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Featured Items

Celebrate National Nurses Week, May 6th – 12th – previously reported

All across the United States, registered nurses are being saluted. On May 6, 2009, the Colorado Foundation for Medical Care joins the American Nurses Association in celebrating National RN

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Recognition Day, as part of National Nurses Week, May 6-12. The purpose of National RN Recognition Day is to raise awareness of the value of nursing and help educate the public about the role nurses play in meeting the health care needs of the American people.

In honor of their dedication, commitment, and tireless effort, the ANA and CFMC are proud to recognize registered nurses everywhere on this particular day for the quality work they provide seven days a week, 365 days a year. Nearly 2.9 million registered nurses nationwide have dedicated themselves to promote and maintain the health of this nation.

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Information about H1N1 Influenza ("Swine Flu") Public Health Emergency

The current H1N1 influenza ("swine flu") situation is being addressed across a broad spectrum of public and private organizations and CFMC is providing the following resources and links to stay abreast of the most current information.

For the most current information about swine flu, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at: www.cdc.gov/swineflu. You will find consumer and provider fact sheets, current information, and steps you can take to protect yourself against infection.

At the CDC site you will also be able to download a widget that you can post to your own website to help your patients and constituents get the most current and accurate information. English and Spanish versions are available immediately. Please post both. To add the H1N1 influenza information widgets to your own websites, go to <http://www.hhs.gov/web/library/index.html#HHSWidgets>. You will notice that there are two choices of widgets for each language. Please select the size that works best for your site design. The size dimensions are embedded in the widget code. Do not change the color scheme of the widgets or their content.

FY 2010 IPPS Proposed Rule Now Available

The FY 2010 IPPS proposed rule changes are on display and open for public comment. The public comment period runs through June 30, 2009, for Federal Regulation CMS-1406-P, "Medicare Program: Proposed Changes to the Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment Systems for Acute Care Hospitals and Fiscal Year 2010 Rates, and to the Long-Term Care Hospital Prospective Payment System and Rate Year 2010 Rates." Included in the regulation are proposed changes to the Reporting Hospital Quality Data for Annual Payment Update (RHQDAPU) initiative.

The proposed rule was posted on May 1, 2009, and can be accessed from the FY2010 Proposed Rule (<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AcuteInpatientPPS/FY2010RULE/list.asp#TopOfPage>) section of the CMS Web site. Details regarding the RHQDAPU program begin on the 323rd page of the downloadable file CMS-1406-P (http://federalregister.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2009-10458_PI.pdf).

Comments on specific issues in the regulation may be electronically submitted at Regulations.gov (<http://www.regulations.gov>). Follow the instructions for "Comment or Submission" and use the file code CMS-1406-P to submit comments on this proposed rule.

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New Potential Duplicate Record Report

CMS is pleased to announce the release of the new report, Potential Duplicate Records. The Potential Duplicate Records report identifies potential duplicate records submitted to the QIO Clinical Warehouse. Multiple records submitted for the same patient stay are considered potential duplicates. Duplicate records can cause incorrect data to be reported for the RHQDAPU program, the HQA initiative, and will adversely affect the facilities outcome for data validation. As a result, it is critical that any duplicate records be deleted prior to the submission deadline. The report is available as a submission and feedback report.

For Hospitals, QIOs, and Healthcare Systems to access the Feedback version of the report, the role "QIO Clinical Warehouse Feedback Reports" is required. The report is located in the QIO Clinical Warehouse Feedback Reports category. Data will be provided in PDF format only. For submitters of data to access the Submission version of the report, the role "QIO Clinical Warehouse Data Upload" is required. The report is located in the QIO Clinical Warehouse Submission Reports category. Data will be provided in CSV format only.

For the Premier vendor to access the report, the role "Premier Reports" is required. The report is located in the Premier Reports category. Data will be provided in CSV format only.

The QualityNet Reports User's Guide has been updated. The QualityNet Reports User's Guide provides information on accessing and generating QualityNet reports, report details, and requesting and approving report access requests. Page changes include:

- Table of Contents – All pages
- Chapter 1 – pages 1, 7 to 10
- Chapter 2 – pages 1, 20, 37-50
- Chapter 3 – pages 1, 4 and 5
- Chapter 4 – pages 1, 8 to 10

The QualityNet Users Guide has been updated. The QualityNet User's Guide provides information on managing security, exchanging files, submitting data, managing measures and authorizing vendors. Page changes include:

- Table of Contents – All pages
- Chapter 1 – pages 1, 14 to 17
- Chapters 3, 4, 5 – All pages
- Appendix – All pages

QualityNet user guides are located on the 'Sign In to My QualityNet' page and on the secure pages of QualityNet under the Help link.

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HCAHPS 3.1 Enhancements – previously reported

CMS is pleased to announce the release of the HCAHPS 3.1 Warehouse and Online Data Entry Tool for use with April 2009 discharges and forward. Updates to the XML File Specifications are located on the Technical Specifications page of www.hcahpsonline.org, as well as in the HCAHPS Quality Assurance Guidelines, V4.0. A complete listing and description of HCAHPS enhancements made to both the XML file format and the Online Data Entry Tool is included in the [QualityNet 04-23-2009 HCAHPS Release Notes](#) document attached to this communication.

Related Updates

- The HCAHPS Data Upload and HCAHPS Online Data Entry Tool instructions are included in Chapter 4, “Submit Data,” of the QualityNet User’s Guide, which is available on the secure pages of QualityNet.
- A recorded WebEx training, HCAHPS Online Data Entry, is now available and is posted under QualityNet Training on the www.qualitynet.org website. (www.qualitynet.org / Training *Right hand side of the page* /QualityNet Training / HCAHPS Online Data Entry)
- A Known Issues document including detailed information regarding the known issues in the HCAHPS 3.1 release is now available and is posted on www.qualitynet.org. (Hospitals - Inpatient/Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS)/Known Issues)

Questions regarding HCAHPS should be directed to the Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. at 1.888.884.4007.

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QualityNet Registration Reminder – previously reported

All users requesting access to My QualityNet must be individually approved and verified. This mandatory registration process is used to maintain the confidentiality and security of healthcare information and data transmitted via My QualityNet. Please check to be sure your hospital has **two** up-to-date Security Administrators.

The two classifications of QNET users are Security Administrators and Basic Users. Security Administrator and the QualityNet Security Administrator facilitate the registration process for other users at the organization. See the Security Administrator Responsibility List on QNet for a more complete list of duties.

<http://www.qualitynet.org/dcs/ContentServer?c=Page&pagename=QnetPublic%2FPage%2FQnetBasic&cid=1138115993910>

CMS strongly suggests that an organization designates two Security Administrators: one to serve as the primary Security Administrator, and the other to serve as the backup. Hospitals submitting data via My QualityNet (or using a vendor to submit data on their behalf) are required to designate a Security

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Administrator. All other registered QualityNet users in an organization are considered basic users. Depending on how they are set up, the basic user may not have the roles which allow them to submit data, etc. Please submit questions to Sue Bethel at sbethel@coqio.sdps.org.

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CMS Template For Collecting Information on Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcers in Critical Access Hospitals is Now Available – previously reported

The data for calculating the rate for hospital acquired pressure ulcers (PrU-H) will come from Medicare Part A Claims Data for most of the hospitals involved in this component. This will be based on the Hospital Acquired Condition /Present on Admission (HAC/POA) Indicator initiative. Only hospitals paid under the Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) are required to submit POA indicators with their claims. However, for purposes of working to reduce hospital pressure ulcer rates, QIOs were allowed to recruit CAHs. In order to have comparable data on hospital pressure ulcers for quality improvement purposes, if a QIO chose to recruit one or more CAHs, CMS requires these facilities either to voluntarily report POA indicators on their claims or submit the attached template with stage III and IV pressure ulcer diagnoses and corresponding POA indicators.

Please see the attached [instructions](#) for use of this [template](#) and submission deadlines. Questions regarding the use of this template may be directed to the Patient Safety Support Contractor at PSQIOSC@OKQIO.SDPS.org, Jade Perdue at Jade.Perdue@cms.hhs.gov or Rebecca Kliman at Rebecca.kliman@cms.hhs.gov.

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CMS National Provider Conference Call - ICD-10-CM/PCS Implementation and General Equivalence Mappings (Crosswalks) - previously reported

CMS will be hosting a National Provider Conference call on **May 19, 2009; 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. MT**. This conference call will include a discussion of the following topics:

- an overview of the ICD-10 final rule, which requires the implementation of ICD-10-CM/PCS on October 1, 2013;
- the differences between ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM/PCS codes;
- the use of the General Equivalence Mappings that have been created to assist in converting policies, edits, and trend data from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM/PCS; and
- the resources that are available to assist in planning for the transition from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM/PCS.

The materials that will be discussed during this conference call have been posted in the Downloads Section at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ICD10/07a_2009_CMS_Sponsored_Calls.asp and include:

- ICD-10-CM/PCS Implementation and General Equivalence Mappings (Crosswalks) Overview Presentation; and

- General Equivalence Mappings – ICD-9-CM To and From ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS Fact Sheet.

Registration:

In order to receive call-in information, you must register for the conference call. Please note that if you are planning to sit with a group, only one person needs to register to receive the call-in data. This registration is solely to reserve a phone line, NOT to allow participation. Registration will close at 1:00 p.m. EDT on May 18, 2009 or when available space has been filled. No exceptions will be made, so please be sure to register prior to this time. To register for the conference call:

- visit <http://www2.eventsvc.com/palmettogba/051909>;
- fill in all required data;
- verify that your time zone is displayed correctly in the drop down box; and
- select “Register.”

You will be taken to the “Thank You for Registering” page and an e-mail confirmation will be sent to you shortly thereafter. Note: Please print and save the registration page in the event that your server blocks confirmation e-mails. If you do not receive the confirmation e-mail, please check your spam/junk mail filter as the confirmation may have been directed there. For those who will be unable to attend, written and audio transcripts will be posted shortly after the conference call in the Downloads Section at:

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ICD10/07a_2009_CMS_Sponsored_Calls.asp.

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CMS QIO Clinical Warehouse Modifications Release – previously reported

CMS is pleased to announce the release of modifications to the QIO Clinical Warehouse in support of the CMS and The Joint Commission alignment for the April 1, 2009 and forward discharges. The attached [release notes](#) document provides a summary of the modifications that have been incorporated in the QIO Clinical Warehouse for April 1, 2009 and forward discharges. Please notify Sue Bethel at sbethel@coqio.sdps.org if you have any questions.

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Release of Abstraction Resources for Data Collection of Specifications Manual for National Inpatient Hospital Quality Measures, Version 2.6b – previously reported

Topic-specific documents have been created to support The Specifications Manual for National Inpatient Hospital Quality Measures and CMS Abstraction & Reporting Tool (CART) for April 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009 discharges.

The documents are available on the QualityNet.org <http://www.qualitynet.org/> select Data Collection & CART under the Hospital Inpatient tab, and then select Abstraction Resources in the left sidebar of the screen: Universal Abstraction Paper Tools. **Note:** To accommodate multiple vendor tools, the data

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elements are arranged in alphabetical, rather than tool specific order. They are provided in Word format to allow providers to modify to meet their individual needs.

CART Abstraction Paper Tools

The data elements are arranged in CART tool order. For a comprehensive list of the changes, please refer to the Release Notes for the Specifications Manual for National Inpatient Hospital Quality Measures for Discharge of April 1, 2009. Please notify Sue Bethel at sbethel@coqio.sdps.org if you have any questions.

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HCAHPS April 2009 and Forward Discharges – previously reported

The data warehouse and Online Data Entry Tool for HCAHPS Version 3.1 will not be available until the end of April 2009. Hospitals/survey vendors should hold any data submission files for April 2009 and forward discharges until they are notified of the release of Version 3.1. Hospitals that are using the HCAHPS Online Data Entry tool must not enter data for April 2009 and forward discharges until after the release of Version 3.1 has been announced.

The release of Version 3.1 does **not** affect the submission of survey data for discharge dates from January 2009 through March 2009. Survey data for first quarter 2009 (January - March) must be submitted to the HCAHPS data warehouse using the HCAHPS XML file specification version 3.0 until 12 Midnight, July 8, 2009, which is the data submission deadline for this quarter. **Survey Data from April 2009 and forward only must be held until after the release of Version 3.1.** For specific questions that individual hospitals have about HCAHPS or for technical assistance, please contact the Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) at hcahps@azqio.sdps.org or call (888) 884-4007.

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HQA and RHQDAPU June 2009 Public Reporting Preview Information – previously reported

Preview data for the Hospital Quality Alliance (HQA) and Reporting Hospital Quality Data for Annual Payment Update (RHQDAPU) initiatives are available for participating hospitals on My QualityNet. The preview period is from April 10, 2009 through May 9, 2009. Preview Reports may be accessed through the HQA Preview Reports link located in the Reports section of My QualityNet. For detailed instructions on how to retrieve your HQA Preview Report, please refer to the QualityNet Report User's Guide (available from the Help link on My QualityNet). A "Need Help" link on the HQA Preview Report description screen on My QualityNet will direct the user to a Help document with general information regarding this public reporting period. The [Help document](#) is attached to this newsletter. **Note:** AMI-6, Beta-Blocker at Arrival, is no longer reported on Hospital Compare effective January 15, 2009. However, AMI-6 must be submitted to the QIO Clinical Data Warehouse to meet RHQDAPU requirements for discharges through First Quarter 2009.

Important Pledge Information

Public reporting of measures is in accordance with a hospital's pledge status. For example, in order for PN-5c results to display on the Preview Report, hospitals must have an active HQA pledge. If a hospital has a RHQDAPU pledge but no HQA pledge, "N/A(5)" will display on the Preview Report for PN-5c. Without an active HQA pledge, PN-5c results will not be reported on Hospital Compare.

Important Suppression Information

To withhold publication of data, a hospital must contact Sue Bethel at sbethel@coqio.sdps.org with the request to withhold data and transmit a completed 'HQA Request for Withholding Data From Public Reporting' form to Sue Bethel so that it is received no later than May 9, 2009 QIO close of business. Any change in pledge status entered after the deadline will not be included in the June 2009 Hospital Compare release. Hospitals that have modified HQA Pledge status or measure suppression will be able to view those changes on their Preview Report after an overnight process has been completed (unless the changes are completed on the last day of the Preview Period).

Note: Beginning with the March 2009 public reporting release, HCAHPS results from all Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) hospitals participating in the RHQDAPU program will be published on the Hospital Compare website. All hospitals will continue to receive a Preview Report prior to public reporting and non-IPPS hospitals will continue to have the option of withholding their HCAHPS results from public reporting. If a hospital elects to withhold HCAHPS data, all of its HCAHPS results will be withheld for this public reporting period. (Hospitals may not choose to suppress some HCAHPS results and publicly report others.) If a hospital withholds its HCAHPS results, a footnote will be displayed on Hospital Compare indicating, "Survey results are not available for this reporting period"; however, state and national rates will still display.

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Quality Net Password Rules – previously reported

Passwords are required to access the secure QualityNet network and/or the major application systems running on that network. Please take time to review the following Password Rules found on QualityNet. Lack of compliance to these rules could cause loss of QualityNet privileges which could be a huge inconvenience and risk for the hospital not getting data into CMS for their required deadlines.

You are also required to change your password every 60 days. Passwords are case-sensitive and must contain: 8 to 16 alphanumeric characters at least one number at least one uppercase character at least one of the following special characters: % # * + - , : = ? _ Passwords cannot start with a number contain more than 3 repetitive characters, contain your User ID, contain your e-mail address, and contain your first or last name.

A minimum of six unique passwords must be used before a previous password can be used. Passwords must be kept secure at all times and should never be shared with others or posted in an easily accessible area. It is imperative that you sign out of the QualityNet website and close the Internet browser before leaving your workstation to prevent accidental disclosure of private data. Change Your Password. A link on the My Account page (accessible after signing in to My QualityNet) allows you to change your QualityNet password. **To change your password:** Enter your current password in the Old Password box. Enter your new password in the New Password box. Enter your new password

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again in the Confirm Password box. Click Submit. You will receive a message that the password change was successful and can click on the provided link to return to the My Tasks page.

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Get With The Guidelines

Get With The Guidelines (GWTG) hospital-based Quality Improvement Program focusing on Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) and Heart Failure (HF) has a program goal to improve the quality of cardiovascular care in Colorado. A grant supported by the State of Colorado has made it possible for a collaboration to be formed between the American Heart Association and the Colorado Foundation for Medical Care.

Upcoming Get With The Guidelines Regional WebEx Schedule

May 12, 2009

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. MT

“Hospital Provisions in the 2009 Stimulus Bill”

Richard Delaney, JD, MPH, Colorado Foundation for Medical Care, Englewood, CO

June 9, 2009

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. MT

“Overview of the ACC/AHA Heart Failure Guideline Update to be Released in March”

Mori Krantz, MD, Denver Health Medical Center and Colorado Prevention Center

Note: all GWTG calls are from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

Please follow these instructions to join the event:

- 1) Click on or go to <https://ifmcevents.webex.com>
- 2) Locate your event
- 3) Click on the Join Now link to the right of the event or click on the name of the event
- 4) Enter your name and email address
- 5) Enter the Event Password: GWTG
- 6) Click on Join
- 7) Call in to the teleconference number for the audio portion.

If you have questions about GWTG calls, please contact Marcy Cameron, mcameron@coqio.sdps.org, or at 303.695.3300, x3040.

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5M Lives Campaign Information

Final Progress Reports – Due July 1st to The Colorado Trust

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This serves as a reminder that your final progress reports will be due on July 1st. Details about the progress report will be coming soon in a communication from The Colorado Trust. Watch your inbox for this communication! If you want to get a head start on completing this task, you can begin updating your previous portfolio that was submitted in July 2008. If you have questions about this, feel free to contact Kelley Strachan at kstrachan@cfmc.org.

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Mark Your Calendars: June Webinar - Wednesday, June 3rd, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

Please mark your calendars. Although the Colorado 5 Million Lives Campaign is wrapping up, CFMC will continue to provide learning opportunities through webinars. We are still finalizing the topic for this session so stay tuned to the newsletter for details.

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“Measuring Hand Hygiene Adherence: Overcoming the Challenges” – monograph released by The Joint Commission

The Joint Commission is releasing “Measuring Hand Hygiene Adherence: Overcoming the Challenges,” to help health care organizations target their efforts in measuring hand hygiene performance. The monograph is designed to address “everything you ever wanted to know about hand hygiene measurement but were afraid to ask.” The aim of the monograph is to broaden understanding of the issues and provide practical solutions for strengthening measurement and improvement activities.

The monograph is the result of a two-year collaboration with major infection control leadership organizations in the United States and abroad. In addition to The Joint Commission, the participating organizations include:

- Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- The Institute for Healthcare Improvement
- The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases
- The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
- The World Health Organization

You may view a copy of the monograph at:

http://www.jointcommission.org/NR/rdonlyres/68B9CB2F-789F-49DB-9E3F-2FB387666BCC/0/hh_monograph.pdf

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WIHI – A New Free Audio Program from IHI on Cutting-Edge Health Care Improvement

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WIHI is an exciting new audio program from IHI. It's free, it's timely, and it's designed to help dedicated legions of healthcare improvers worldwide keep up with some of the freshest and most robust thinking and strategies for improving patient care. The quality improvement movement has reached a tipping point in terms of global reach, provider and payer consciousness, and bold new ideas for health care reform. The opportunity to influence and shape what fundamental change looks like has never been greater. We invite you to sharpen your thinking and add to the momentum for system redesign.

The issues may be complex, but the format of WIHI is simple. It's 60 minutes, every other week. There's a host, one or two carefully chosen guests, and you — with your questions and comments. All we ask is that you register for the program in advance. You can join the program live — via computer or telephone or both — or you can download an archived audio file for listening later. (See the Technology tab for more information.)

Your host is IHI's Madge Kaplan, who brings a wealth of experience to WIHI from her years reporting on health care for public radio. IHI's Director of Communications since 2004, and the regular "voice" of the 100,000 Lives and 5 Million Lives Campaign conference calls, Madge is known for her ability to create a shared space for lively and enriching discussions.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ihl.org/IHI/Programs/AudioAndWebPrograms/WIHI.htm>

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Hospital Projects Calendar

In an effort to keep everyone informed of conference calls, webexes, and meetings, we have created a [color-coded calendar](#) and attach it to the newsletter email. This calendar will be included in each week's newsletter with a revised date so you will know when it has been updated.

Contact Information

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