



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

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Visit www.msqio.org

Available Tools:

"Core Measures Help Booklet for PC Practices"

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

Events

October

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

World MRSA Awareness Month

American Pharmacists Month: "Know Your Pharmacist, Know Your Medicine"

October 20-26:
International Infection

Fight the Flu October to May

The flu season has officially begun although National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) is Dec. 8-14, 2013, a national observance established to highlight the importance of continuing influenza vaccination. October is the month traditionally recognized as the start of flu season in the United States, with the season usually continuing until the close of May. The website www.Flu.gov offers guidelines to avoid the flu. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that persons from age 6 months and up be vaccinated as soon as it becomes available. The website www.Flu.gov recommends obtaining the flu vaccine as the very best preventive measure.

From the Mississippi Hospital Association "MHA News Now": Flu Shot Compliance Begins

Encouraging health care workers to get their flu shots has been a patient safety and quality of care issue for years. Mandatory public reporting of this hospital quality measure is finally moving the needle. See the Mississippi Hospital Association poster ([Countdown to Flu Shot compliance Begins](#)) that Mississippi hospitals can print out and post to encourage all employees to get a flu shot. The special section for hospital employees is available on www.mhanet.org focusing on the importance of the flu shot.

Online Presentation on Nutrition Importance in Decreasing 30-day Acute Care Readmissions Set by Information & Quality Healthcare

An online presentation focusing on the clinical and functional benefits of nutritional supplements and the importance of adequate nutrition in decreasing 30-day acute care readmissions will be held by IQH Nov. 20 from 10 to 11 a.m. Any questions about the event or registration can be directed to Mary Helen Conner or Paula Tullios at 601-957-1575 ext. 219 or 229.

Prevention Week
spotlighting efforts to
reduce health care-
acquired infections
(HAIs) and improve
health care quality and
safety

November

November 9:

[The American Medicine
Chest Challenge:](#)

Dangers of Prescription
Drug Abuse

November 14:

World Diabetes Day Free
Posters & International
Diabetes Federation
[Click Here](#)

November 20:
Online Program on
Adequate Nutrition
Contributing to
Decreasing 30-Day
Readmissions

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

Importance of Mammograms Emphasized This Month

October is the month to celebrate the progress made in the fight to end breast cancer. Death rates from breast cancer have dropped by 33% since the early 1990s through the work of the American Cancer Society and its supporters. This translates to 184,000 lives saved that would have otherwise been lost to breast cancer.

An estimated 232,340 women in the United States will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer this year. Excluding cancers of the skin, breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in women. It is the second leading cause of cancer death in women (after lung cancer). For now, the best way to find it early is to get a mammogram every year starting at age 40 and continuing for as long as one is in good health. For more information, call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-227-2345 or visit cancer.org/breastcancer.

Nursing Home Learning Sessions

The final three Learning Sessions of the *National Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative* have been scheduled for November 14, 2013, March 5, 2014, and June 19, 2014. Time is 1:30 to 3 p.m. for each session.

Among the speakers for the November 14 session on "Leadership Participation in Quality" are representatives from the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, the American Medical Directors Association, and the National Association of Long Term Nursing. A timed agenda will be provided in advance for staff participation.

Target audiences include all team members participating in the nursing home collaborative.

A complimentary webinar in December (date to be announced) will feature INTERACT II. This evidence-based quality improvement program is designed to assist nursing home staff in identifying problems early and communicating changes in residents' conditions. The presentation will also include how to track and analyze admission and transfer data as part of the quality assurance performance efforts.

For more information on any of the learning sessions or webinars, call Mae McDaniel, IQH nursing home project leader, 601-957-1575 ext. 221 or email mmcdaniel@msqio.sdps.org.

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