



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

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### Events

#### March:

National Nutrition  
Month

National Colorectal  
Cancer Awareness  
Month

March 25  
American Diabetes  
Alert Day

#### April:

Save the Date:  
April 24

IQH Learning &  
Action Network  
Meeting, *Working  
Together to Improve  
Patient Outcomes*,  
focusing on all  
projects, all-day  
meeting, Table 100  
Restaurant, Flowood

#### June:

June 12  
10-11 a.m.

IQH Care Transitions  
Learning & Action  
Network Webinar on  
Palliative Care and  
End of Life/Hospice  
Issues

### IQH Sets April Meeting Focusing on Improving Patient Outcomes

"Working Together to Improve Patient Outcomes" is the theme of a Thursday, April 24, meeting that will target a variety of healthcare settings and share transformational strategies that lead to successful quality improvement efforts. The IQH meeting begins with registration at 8:45 a.m. at Table 100 in Flowood. Presentations will include:

- \* "Lost in Transition: Strategies to Meet the Challenges of Moving Patients Safely" by Ashley W. Harris, MD, MSHA;
- \* "The Neuropsychology and Behavioral Management of Dementing Illness" by B. Heath Gordon, PhD; and
- \* "An Optimist's Guide to Better Living Through Antimicrobial Stewardship" by Jason J. Parham, MD, MPH;
- \* "Clinical Office Training for the Tobacco Dependent Patient" by Pamela Luckett, MCC, LPAC, CTT.

Implementation of successful quality improvement interventions will be featured, with questions and discussion closing the day's program. For more information, contact Sarah Miller, 601-957-1575 ext. 249. To register for the program, visit:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e8rc6v9m038f4fa7&llr=uepmd9iab&showPage=true>

### Prevention Action through Immunization: Schedule and Standards Published

The 2014 Adult Immunization Schedule and New Standards for Adult Immunization Practice for ages 19 and older was recently published.

- [Click Here](#) for the recommended adult immunization schedule, by vaccine and age group
- [Click Here](#) for information on vaccines that might be

indicated for adults based on medical and other indications

- [Click Here](#) for contraindications and precautions to commonly used vaccines in adults

### Webinars Offered

- The CMS value-based modifier program will be discussed in a webinar Tuesday, March 18, from 11 a.m. to noon CT. Starting in 2015, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will begin applying a value modifier under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS), as mandated by the Affordable Care Act, with all eligible professionals (EPs) phased in by 2017. Patrick Hamilton, CMS Region III health insurance specialist, will offer participants reasons for the VM program, mechanisms for reporting, and the process for determining the VM payment. Registration is free and pre-registration is required. To register click on the button below or visit: <https://qualitynet.webex.com/qualitynet/onstage/g.php?t=a&d=635285818>. After registering, participants will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.
- A one-hour webinar on mitigating cardiovascular healthcare disparities, new guidelines for cholesterol treatment, Thursday, March 20, at 1 p.m. will feature Dr. Patrice Desvigne-Nickens of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She has managed numerous trials including acute coronary syndromes, heart failure, and diabetes, with a particular interest in disparities in medicine and cardiovascular health. For more information, contact Ramona Drake, 601-957-1575 ext. 231. ([Register Here](#))
- The IQH Healthcare-Associated Infection webinar series schedule for March through June has been announced. The webinars are from 1 to 3 p.m. on March 17, April 10, April 22, May 6, May 20, June 3, and June 17. Various topics focusing on preventing and controlling transmission of infectious agents will be covered. Contact Vickie Taylor at 601-957-1575 ext. 245 for further details.
- Focusing on Colorectal Cancer Preventive Screenings, National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month encourages Americans to get preventive screenings and educates them about the importance of early detection of colon cancer. An awareness webinar about the disease is set for Thursday, March 27, from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The American Cancer Society will present ways to encourage preventive efforts. ([Register Here](#))

## "WAVE" Focuses on Patient Safety

The 'Do the WAVE Mississippi' contest is offering recognition of efforts committed to the challenge of reducing infections. "Wash Hands," "Ask Questions," "Vaccinate," and "Ensure Safety" represent key ways to stop infections, with contest entries to emphasize these directions. The contest accepts entries in any favored format, from PowerPoint presentations to posters that share WAVE implementation efforts. The April 24 IQH Learning & Action Network meeting "Working Together to Improve Patient Outcomes" will showcase winners. Call 601-957-1575 ext. 245 for more information.

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