

## News At Your Fingertips

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

### Million Hearts® 2022: Small Steps Are Needed for Cardiovascular Disease Prevention

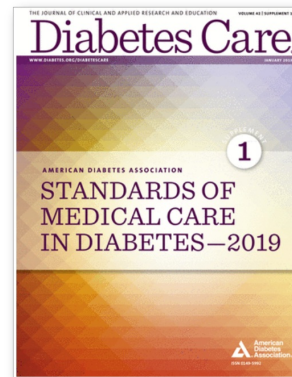
Recent research shows despite decades long improvement, the rates of heart attacks, stroke, and other cardiovascular disease (CVD) events have plateaued. An article published by the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* discusses the Million Hearts® 2022 campaign and the challenges and opportunities to improve cardiovascular health across the United States. [Read the article.](#)



### New 2019 Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes Focuses on Patient-Centered Care

The American Diabetes Association® (ADA) recently published the new *2019 Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes*, the global standard for diabetes care. Produced annually by the ADA since 1989, the Standards of Care is the primary resource to ensure personalized diabetes care focused on improving patient outcomes and quality of life.

Major updates to the 2019 guidelines focus on individualized care, cardiovascular disease in diabetes, and diabetes technology. [Read the guidelines.](#)

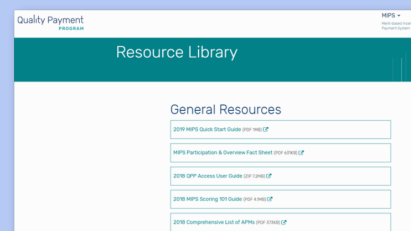


### IMPORTANT DATES: Quality Payment Program (QPP) Data Submission

The QPP data submission window opened **January 2** and will run until **April 2** for those reporting via the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) QPP Portal, registry/qualified clinical data registry (QCDR) or EHR.

If you are using the CMS Web Interface, you will be able to report from **January 22** through **March 22**.

### New Resources Now Available in the QPP Library



The web-based library now includes 2019 measure specification sheets, benchmarks, and other useful tools. Access the resources [here](#).

### Upcoming Learning Opportunities

#### WEBINAR: Promoting Interoperability Deep Dive

January 16, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[Register Now](#)

### EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1: New Opioid Policies for Medicare Drug Plans

These new policies include:

- Improved safety alerts when patients fill opioid prescriptions at the pharmacy

**OPEN CALL: Quality Payment Program**

January 23, 11:30am - 12:30pm

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

[Sign up for the Open Calls](#)

**WEBINAR: Providing Equitable Care  
Across New England: Understanding the  
Unique Experiences and Needs of LGBT  
Patients**

January 24, 11:00am - 12:00pm

[Register Now](#)

**WEBINAR: QPP Portal – Preparing for  
2018 Data Submission**

February 4, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[Register Now](#)

- Drug management programs for patients at-risk for misuse or abuse of opioids or other drugs

CMS has provided new training materials, including slide decks and tip sheets for:

- [Prescribers](#)
- [Pharmacists](#)
- [Patients](#)

CMS also recently released an MLN Matters<sup>®</sup> Article: [A Prescriber's Guide to the New Medicare Part D Opioid Overutilization Policies for 2019](#).

Visit the [Reducing Opioid Misuse](#) webpage for more information on CMS' overall strategy.

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!](#)***

This material was prepared by the New England Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO), the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for New England, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy. CMSQINB12019031709.