The Physicians Advocacy Institute’s Medicare Quality Payment Program (QPP) Physician Education Initiative

Landscape of Key QPP Resources and Organizations
Quality Payment Program
Network of Players

TCPI
Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative
Purpose: Under CMMI, designed to support practices over the next four years in sharing, adapting, and further developing their comprehensive quality improvement strategies. Clinicians participating in TCPI will learn about MIPS and how to move toward participating in APMs. Operate PTNs. More info here.

PTNs
Physician Transformation Network
Purpose: Peer-based learning networks designed to coach, mentor, and assist physicians in developing core competencies specific to practice transformation. Allows physicians practices to become actively engaged in the transformation and ensures collaboration among a community of practices. There are about 30 organizations/practices currently in PTNs. More info here.

SANs
Support & Alignment Networks
Purpose: Provide a system for workforce development utilizing national and regional professional association and public-private partnerships that are currently working in practice transformation efforts. Will help ensure sustainability of these efforts. Especially support the recruitment of clinician practices serving small, rural and medically underserved communities. Will play an active role in the alignment of new learning. SANs 2.0:
- Funding opportunity to leverage primary and specialist care transformation work and learning that will catalyze the adoption of APMs.
- Represent a significant enhancement to the TCPI network expertise and will help clinicians prepare for the QPP. There are 10 organizations/practices currently in SANs. More info here.

QEs
Qualified Entities
Purpose: Organizations that can receive Medicare Parts A, B, and D claims to produces and publicly disseminate CMS-approved reports on provider performance. They are also permitted to create non-public analyses and provide or sell such analysis to authorized users. More info here.

CMS QPP Website and Service Center
The CMS QPP website offers education and tools to help you learn about the QPP. Visit qpp.cms.gov | Email: qpp@cms.hhs.gov | Call: 1-866-288-8292 | Subscribe to QPP updates: visit qpp.cms.gov and select “Subscribe to Updates” in the footer.

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Quality Innovation Networks & Quality Improvement Organizations

Federally-funded organizations that create opportunities for physicians and other health care professionals to learn from each other, apply advanced improvement and analytical methods, engage patients and families, and structure processes for sustaining positive change. Principles align with CMS Quality Strategy (eliminating disparities, strengthening infrastructure and data systems, enabling local innovation, fostering learning organizations). There a total of 14 QIN-QIOs that serve regions of 2 to 6 States each. They provide education and technical assistance for the QPP.

In Connecticut, the QIN-QIO is a collaboration between Healthcentric and Qualidigm.

Small practices with 15 or fewer clinicians, including those in rural locations, health professional shortage areas (HPSAs), and medically underserved areas (MUAs) are a crucial part of the health care system. 11 local, experienced organizations provide hands-on QPP training and support to MIPS eligible clinicians and small practices in these settings participate in the QPP.
Physician Transformation Network

Peer-based learning networks designed to coach, mentor, and assist physicians in developing core competencies specific to practice transformation. Allows physician practices to become actively engaged in the transformation and ensures collaboration among a community of practices. Some PTNs may extend coverage to states and regions outside of their state of origin.

Qualified Entities Network

Organizations that can receive Medicare Parts A, B, and D claims to produce and publicly disseminate CMS-approved reports on provider performance. They are also permitted to create non-public analyses and provide or sell such analysis to authorized users.

Support and Alignment Networks

Provide a system for workforce development utilizing national and regional professional association and public-private partnerships that are currently working in practice transformation efforts. Will help ensure sustainability of these efforts. Especially support the recruitment of clinician practices serving small, rural, and medically underserved communities. SANs will play an active role in the alignment of new learning.

Source: https://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Transforming-Clinical-Practices/
2017 QPP Measure Stewards

A measure steward is an individual or organization that owns a measure and is responsible for maintaining and serving as the point of contact for the measures.

Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology
American Academy of Dermatology
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Ophthalmology
American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons
American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery
American Academy of Sleep Medicine
American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons
American College of Cardiology
American College of Cardiology Foundation
American College of Emergency Physicians
American College of Gastroenterology
American College of Radiology
American College of Rheumatology
American College of Surgeons
American Gastroenterological Association
American Heart Association
American Medical Association - Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement
American Podiatric Medical Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Society of Anesthesiologists
American Society of Breast Surgeons
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society for Radiation Oncology
American Thoracic Society
American Urogynecologic Society
Audiology Quality Consortium
Center for Quality Assessment and Improvement in Mental Health Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
College of American Pathologists
Focus on Therapeutic Outcomes, Inc.
Health Resources and Services Administration
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Minnesota Community Measurement
National Committee for Quality Assurance
National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization
Renal Physicians Association
Society of Interventional Radiology
Society of Thoracic Surgeons
Society for Vascular Surgeons
The Heart Rhythm Society
Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality
American Society of Plastic Surgeons

All quality measures used in MIPS under the QPP have a measure steward. To obtain this information, refer to the measure specifications on the CMS website that corresponds with your selected measure and reporting mechanism. For questions about a particular MIPS quality measure, contact the QPP Service Center by phone at (866) 288-8292 or by email at QPP@cms.hhs.gov, or contact the measure steward. For questions about non-MIPS quality measures used by QCDRs for the MIPS program, contact the QCDR vendor.

Source: http://www.qualityforum.org/Home.aspx
Multiple societies and associations offer resource centers to help their members learn about MACRA and the QPP. Visit your state association, national specialty society, and/or national association online for more information.