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IHA Pay for Performance Newsletter

December 2009

Final MY 2009 P4P Manual

The final Measurement Year (MY) 2009 P4P Manual is available on the IHA website at the following link: [Final MY 2009 P4P Manual](#). Although measure specifications are frozen with this November 17th release, there are some instances in which updates are identified. P4P follows NCQA in issuing updates as Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ). We strongly recommend that you adhere to changes outlined in the FAQs. Adhering to these changes will ensure that the MY 2009 P4P measures are run successfully. FAQs are posted on the IHA website at the following link: [MY 2009 P4P FAQ's](#).

The draft MY 2010 manual will be available on the IHA website by December 31, 2009.

National Guidelines Update

The P4P Technical Quality Committee recently met and discussed United States Preventive Services Task Force's (USPSTF) updated recommendations on breast cancer screening and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' (ACOG) recommendations on cervical cancer screening.

For MY 2009, there will be no changes to either the P4P Breast Cancer Screening measure or the Evidence-Based Cervical Cancer Screening measure.

However, USPSTF recommendations may have an impact on the P4P Breast Cancer Screening measure for MY 2010. The current P4P measure recommends routine screening of women 40-69 years of age and USPSTF now recommends against routine screening of women 40 - 49 years of age. The P4P measure is based on a HEDIS measure, and NCQA will be reviewing the measure in early January and finalizing any modifications in May 2010. P4P will closely follow NCQA's process and provide updates on potential changes to the measure. P4P generally adopts NCQA specification changes for HEDIS measures, and will make a final decision on this in early May.

There will be no changes to the Evidence-Based Cervical Cancer Screening measure. ACOG's new guidelines come closer to the current P4P measure and existing USPSTF recommendations, especially in terms of screening frequency for women up to age 30. In acknowledgment of remaining differences, Rate 3, "screened too frequently," will be collected in two age bands - women ≤30 years of age and women >30 years of

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age. Age bands will not be used for public reporting and payment.

Efficiency Update

Two reports will be distributed to participating health plans and physician organizations (PO) before the end of the year.

1. MY 2008 Appropriate Resource Use results. This includes plan-specific and aggregated results, as well as statewide benchmarks. Specifications for the Appropriate Resource Use measures are available on the IHA website at: [Final MY 2009 P4P Manual](#).
2. MY 2008 Data Quality and Completeness reports. These comprehensive reports are intended to reveal data gaps and issues at the health plan level, the PO level, and health plan-PO level.

Data Sharing Update

If you haven't already completed the online PO Registry Data Sharing Survey distributed in early December, please do so at your earliest convenience.

A draft standard file format for sharing registry data has been posted on the IHA website at the following link: [Standard Format for Registry Data Sharing DRAFT November 2009](#).

We welcome feedback on this file format from health plans and POs via the online survey and/or via e-mail. For questions about this, please contact Jas Nihalani at jnihalani@iha.org.

P4P Timeline Highlights

- **January 15, 2010** - Data Submission File Layout is posted to IHA website
- **February 19, 2010** - Q1-Q4 2009 encounter data due to DDD. POs using other intermediaries or submitting directly to health plans should confirm final due date for data to be included in P4P reporting
- **February 2 - March 3, 2010** - IT-Enabled Systemness and Coordinated Diabetes Care Registry online survey tools will be open

The full MY 2009 timeline is available at the following link: [MY 2009 P4P Timeline](#).

* Announcements *

Audio Broadcast

An audio broadcast on the Highlights of P4P Measure Set Changes and Program Updates will be held in early February. Additional information will be sent out shortly.

Public Comment

Responses to the 2009 public comments received are available on the IHA website at the following link: [2009 Public Comment Responses](#).

Public Comments related to the quality measures were vetted by the P4P Technical Quality Committee.

San Francisco Healthcare Stimulus Exchange Conference:
January 19-20, 2010

The San Francisco Healthcare Stimulus Exchange Conference will explore the opportunities provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). CMS, HIT Policy Groups, Ambulatory Groups, IPAs, RHIO/HIE and Regional Extension Centers (RECs) will discuss how to overcome the barriers to EMR Adoption and Healthcare Information Exchange.

As part of this conference, IHA Executive Director Tom Williams will join with Leigh Hutchins, President & COO of NAMMCAL and Ernie Hood, CIO of Group Health Collaborative (WA), to discuss stakeholder engagement and EMR Adoption in the ambulatory space.

IHA has negotiated a 30% discount for our P4P members and associates. You can download the complete [Attendee Brochure](#) or to obtain the 30% discount please [Register Here](#) using discount code IHA.

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