



An Information & Quality Healthcare (IQH) Publication Serving the Mississippi Healthcare Community

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Visit www.msgio.org

Available Tools:

"Core Measures Help Booklet for PC Practices"

"Core Measures Help Booklet"
(AMI, HF, PN, SCIP, STK, & VTE)

Events

November

National Hospice and Palliative Care Month

American Diabetes Month

November 20, 10 a.m.:
"Working Together to Decrease Hospital Readmission Rates"
Care Transitions Webinar-Teleconference
will focus on the importance of nutrition therapy in improving patient outcomes.
Guest Speaker, Tracy R. Smith, PhD, RD, LD.
Contact Mary Helen Conner, IQH project leader, for further information,

IQH Awarded Smoking Cessation Contract for TRICARE®

A contract to provide smoking cessation counseling services to eligible TRICARE® beneficiaries throughout the country has been awarded to Information & Quality Healthcare. The one-year contract is through the Department of Defense, Defense Health Agency, and covers 50 states and the District of Columbia. TRICARE® is the healthcare program serving Uniformed Service members, retirees and their families worldwide. The service offers cessation counseling from master's degree counselors and a variety of resources, including referrals to military treatment facilities for aids such as nicotine replacement therapy. IQH has operated the Tobacco Quitline as a telephone support service for over 12 years in several states.

IQH Focuses on Million Hearts Campaign

IQH as Mississippi's Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) is partnering with Million Hearts, a national, public-private campaign to prevent a million heart attacks and strokes by 2017. Leading the community campaign effort at IQH is Lisa Camel, RN, who is working with a number of participants in supporting heart disease and stroke prevention practices to meet the Million Hearts goal. Community and patient groups, nonprofit organizations, faith-based groups, healthcare professionals, and health systems are among the partners joining in the effort to reach persons living with or at risk of heart disease. The campaign represents a joint effort of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the American Heart Association, and other national healthcare stakeholders in efforts to improve the country's heart health. Resources on the IQH website www.msgio.org cover a range of information on care coordination and patient self-management, to facts on warning signs, blood pressure, and cholesterol as well as a section on "Heart Healthy Home Cooking." More information on Million Hearts participation is available from Lisa Camel at lcamel@msgio.sdps.org or 601-957-1575 ext. 257.

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December 8-14:
National Influenza
Week (NIVW)
highlights the importance
of continuing
influenza vaccination

Nursing Home Update

Antipsychotic Drug Use--A recent trend update on antipsychotic drug use in nursing homes shows Mississippi's rate has decreased from 27.02% to 24.41%. The CMS Quality Measure update showing the decrease is based on MDS 3.0 data. Mae McDaniel, RN, project leader, said, "This statistic indicates we are moving in the right direction, and our efforts continue in discouraging the use of antipsychotic drugs."

Nursing Home Quality Initiatives--Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) is featured in a special "Questions and Answers" publication explaining how the various national initiatives align with each other in seeking quality improvement in nursing homes. The CMS Nursing Home Quality Initiatives "Questions and Answers" has been placed on the IQH website, www.msgio.org. Points include the definition, regulation, expectations, and the use of tools and resources in relation to compliance with the QAPI regulation. Also featured in the publication are facts on the National Nursing Home Quality Collaborative (NNHQCC) and the National Partnership to Improve Dementia Care in Nursing Homes.

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