



News At Your Fingertips

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

September is National Cholesterol Education Month - Promote Cholesterol Awareness Among Your Patients and Colleagues

The National Cholesterol Education Program (NCEP) recommends that adults aged 20 years or older have their cholesterol checked every five years. Preventive guidelines for cholesterol screening among young adults differ, but experts agree on the need to screen young adults who have other risk factors for coronary heart disease: obesity, smoking, high blood pressure, diabetes, and family history. [Access cholesterol resources and information to use in your practice.](#)

WEBINAR: The Truth About E-Cigarettes - October 2, 12:00pm-1:00pm

Join the New England QIN-QIO and guest speaker, **Brian King, PhD, MPH**, national tobacco control expert from the CDC, as we share insights on the evolving landscape of e-cigarette use in the United States, the associated health effects, and strategies to minimize public health risk. Reserve your seat!

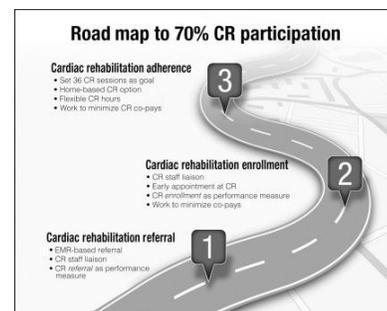
[Learn More & Register](#)

This continuing nursing education activity was approved for 1.00 credit by the Northeast Multistate Division, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission. This Live activity has also been reviewed and is acceptable for up to 1.00 Prescribed credit(s) by the American Academy of Family Physicians.



Million Hearts® Cardiac Rehab - Learn How You Can Help Save 25,000 Lives

The Million Hearts® Cardiac Rehabilitation Collaborative has released a [roadmap](#) to increase cardiac rehabilitation participation from 20% to 70%. This increase is expected to result in a savings of 25,000 lives and 180,000 hospitalizations. According to the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR), recent scientific studies have shown that people who complete a cardiac rehabilitation program can increase their life expectancy by up to five years.



How can you help? You can start by implementing an 'opt-out' standing order for a cardiac rehab referral. The appropriate diagnoses typically covered by insurance include post-myocardial infarction, stable angina, post-stent or angioplasty, heart failure with reduced ejection fraction, post-bypass, and valve, heart, lung or heart-lung transplant. For more information visit [our website](#).

NOW AVAILABLE: New Merit-based Incentive Payment System Resources

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently posted several new Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) resources on the [Quality Payment Program Resource Library](#) website. New resources include the following:

- [2019 Virtual Groups Toolkit](#)
- [2018 Cost Performance Category Fact Sheet](#) (updated)
- [2018 Claims Data Submission Fact Sheet](#)
- [2018 Eligible Measure Applicability \(EMA\) Resources](#)
- 2018 MIPS Specialty Measures Guides for:
 - [Anesthesiologists and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists \(CRNAs\)](#)
 - [Cardiologists](#)
 - [Radiologists](#)
- [MIPS Data Validation Criteria](#)

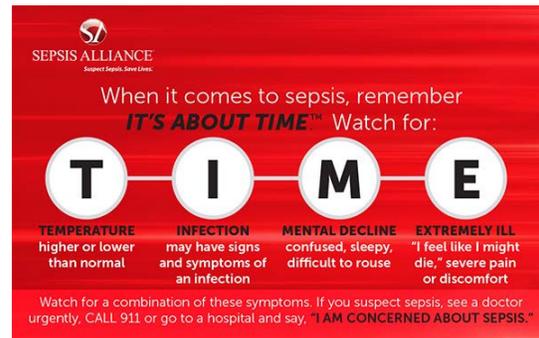
Read the recent [QPP Quick Bits blog post](#) for more detailed information on these new materials.

It's About TIME Initiative Encourages Early Lifesaving Detection of Sepsis

September is **Sepsis Awareness Month**, and while sepsis is one of the most common medical conditions, it is often unrecognized until it is too late to cure. Sepsis can happen to anyone, at any time. Importantly, it's the third leading cause of death in the United States and the top readmission diagnosis across New England.

Early detection provides the best chance for survival and recovery. **It's About TIME** is a national initiative to raise awareness of sepsis and the urgent need to seek treatment when symptoms are recognized.

[Learn more about It's About TIME.](#)

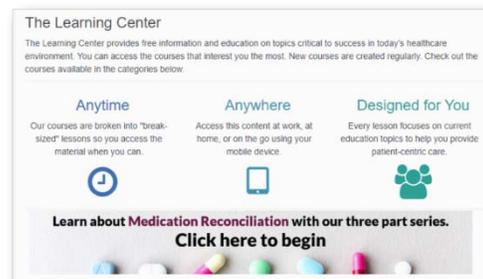


Learn How to Lower Adverse Drug Events and Improve Safety

Explore the newest online courses in *The Learning Center*, our online education system, and learn how to ensure safe, high quality care to patients.

Features of the medication reconciliation modules include:

- Three in-depth learning modules
- Multiple quizzes to test your knowledge
- Downloadable resources
- Certificate of Completion
- No cost - this important course is free of charge



To access the Medicine Reconciliation modules, log in or create an account by visiting www.learning4quality.org.

Diabetes Prevention Program Demonstration Projects Webinar Series

The American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM) will host a series of three webinars this fall featuring grantees of the ACPM Diabetes Prevention Program demonstration project. This series will examine healthcare organizations' experiences in developing and implementing protocols for screening, testing, and referring patients with prediabetes to a CDC-recognized type 2 diabetes prevention program. Register for each session below by clicking on the webinar titles.

Independent Practice Associations
September 25
12:00pm - 1:30pm

Integrated Delivery System
October 23
12:00pm - 1:30pm

Federally Qualified Health Centers
November 8
12:00pm-1:30pm

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

OPEN CALL: Quality Payment Program
September 26, 11:30am - 12:30pm
[Sign up for the Open Calls](#)

WEBINAR SERIES: Understanding the 2017 National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support
September 26, 3:00pm - 4:30pm
[Register for the introductory webinar and series](#)

WEBINAR: Transforming a Traditional Anticoagulation Management Service to Incorporate Patients on DOACs
September 27, 11:00am - 12:00pm
[Register now](#)

WEBINAR: Exploring Pain Management Strategies - A Patient & Provider Panel on Treating Pain With and Without Opioids
October 10, 3:00pm - 4:30pm
[Register now](#)

Immunization Resources to Prepare You for the Flu Season

We are pleased to provide you with the latest news and updates for the 2018-2019 Flu Season. [Download our Provider Immunization Community newsletter](#) for information about this season's Immunization schedules, news, updates, useful links and information on the New England Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC).



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. CMSQINB12018091555