



# Pennsylvania Nursing Facility Quality Incentive Program

In 2021, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) announced a statewide Quality Incentive Program (QIP) for nursing facilities. The goal of this program is to impact clinical care by rewarding providers for quality scores relative to state and national benchmarks, as well as general improvement over time. Beginning in late 2023, Pennsylvania will start offering a Medicaid reimbursement incentive to nursing home providers who are demonstrating quality improvements.

DHS identified six National Quality Forum (NQF) metrics using the Minimum Data Set (MDS) as the focus for this program. The metrics compare state averages against national averages. These six measures include:

1. Percentage of short stay residents who were re hospitalized after a NF admission
2. Percentage of high risk long stay residents with pressure ulcers
3. Percentage of long stay residents experiencing one or more falls with major injury
4. Percentage of long stay residents assessed and appropriately given the seasonal influenza vaccine
5. Percentage of long stay residents assessed and appropriately given the pneumococcal vaccine
6. Percentage of long stay residents who received an antipsychotic medication

The dashboard includes two additional metrics identified by PHCA and the association's members that are also quality priorities for nursing home providers. These measures include:

1. Percentage of long-stay residents who have an increased need for help with daily activities
2. Percentage of long-stay residents who received an anti-anxiety or hypnotic medication

These eight measures are part of the 15 quality measures the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) began to identify in 2008 to associate data with the quality of care provided in nursing homes. Pennsylvania chose six measures as the best targets for a QIP.

The Pennsylvania Health Care Association (PHCA) remains supportive of the QIP – including additional quality metrics – and has prioritized these eight quality measures to serve as the center for education and quality initiatives performed by the association.