Improvement Contractor (HQIC).

HQI, which operates the Health Quality Innovation Network (HQIN), offers tools, training, data analyses and consultation to help you improve performance in key areas like hospital-acquired infections, readmissions, sepsis, venous thromboembolism, ventilator-associated events, falls, opioids, behavioral health and more. You will also contribute to these significant national goals:

1. Decrease opioid prescribing
2. Decrease opioid adverse events, including deaths
3. Reduce all-cause harm
4. Reduce adverse drug events
5. Reduce *Clostridium difficile* (*C. diff*)
6. Reduce readmissions

Participation in this initiative is an opportunity for hospitals that participated in the Hospital Improvement Innovation Network (HIIN) program to continue making progress and receiving expert support. Hospitals that did not previously participate in HIIN are encouraged to participate.

HQIN also is working with hospitals in 41 communities in four states with funding from the CMS Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO) program. This work focuses on connecting hospitals to local resources for coordinating care, responding to the opioid crisis, and improving population health.

## How You Benefit

With the assistance of a dedicated Quality Improvement Advisor (QIA), HQIN members will receive support in these focus areas:

1. Opioid stewardship and access to behavioral health treatment
2. Adverse drug events including opioid safety, anticoagulation therapy and glycemic management
3. CLABSI and CAUTI
4. *C. diff*, Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and other drug resistant organisms, and antibiotic stewardship
5. Sepsis and septic shock
6. Pressure ulcers
7. Surgical site infections
8. Venous thromboembolism
9. Ventilator associated events (IVAC, VAC, PVAP)
10. Injury from falls and immobility
11. Airway safety
12. Diagnostic error related to timeliness
13. Readmissions

We also will help you incorporate the voice of patients and/or their families into the quality improvement process. Examples of person and family engagement activities include implementing checklists for planned admissions and discharges, as well as help with conducting shift change huddles and bedside reporting with patients and families present.

Patient voices are essential in highlighting strategies to reduce health care disparities in harm and readmissions. We will help you collect Race, Ethnicity, Age and Language (REAL) data at the point of care and assist with reducing those gaps.

In addition to data reports that deliver clear and specific information, we provide improvement toolkits with everything you need to take action. We package education in bite-sized segments and make educational programming available to view on your own schedule. Your QIA will monitor your performance and offer coaching to make improvements.

#### **Other Benefits of HQIN Membership Include:**

1. Regional and national networks for peer-to-peer learning.
2. Training that strengthens your quality improvement skills.
3. Knowledge and insights from regional and national experts.
4. Resource recommendations that target your needs.
5. Increase value-based purchasing reward and pay-for-performance with commercial payers.

## **What You Do**

To see results, your commitment includes implementing and testing changes to improve care, making data available for analysis, reviewing data reports, participating in our virtual learning events, and sharing your best practices with other hospitals.

## **Get Started Today**

[Complete our interest form](#) to learn whether your hospital qualifies or [complete a participation agreement](#) to get started!

Call 877.731.4746, visit [HQIN.org](http://HQIN.org) or email us at [hqic@hqin.org](mailto:hqic@hqin.org) to learn more about this opportunity.

