The Physicians Advocacy Institute’s
Medicare Quality Payment Program (QPP)
Physician Education Initiative

Landscape of Key QPP Resources and Organizations
Quality Payment Program
Network of Players

**TCPI | Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative**

**Purpose:** Under CMMI, this was a 4-year program that ended in 2019 designed to support practices in sharing, adapting, and further developing their comprehensive quality improvement strategies. Clinicians participating in TCPI will learn about MIPS and how to move toward participating in APMs. More info [here](#).

**PTNs | Physician Transformation Network**

**Purpose:** Peer-based learning networks designed to coach, mentor, and assist physicians in developing core competencies specific to practice transformation. Allows physician practices to become actively engaged in the transformation and ensures collaboration among a community of practices. There are about 30 organizations/practices currently in PTNs. More info [here](#).

**SANs | Support & Alignment Networks**

**Purpose:** Provide a system for workforce development utilizing national and regional professional associations and public-private partnerships that are currently working in practice transformation efforts. Will help ensure sustainability of these efforts. Especially support the recruitment of clinician practices serving small, rural, and medically underserved communities. Will play an active role in the alignment of new learning. SANs 2.0:
- Funding opportunity to leverage primary and specialist care transformation work and learning that will catalyze the adoption of APMs.
- Represent a significant enhancement to the TCPI network expertise and will help clinicians prepare for the QPP.
There are 10 organizations/practices currently in SANs. More info [here](#).

**QEs | Qualified Entities**

**Purpose:** Organizations that can receive Medicare Parts A, B, and D claims to produce and publicly disseminate CMS-approved reports on provider performance. They are also permitted to create non-public analyses and provide or sell such analysis to authorized users. More info [here](#).

**CMS QPP Website and Service Center**

The CMS QPP website offers education and tools to help you learn about the QPP. Visit [qpp.cms.gov](http://qpp.cms.gov) | Email: [qpp@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:qpp@cms.hhs.gov) | Call: 1-866-288-8292 | Subscribe to QPP updates: visit [qpp.cms.gov](http://qpp.cms.gov) and select “Subscribe to Updates” in the footer.
Quality Innovation Networks & Quality Improvement Organizations

Federally-funded organizations that create opportunities for physicians and other health care professionals to learn from each other, apply advanced improvement and analytical methods, engage patients and families, and structure processes for sustaining positive change. Principles align with CMS Quality Strategy (eliminating disparities, strengthening infrastructure and data systems, enabling local innovation, fostering learning organizations). There a total of 14 QIN-QIOs that serve regions of 2 to 6 states each. They provide education and technical assistance for the QPP.


In Connecticut, the QIN-QIO is a collaboration between Healthcentric and Qualidigm.
Small, Underserved and Rural Support

Small practices with 15 or fewer clinicians including those in rural locations, health professional shortage areas (HPSAs), and medically underserved areas (MUAs) are a crucial part of the health care system. 11 local, experienced organizations provide hands-on QPP training and support to MIPS eligible clinicians and small practices in these settings participate in the QPP.

Coverage by Organization

- Healthcentric Advisors
- IPRO
- Quality Insights (WVMI)
- Alliant GMCF
- QSource
- Altarum
- TMF
- HSAG
- Telligen
- NRHI
- Qualis

Physician Transformation Network

Peer-based learning networks designed to coach, mentor, and assist physicians in developing core competencies specific to practice transformation. Allows physician practices to become actively engaged in the transformation and ensures collaboration among a community of practices. Some PTNs may extend coverage to states and regions outside of their state of origin.

Source: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Arizona Health-e Connection
Baptist Health System
VHA/UHC Alliance Newco, Inc
Children’s Hospital of Orange County
Pacific Business Group on Health
Local Initiative Health Authority of Los Angeles County
Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing
Community Care of North Carolina, Inc
Community Health Center Association of Connecticut
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Consortium for Southeastern Hypertension Control
Health Partners Delmarva
Iowa Healthcare Collaborative
Maine Quality Counts
Mayo Clinic
National Council for Behavioral Health
National Rural Accountable Care Consortium
New Jersey Innovation Institute
New Jersey Medical & Health Associates dba CarePoint Health
New York eHealth Collaborative
New York University School of Medicine
PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medi Center
Rhode Island Quality Institute
The Trustees of Indiana University
University of Washington
Washington State Dept. of Health
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
VHA-UHC Alliance (Vizient)
VHQC
Qualified Entities Network

Organizations that can receive Medicare Parts A, B, and D claims to produce and publicly disseminate CMS-approved reports on provider performance. They are also permitted to create non-public analyses and provide or sell such analysis to authorized users.

Support and Alignment Networks

Provide a system for workforce development utilizing national and regional professional association and public-private partnerships that are currently working in practice transformation efforts. Will help ensure sustainability of these efforts. Especially support the recruitment of clinician practices serving small, rural, and medically underserved communities. SANs will play an active role in the alignment of new learning.

Source: https://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Transforming-Clinical-Practices/
QPP Measure Stewards

A measure steward is an individual or organization that owns a measure and is responsible for maintaining and serving as the point of contact for the measures.

| Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality | American Society of Breast Surgeons |
| American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology | American Society of Clinical Oncology |
| American Academy of Dermatology | American Society for Radiation Oncology |
| American Academy of Neurology | American Thoracic Society |
| American Academy of Ophthalmology | American Urogynecologic Society |
| American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons | Audiology Quality Consortium |
| American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery | Center for Quality Assessment and Improvement in Mental Health |
| American Academy of Sleep Medicine | Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services |
| American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons | College of American Pathologists |
| American College of Cardiology | Focus on Therapeutic Outcomes, Inc. |
| American College of Cardiology Foundation | Health Resources and Services Administration |
| American College of Emergency Physicians | Infectious Diseases Society of America |
| American College of Gastroenterology | Minnesota Community Measurement |
| American College of Radiology | National Committee for Quality Assurance |
| American College of Rheumatology | National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization |
| American College of Surgeons | Renal Physicians Association |
| American Gastroenterological Association | Society of Interventional Radiology |
| American Heart Association | Society of Thoracic Surgeons |
| American Medical Association - Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement | Society for Vascular Surgeons |
| American Podiatric Medical Association | The Heart Rhythm Society |
| American Psychiatric Association | Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality |
| American Psychological Association | American Society of Plastic Surgeons |
| American Society of Anesthesiologists | Oregon Health and Science University (OPIP) |
| | Oregon Urology Institute |

All quality measures used in MIPS under the QPP have a measure steward. To obtain this information, refer to the measure specifications on the CMS website that corresponds with your selected measure and reporting mechanism. For questions about a particular MIPS quality measure, contact the QPP Service Center by phone at (866) 288-8292 or by email at QPP@cms.hhs.gov, or contact the measure steward. For questions about non-MIPS quality measures used by QCDRs for the MIPS program, contact the QCDR vendor.

Source: [http://www.qualityforum.org/Home.aspx](http://www.qualityforum.org/Home.aspx)
MACRA & QPP Resource Centers

**PAI State Medical Societies & Associations**

- Texas Medical Association
- North Carolina Medical Society
- Nebraska Medical Association
- Tennessee Medical Association
- South Carolina Medical Association
- California Medical Association
- Connecticut State Medical Society
- Medical Society of the State of New York
- Medical Association of Georgia

**National Specialty Societies**

- Medical Society of the State of New York
- AMDA-The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine
- American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
- American Academy of Dermatology
- American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
- American Academy of Family Physicians
- American Academy of Neurology
- American Academy of Ophthalmology
- American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons
- American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
- American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists
- American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons
- American Association of Neurological Surgeons
- American College of Cardiology
- American College of Gastroenterology
- American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians
- American College of Physicians
- American College of Radiology
- American College of Rheumatology
- American College of Surgeons
- American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- American Gastroenterological Association
- American Geriatrics Society
- American Osteopathic Association
- American Psychiatric Association
- American Society for Anesthesiologists
- American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
- American Society of Clinical Oncology
- American Society of Echocardiography
- American Society of Nuclear Cardiology
- American Urogynecological Society
- International Society for the Advancement of Spine Surgery
- Infectious Diseases Society of America
- Society of Hospital Medicine

**National Medical Associations**

- American Medical Association
- Medical Group Management Association
- American Osteopathic Association

Multiple societies and associations offer resource centers to help their members learn about MACRA and the QPP. Visit your state association, national specialty society, and/or national association online for more information.