

Generic Sources of Information for All Measures (Updated - June 11, 2004)

Web sites identified and used in the targeted quality improvement series are described below. This listing is updated as new web sites are included in the series.

Medicare Quality Improvement Community – MedQIC. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has developed a comprehensive web-based resource of quality improvement information for the national quality improvement priority topics, including the hospital quality measurements. Hospital topics include AMI, Heart Failure, Pneumonia, and Surgical Infection Prevention. Each topic is organized into the following areas: Project Description, Process-of-Care Steps, Intervention Tools, Literature, Project Support, Links, FAQs, and Contacts. To access MedQIC home page, go to www.medqic.org/.

The information provided will be useful to the novice and experienced, clinical and quality department staff, nurse, physician, and managers/administrators. Several areas are particularly valuable and are described in more detail below.

- **Process-of-Care Steps** addresses general descriptions of how care is delivered and important therapies known to be beneficial to improve patient outcome. Care steps are linked to specific Core Measurements. Each process step includes common “barriers” to improvement and related change concepts.
- **Intervention Tools** provides a variety of projects aimed at improving care delivery process, structures or behaviors. Examples of tools include care paths, standing orders, and reminder stickers.
- **Project Support** includes materials that you can use in your hospital improvement activities. These include training and quality improvement materials, and documents and power point presentations on relevant subjects like intervention strategies, outcomes research, and use of guidelines.
- **FAQs** lists previously asked and answered questions to the Quality Improvement Organizations (QIO). Searches can be limited to specific topics such as AMI. This search will return identical responses as the QualityNet Exchange web site. Ask a question can be launched from the searched query response screen. To execute a search, go to:

<http://www.qnetquest.org/quest/index.do?mode=96&image=http://www.medqic.org/assets/medqic-images/medqicquestbanner.jpg>

American Health Quality Association (AHQA) represents QIOs and professionals working to improve the quality of health care. Contained in this web site are the experiences of more than 50 institutions that made a commitment to providing care that meets the guidelines and standards shown by scientific studies to produce best results. The experiences are described and may list contact names, email addresses or phone

numbers for additional information. To access this site, go to http://www.ahqa.org/pub/media/159_766_4627.CFM

American College of Cardiology (ACC) supports quality cardiovascular care through education and information of application of standards and guidelines. To access this site, go to: <http://www.acc.org/>

American Heart Association (AHA) provides a link to the Get With The GuidelinesSM (GWTG) a quality improvement program of the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association. This web site supports quality improvement efforts and provides updated information on treatment guidelines. To access the AHA home page, go to: www.aha.org/. To access coronary artery disease (GWTG-CAD), go to: <http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=3013897>.

Medscape from WebMD. Medscape from WebMD provides healthcare clinicians and professionals broad medical clinical information needed to improve the practice of medicine. Registration required for 1st time users and is free. Go to: www.medscape.com