Recruiting New Practices: Regional Quality Improvement (QI) Hub Project

Why

The Regional QI Hub was created to establish a robust QI infrastructure that could be leveraged to rapidly spread clinical best practices to improve population health. Sponsored by the Ohio Department of Medicaid, in collaboration with academic leaders, healthcare professionals, and payers, the QI infrastructure is currently focused on addressing population-level health improvements in hypertension and diabetes.

What

QI Hubs have been established at six of Ohio's Colleges of Medicine to engage healthcare professionals in collaboratives focusing on the following specific topics:

- Improving HbA1c in patients with Type 2 diabetes: Case Western Reserve University, Northeast Ohio Medical University, and Ohio University.
- Improving blood pressure control for patients with hypertension: University of Cincinnati, The Ohio State University, and University of Toledo.

How

Healthcare professionals participating in Hub collaboratives will implement a QI project and apply clinical best-practice toolkits within their patient populations. Participating practices will:

- Establish a core QI team to attend regular action-period calls and share best practices.
- Participate in system-level QI coaching opportunities.
- Use Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycles to test and refine interventions.
- Submit required electronic health record (EHR) data and use Hub-generated reports to guide improvements.

Benefits to Federally Qualified Health Centers

Participation in a QI Hub provides the following benefits:

- Improved patient health outcomes.
- Financial gains from improved quality performance metrics.
- Support in adopting and spreading evidence-based clinical practices.
- Technical assistance to effectively use EHR data for improvement efforts.
- Training and engagement opportunities for frontline clinical staff.
- Strengthened partnerships with regional organizations, state agencies, and health plans.

As an added benefit to participation, Ohio Academy of Family Physicians members that participate in the QI Hub project will be eligible to submit an attestation form for their work in order to earn 20 American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM) Family Medicine Certification points, fulfilling a certification requirement, and receive 20 American Academy of Family Physicians Performance Improvement Continuing Medical Education prescribed (PI CME) credits.

Additionally, eligible participants may receive a monetary stipend to support data reporting and implementation of best practices.

Interested in Learning More?

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Join the initiative and make an impact on your patients now!