

News At Your Fingertips

A monthly newsletter for primary care and specialty physician practices across New England

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: 2019 Million Hearts® Hypertension Control Challenge!

Has your practice successfully worked with patients to reduce high blood pressure and improve heart health? If so, you might be a 2019 Million Hearts® Hypertension Control Champion!

If you have achieved a blood pressure control rate of at least 80% for your patient population with hypertension, please share your success story and enter the 2019 Million Hearts® Hypertension Control Challenge by **April 1, 2019**.

[Complete the Online Application](#)



[See the 2018 Hypertension Control Challenge Champions](#)

Supporting Lifestyle Changes through Evidence-Based Education

The [2019 Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes](#) identifies lifestyle management as a fundamental aspect of diabetes care. This includes Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME), Medical Nutritional Therapy (MNT), physical activity, smoking cessation counseling, and psychological care. NO COST evidence-based DSME is available through the New England QIN-QIO. Since studies show patients retain only a small percentage of the messaging and education they receive from the healthcare team, this additional support can reinforce their understanding and ability to self-manage. [Visit our website learn more.](#)

If your practice is providing diabetes education and want to pursue an additional revenue stream through ADA/ADE recognition, consulting from a national subject matter expert is available to you through the QIN-QIO at NO COST. To learn more, contact Brenda Jenkins at bjenkins@healthcentricadvisors.org

Healthy Living Center of Excellence: Chronic Disease Master Training

The [Healthy Living Center of Excellence](#) (HLCE) is hosting a Chronic Disease Master Training (CDSMP). Due to a state-specific grant, residents of Massachusetts can attend at no-cost. Residents of New England states other than MA can attend for a reduced fee. The training will run from **April 1 - April 5**. The first four days of the training will be held at HLCE/Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc. in Lawrence, MA from 9:00am - 4:00pm and the last day from 9:00am - 12:30pm. Training material will be included along with a light breakfast and lunch.



To register for this master training, please contact Edi at (978) 946-1274.

[Check Your Preliminary 2019 MIPS Eligibility on the QPP Website](#)

You can now check the [Quality Payment Program \(QPP\) Participation Status Tool](#) to view your eligibility status for the 2019 performance period under the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). Enter your [National Provider Identifier \(NPI\)](#), to find out if you need to participate in MIPS during the 2019 performance year.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) determines your 2019 MIPS Eligibility Status by reviewing both [PECOS](#) data and Medicare Part B claims for services provided during two 12-month segments called the MIPS determination period.

- **First segment:** October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018.
 - Includes a 30-day claims run out period.
- **Second segment:** October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.
 - Does **not** include a claims run out period.

Visit the [About MIPS Participation page](#) on the [Quality Payment Program website](#) for more information.

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

WEBINAR: The Trials and Tribulations of Successfully Completing the Tracking and Reporting Core Element on the CDC's Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship Facility Checklist

February 21, 12:00pm - 1:00pm

[Register Now](#)

OPEN CALL: Quality Payment Program

March 6, 11:30am - 12:30pm

March 20, 11:30am - 12:30pm

[Sign up for the Open Calls](#)

WEBINAR: How the Trauma Informed Approach can help treat Substance Use Disorder

March 28, 11:00am - 12:00pm

[Register Now](#)

Join Together to Celebrate #OurHearts During American Heart Month

Did you know that people who have close relationships at home, work, or in their community tend to be healthier and live longer? One reason, according to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), is that we're more successful meeting our health goals when we join forces with others. The NHLBI has launched the #OurHearts movement to inspire people to protect and strengthen their hearts with the support of others.

Visit the [NHLBI website](#) to access tools and resources to raise awareness about heart health and the importance of social support for meeting health goals.

As your regional QIN-QIO, we are committed to providing you with no-cost, innovative quality improvement services to support the success of your practice.

[Contact us today!](#)

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