

News At Your Fingertips

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

STUDY: Heart Attack Risk Doubles for Daily E-Cigarette Users

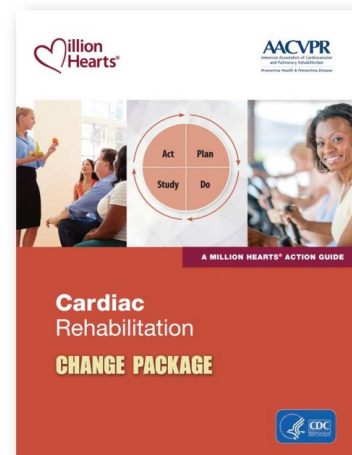
Using e-cigarettes every day can nearly double the odds of a heart attack, according to a new study published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. Researchers analyzed data from 70,000 people and found that concurrent use of both e-cigarettes and conventional cigarettes, which was the most common usage pattern among e-cigarette users, was far more dangerous than using either product alone. [Learn more about the findings.](#)

Million Hearts® Cardiac Rehabilitation Change Package - NOW LIVE!

The [Million Hearts®/AACVPR Cardiac Rehabilitation Change Package](#) is now live! This Change Package is a compilation of care processes and strategies to improve cardiac rehabilitation (CR) referral, enrollment and participation, and adherence.

The goal is to mobilize leaders and care teams to:

- Identify the aspects of CR utilization that are most in need of improvement within their practices, programs, or institutions;
- Select corresponding interventions from the Change Package that best address those issues; and
- Implement the selected systems or strategies, adopting or adapting the tools and resources in the Change Package as appropriate.



Join [Million Hearts®](#) in preventing cardiac events by taking action to improve your CR care processes today!

REMINDER - Improve Diabetes Care and Outcomes, Lower Costs and Generate Revenue

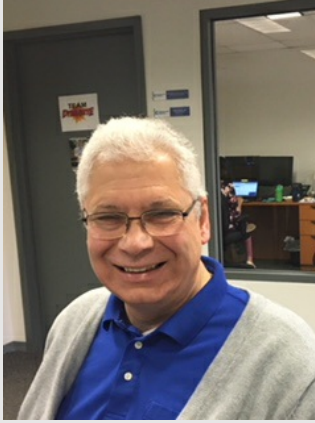
The opportunity to potentially capture revenue for work you may already be doing has been extended to July 2019. [Schedule a free professional consultation](#) with Mary Ann Hodorowicz, a nationally-recognized reimbursement expert, to learn how to operationalize your diabetes programs so you can generate revenue and improve clinical and behavioral outcomes of persons with diabetes.

[Download this guide](#) to learn how your practice can become ADA/ADE recognized/certified and maximize the opportunities for diabetes education reimbursement.

PATIENT & FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL (PFAC) SPOTLIGHT

Meet Randy Gonchar

"I am a retired finance professional involved with numerous patient-family engagement groups including Beth Israel Deaconess Healthcare. I joined the New England QIN-QIO PFAC to expand my horizons outside of a hospital setting and to explore ways to improve healthcare and patient care experience. I enjoy reviewing educational materials and



sharing my personal healthcare experience with others. I enjoy being a part of the New England QIN-QIO PFAC because I feel I am helping the team to develop patient-focused educational materials."

[Learn more about Randy's experience as a PFAC Advisor.](#)

Participate in Field Testing of Cost Measures through October 31

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and its contractor, Acumen, LLC, are conducting **field testing for 13 cost measures** before consideration of their potential use in the cost performance category of the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) of the Quality Payment Program in 2020 or beyond. During field testing, all stakeholders are invited to provide feedback on the measures and supplemental documents through October 31, 2018.

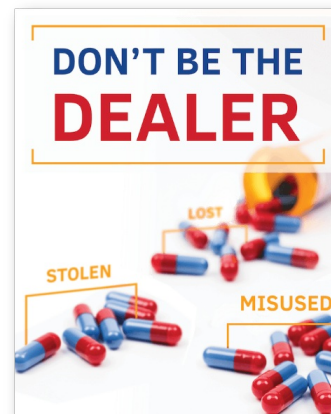
Read the recent [QPP Quick Bits blog post](#) for information on the measures that are being field tested. You may provide feedback through this [online survey](#) by **11:59 PM ET on October 31, 2018**.

October 27th is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day - "Don't Be the Dealer"

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day addresses a crucial public safety and public health issue. According to the 2016 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 6.2 million Americans misused controlled prescription drugs. The study shows that a majority of abused prescription drugs were obtained from family and friends, often from the home medicine cabinet.

Too often, unused prescription drugs find their way into the wrong hands. That's dangerous and often tragic. That's why it is important to clean out medicine cabinets and turn in unwanted, unused or expired prescription drugs, safely and anonymously.

[Visit the Take Back Day website](#) for resources and local information on medication collection sites.



Upcoming Learning Opportunities

OPEN CALL: Quality Payment Program

October 24, 11:30am - 12:30pm

November 7, 11:30am-12:30pm

[Sign up for the Open Calls](#)

WEBINAR: Antibiotic Stewardship in Urgent Care - Current Treatment Recommendations

November 14, 12:00pm-1:00pm

[Register now](#)

WEBINAR: Overview of the 2019 Final Rule - Implications for Solo and Small

Immunization Champions, Advocates, & Mentors (ICAMP) Program

November 13, 12:30pm-4:30pm

Sheraton Boston Hotel - Boston, MA

Learn how to increase adult immunization rates in your practice. Become a leader in protecting older adults and raising immunization rates with The Gerontological Society of America's (GSA) Immunization Champions, Advocates, and Mentors Program (ICAMP).

ICAMP is being offered as a pre-conference activity for GSA's annual

Group Practices

November 27, 11:00am-12:00pm

[Register now](#)

or

November 29, 3:30pm-4:30pm

[Register now](#)

meeting. **Participants do not need to attend the conference to attend ICAMP.**

[Learn More & Register](#)

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!