



New Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Indiana

Most are familiar with Health Care Excel which had been the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for Indiana for the past 40 years however they no longer hold the QIO contract. Qsource, the Tennessee QIO, was awarded the Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee QIO contracts. Qsource subcontracts also with the Alabama and Mississippi QIOs to form the atom Alliance, a five state region. Although our name and structure are different our work will continue to be the same with the added bonus of being able to access resources from across the five state atom Alliance region.

Participation agreements are currently available for any facility wanting to participate in the National Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative (NNHQCC). Starting in the spring of 2015 and through the next five years, CMS expects 75% of the nursing homes in the state to participate in the NNHQCC which for Indiana is 384 facilities. CMS is encouraging all facilities to participate with an additional CMS focus on one-star facilities and is requiring the QIO to report any one-star facility that declines to participate in the NNHQCC. To accommodate the large number of facilities that are expected to participate in this collaborative it is anticipated that a large portion of the meetings will be virtual and recorded which will minimize the time staff will spend out of their facilities.

Some of the goals for the NNHQCC are decreasing the use of antipsychotic medications in Dementia residents, increasing mobility, improving quality measure composite scores to a 6 or better and to continue to assist facilities to implement and utilize QAPI within their organization.

The Indiana team looks forward to meeting you and working with your facilities. Please join us in the NNHQCC to share tools, knowledge and experiences for improving resident safety, clinical processes and reducing preventable healthcare conditions.

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