



September 2014  
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## Events

### September:

Central MS Walk to End Alzheimer's is set for Saturday, September 13, at the Mississippi Museum of Art, 380 South Lamar Street, Jackson. Registration starts at 9 a.m., with the three-mile walk beginning at 10 a.m.

September 19: Paint It Purple campaign.

September Regional Programs: "Dementia Beyond Drugs" featuring a focus on changing the culture of care, a new approach to caring for people with dementia.

September 15-16,  
Hattiesburg

September 18-19,  
Grenada

## Recruitment Begins for Seven Quality Improvement Tasks

IQH project leaders have begun recruitment throughout the state, enlisting participation in seven quality improvement tasks that represent the commitment of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to driving rapid, large-scale change for Medicare patients. The CMS commitment includes contributing to better patient care, better population health and lower costs through improvement. The five-year statement of work that began Aug. 1 builds on the experience gained in the 10th statement of work and other previous contracts.

### Tasks include:

Cardiac Health and Reducing Cardiac Healthcare Disparities; Disparities in Diabetes Care; Prevention Coordination through Meaningful Use of HIT; Healthcare-Associated Infections in Hospitals; Healthcare-Acquired Conditions in Nursing Homes; Coordination of Care for Patients; and Value-Based Payment Program, Quality Reporting and Physician Feedback Program.

Tasks are goal-oriented toward making care safer and promoting effective communication and coordination of care. Goals also emphasize promoting effective prevention and treatment and best practices for healthy living.

IQH is a subcontractor in atom Alliance, which serves as a Quality Improvement Network-Quality Improvement Organization in CMS's restructured QIO program.

## Case Review Program Changes in QIO Restructuring

Beneficiary Helpline: 1-844-430-9504

Provider Helpline: 1-800-385-5080

The CMS restructuring of the QIO program includes a separate group of QIOs handling the case review program. The Beneficiary and Family Centered Care Quality Improvement Organizations (BFCC-QIO) are now managing beneficiary complaints, quality of care reviews, higher weighted DRGs, fast track appeals and EMTALA. The BFCC-QIO for

September 23-24,  
Jackson

[Click here for details](#)

September  
Observances include  
Healthy Aging  
Month; visit  
[www.healthyaging.net](http://www.healthyaging.net)

National Atrial  
Fibrillation  
Awareness Month;  
visit  
[www.stopafib.org](http://www.stopafib.org)

National Cholesterol  
Education Month

National Heart, Lung,  
and Blood Institute  
Health Information  
Center

Upcoming:  
National Healthcare  
Quality Week:  
October 19-25

Mississippi is KePRO, conducting all current and future beneficiary quality review case work and appeals in the state. The address is KEPRO, Rock Run Center, Suite 100, 5700 Lombardo Center Drive, Seven Hills, OH 44131. As of Aug. 1, the beneficiary helpline number is 1-844-430-9504, and the provider helpline, 1-800-385-5080.

### **IQH Invites Statewide Participation in MSQCC**

IQH is inviting nursing home participation in the Mississippi Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative (MSQCC) which is emphasizing the improvement of quality care for nursing home residents. A few of the areas of focus are quality assurance performance improvement (QAPI), improving mobility, and decreasing the off-label use of antipsychotic medications.

"The opportunity to stay informed, receive education and share best practices to improve quality is available in this project," said Mae McDaniel, RN, project leader. "Assistance is being offered for nursing homes in improving the best in quality care for our nursing home residents." To contact her for information, email [mmcdaniel@hcqis.org](mailto:mmcdaniel@hcqis.org) or call 1-800-844-0500 ext. 221.

### ***Paint It Purple*** Event Set for Sept. 19

A statewide campaign is planned for Sept. 19 to encourage a show of support for people with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers. Supporters are urged to wear purple and display purple ribbons and bows at their homes and businesses. Statistics show that some 51,000 Mississippians live with the disease, with a projected estimate for 2025 numbering more than 65,000 having the disease. Deaths have increased from Alzheimer's. About 80 percent of the care at home is provided by family caregivers. The Alzheimer's Chapter, the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, and the UMMC MIND Center are sponsoring the campaign. Two IQH staff members, Mae McDaniel and Brenda Townsend, are currently working with the local Alzheimer's Association chapter.

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