

CMS Seeks IPF Test Sites for New Quality Measure Testing and Development

Health Services Advisory Group, Inc., under contract to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, is offering inpatient psychiatric facilities the opportunity to participate in testing a new quality measure using patient-reported outcome data. The work of this project supports the mission of the IPFQR Program to develop measures that evaluate the quality of care provided to Medicare beneficiaries within the IPF setting. The key objective of the current project is to provide empirical evidence to support the development new patient-centered quality measures that will improve the assessment of inpatient psychiatric depression symptoms at admission and discharge using a standardized tool.

The project will enroll up to 12 test sites from February 2018 to April 2018 and is scheduled to be completed by the end of September 2018. Facilities must meet the following criteria to be eligible for participation:

- Treats primarily adult patients
- Participates in IPFQR program
- Has a minimum of 400 admissions annually
- Has a stable medical record system with no major conversions or upgrades planned in the next six months

There are numerous benefits to participation, including the opportunity to:

- Inform national quality improvement initiatives by providing early input on the proposed measure specifications during the development phase
- Gain early experience implementing a quality measure that may eventually be used in the CMS IPFQR program
- Target quality improvement activities by comparing performance results to de-identified results from other participating test sites
- Generate revenue from participation

Participation as a test site is voluntary and IPFs will not be penalized for non-participation. HSAG will compensate each participating test site. Participation in this project will require each facility to modify clinical workflow during the study period to collect patient-reported information using a standardized tool, abstract data for analysis by HSAG, and participate in a qualitative interview to share experiences with implementing the standardized tool.

IPFs interested in participating are encouraged to apply by submitting a completed Measure Testing Nomination Form available at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ipfnomination>, no later than February 28, 2018. HSAG will review all completed Nomination Forms and will contact each interested IPF to discuss eligibility and to explain the project and expectations in more detail prior to selecting participants. After an IPF is ready to commit to serving as a test site, a Participation Agreement, initiated by HSAG, will be dually executed.

For specific questions regarding this project, please contact PQM@hsag.com.