



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

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Visit
www.msgio.org

Available Tools:

"Treating the Constellation of Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factors to Goal"

DVD offers four CMEs free through Oct. 15.

Contact
Ramona Drake for information
601-957-1575
ext. 231

"Core Measures Help Booklet for PC Practices" on IQH website
www.msgio.org

Events and Health Observations

April

National Minority Health Month

Theme:

'Health Equity Can't Wait.

Act Now in Your CommUNITY!

[Click Here for Flyer](#)
[Click Here for Webinar](#)

April 7 World Health

IQH Meetings Set Collaborations Call for Action

QAPI in Action Meeting April 11

The first face-to-face meeting of the MS Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative is scheduled for April 11 at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center in Ridgeland from 9 a.m. to noon. The goal of this meeting is for all homes in attendance to leave with an actionable plan for QAPI.

The meeting will consist of an overview of QAPI, goals of QAPI and ideas from the Best Practice Change Package.

The presenter for the meeting is Sheree Vaughn, clinic manager of Fresenius Dialysis Clinic, in Brookhaven. She has long term care experience as well as insight of how to implement appropriate plans of action to correct identified quality deficiencies.

The meeting will conclude with an interactive working session to assist each nursing home with goal setting, guide for developing a QAPI plan, data source for quality measures and completing the QAPI self-assessment tool.

Each nursing home will receive a copy of the Best Practice Change Package and "QAPI at a Glance." Persons interested in joining the collaborative and taking part in the meeting should contact Mae McDaniel at 601-957-1575 ext. 221.

Care Transitions Meeting April 16

Medication reconciliation and the Medicare readmission reduction program will be topics addressed at an April 16 meeting co-sponsored by Information & Quality Healthcare (IQH) and the Mississippi Hospital Association (MHA).

"Working Together to Decrease Acute Care Readmissions" is the focus of the Learning & Action Network (LAN) meeting that will feature panelists offering insight on how 30-day acute care readmissions affect Medicare reimbursement.

Mendal Kemp, director of the MHA Center for Rural Health, will moderate a panel of experts that includes Mary Smith, DNP, FNP-BC, director of Healthcare Services for the Golden Triangle Planning & Development District; Gwen Combs, J.D., vice president for Policy and General Counsel, MHA; Julie B. Mitchell, J.D., LL.M., Health Law, Mitchell Day Law Firm, PLLC; and Greg Hart, Novitas Solutions provider outreach and education supervisor. Any questions about the event or registration can be directed to Mary Helen Conner, BSN, MPH, 601-957-1575 ext. 219. The 9 to 12:30 meeting will be held at the Family Life Center of First Baptist Church on Jackson Street in Ridgeland. [Register Now!](#)

Day

April 1-7
National Public
Health Week

May

May 21-24
2013 Empowering
Communities for a
Healthy Mississippi
Conference, Marriott
Hotel, Jackson
[Conference Website](#)
[and Online](#)
[Registration](#)

May 6-12
National Nurses
Week

May 12-18
National Hospital
Week

May 12-18
National Nursing
Home Week

Asthma and Allergy
Awareness Month

National Cancer
Research Month

National Stroke
Month

Special Diabetes Project Partnership Update April 25 in Meridian

The education program targeting the African-American community diabetes problem in the Meridian area will be the focus of an April 25 meeting in Meridian. Beneficiaries who have graduated from the Diabetes Self-Management Education classes and health care providers who have worked with Information & Quality Healthcare on the project will share their experiences with the program.

National Coordinating Center (NCC) representatives from Colorado and officials from the Meridian area who have supported the program are also invited for the update.

Planning is underway for a healthcare provider education meeting in Meridian to share information about the special diabetes education program, with details to be released when plans are finalized.

CMS Diabetes Health Disparities Reduction Programs Described in Article

The implementation of three prevention intervention programs by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is discussed in a journal article by Terris King, Sue Fleck, Elisa Estrella, and Maggie Reitz. The article on the "Every Diabetic Counts" program is in the current issue of **Family & Community Health** (April/June 2013 - Volume 36 - Issue 2). Discussing the successes of the EDC program during the past CMS-Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) contract, the copyrighted article focuses on providing diabetes self-management education for vulnerable populations through QIOs. The programs and lessons learned from a federal initiative geared to closing the health disparities gap are described.

For more information about the article, contact IQH Communications, 1-800-844-0500, ext. 209.

Batz Guide APP Created

The Louise H. Batz Patient Safety Foundation has announced that the Batz Guide App is available for iPads. Mrs. Batz's daughter, Laura Batz Townsend, co-founder and president of the Foundation, explains that the Batz Guide App has been made possible through individual donations. The Foundation was founded by the family after the death of Mrs. Louise Batz to help prevent medical errors by ensuring that patients and their families have the knowledge they need to promote a safe hospital experience and to support innovative advancements in patient safety. Visit www.louisebatz.org for more details.

Powerful Testimonials to Discourage Smoking

A second series of ads featuring real people who are living with the effects of smoking-related diseases began airing April 1 and continues through June 23. The ad campaign represents continuation of the success of last year's national tobacco education campaign by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The newest ads in the "Tips from Former Smokers" campaign tell

the story of how lives have been forever changed because of smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke. "These ads tell the stories of brave people struggling with the health consequences of smoking-related diseases-the kinds of smoking-related disease doctors see every day," said Tim McAfee, MD, MPH, director of the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health. Featuring smoking-related health conditions, including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or COPD, more severe adult asthma, and complications of diabetes, the ads encourage smokers to call **1-800-QUITNOW**, a toll-free number to access free quit support across the country. Interested persons can also visit www.cdc.gov/tips to view the personal stories from the campaign. IQH houses the Mississippi Tobacco Quitline (1-800-QUITNOW), with counselors available for assisting persons interested in tobacco cessation.

<http://www.quitlinems.com/>

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