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IQH Upcoming Events

Care Transitions Webinar-Teleconference, Thursday, Oct. 25, 10 -11:30 a.m., a Learning & Action Network (LAN) meeting, "Working Together to Decrease Hospital Readmission Rates." Speakers: Mary A. Smith, DNP, FNP-BC, Golden Triangle Geriatric Collaborative; Judy Ramey, RN, BSN, chief nursing officer, Baptist Memorial Hospital-Booneville; Teresa Davis, nursing home administrator, Longwood Community Living Center, Booneville; Barbara Hester, RN, C, nursing home administrator, Landmark Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Booneville. There is no charge, with registration available at www.msqio.org/hpclan. Call 601-957-1575 ext. 219 for more information.

IQH Insights

Win-Win: Nursing homes can improve care while reducing unnecessary readmissions to acute care hospitals by learning how to effectively identify, evaluate and communicate changes in a resident's status. [To learn more, click here.](#)

Healthcare Acquired Infections (HAI), a Learning & Action Network (LAN) meeting, Wednesday, Oct. 24, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m., "CMS Inpatient Hospital Quality Reporting Program and Mandatory HAI Measures." Location: Mississippi State Department of Health, Osborne Building Auditorium, 570 E. Woodrow Wilson Blvd., Jackson. Speakers: Steve Lesley, Director of Data Services, Mississippi Hospital Association; Rathel (Skip) Nolan, MD, Director, Division of Infectious Disease, UMMC; Erica Dillon, MD, Hospital Epidemiologist, G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center; Kathy Duncan, RN, Clinical Content Director, Institute for Healthcare Improvement; Amy M. Kirby, RN, BSN, Infection Prevention Manager, Baptist Memorial Hospital DeSoto. To register for the meeting for which there is no charge, visit www.msqio.org/hailan; for more information, call 601-957-1575 ext. 245.

Special Diabetes Project Begins

IQH has begun a special project in the Meridian area to focus on the high prevalence of diabetes and its challenges, particularly to the health of the African-American community. The project goal is to reduce amputation rates and improve diabetes care through diabetes self-management education (DSME) classes provided at no cost for African-American Medicare beneficiaries.

Physician referrals are necessary for participation in the project. Tools to be used include sample standing orders for referrals for diabetes self-education classes; chart

New Tools

[New Care Transition Intervention Models Are Available](#)

[Updated Core Measures Booklet](#)

[Reducing Adverse](#)

**Drug Effects Tool -
The ADE Pocket
Guide**

Upcoming Events

**Oct 14-20, 2012 -
International
Infection Prevention
Week**

**National Healthcare
Quality Week**

**Oct 16-19, 2012 -
Nursing Convention
at the Mississippi
Gulf Coast**

**Oct 24, 2012 -
Healthcare Acquired
Infections (HAI) LAN
Meeting**

**Oct 25, 2012 - Care
Transitions Webinar-
Teleconference**

**November is
National Family
Caregivers Month**

**Nov 2, 2012 -
MHA Society for
Healthcare Quality
Meeting**

**Nov 15, 2012 - The
Great American
Smokeout -
www.quitlinems.com**

sticker reminders; monofilaments; and personal health records that encourage foot and eye exams for people with diabetes. The classes will be taught by nurses trained in the curriculum based on the Diabetes Empowerment Education Program (DEEP), a participatory model that presents complex medical terms and concepts in a manner conducive to comprehension. The innovative project is an opportunity for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to have IQH as a Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) within the Meridian community decrease the number of potential amputations and provide education on diabetes care. Contact Lisa Camel, project leader, or Willie Ann Thomas at 601-957-1575, ext. 257 or 217, with questions.

Antipsychotic Medication Reduction Webinar

Dr. Joel Kirson, medical director for CareNow Services that provides onsite mental health services in Georgia, presented clinical guidelines for antipsychotic medication reduction at a Sept. 20 webinar organized by IQH. The webinar was sponsored by the Mississippi Partnership to Improve Dementia Care, a coalition formed to work together to reduce the use of antipsychotic medications. The presentation included discussion on the appropriate use of antipsychotic medications; details of performing dose reduction; common dose reduction problems; and behavior management without medication. Over 75 persons participated in the webinar. Anyone interested in participating in future webinars should contact Sarah Miller, RN, MSN, 601-957-1575 ext. 249.

Partners in the project are working on the initiative to ensure that nursing home residents receive appropriate care and that antipsychotic medications are used appropriately. The national goal is to reduce antipsychotic drugs by 15 % by the close of 2012 for residents.

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