

Quality Leads

Progress Notes from the CMO
Dr. Georgean deBlois



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VQCP Signs Contract with Cigna Healthcare

VQCP has signed a two-year agreement with Cigna which includes over 40,000 covered lives made up of employees and their dependents who work for companies with self-funded insurance plans in Central Virginia. VQCP will be working with Cigna to improve patient access to healthcare, enhance care coordination and improve health, affordability and patient experience for our covered lives.

In addition to this newest contract which begins October 1, VQCP has contracts with Coventry, Optima and Richmond's largest employer, HCA who has also provided financial, staffing and other support since the organization was formed. The Cigna agreement brings the total number of covered lives under contract to 90,000.

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PQRS #110 Flu - Time to Screen and Prevent!

Starting October 1 and continuing through March 31, all patients 6 months and older

should either receive, have received, or have an order for influenza immunization.

The following specialties are responsible for reporting on flu immunizations in 2014: Allergy and Immunology, Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Infectious Disease, Pediatrics, Perinatology and Urgent Care

But even if you don't have to report on PQRS #110 Flu, encourage your patients to have the immunization. We'll help our patients miss fewer days of work caring for themselves or loved ones, reduce complications due to their illness, and keep them out of the hospital. VQCP can further position itself as a high-performing network that delivers high-quality care....care that can keep patients healthy, as well as save employers and payers money.

Why is flu vaccination so important?

"Flu cost businesses approximately \$10.4 billion in direct costs for hospitalizations and outpatient visits for adults."*

-- *Molinari NA, Ortega-Sanchez IR, Messonnier ML, et al.
"The annual impact of seasonal influenza in the US:
measuring disease burden and costs."
Vaccine June 28 2007; 25(27):5086-96

"Flu increases all-cause mortality, not just mortality from influenza and pneumonia."

-- Monto, Arnold S. "Individual and Community Impact of Influenza."
PharmacoEconomics November 1999; 16 Suppl 1:1-6

Where can patients go for vaccine?

If you don't administer the vaccine in your office, patients can go to the HealthMap Vaccine Finder at the link below and enter their zip code to find local pharmacies and clinics that will:

<http://flushot.healthmap.org>

Additional Resources for clinicians and patients:

CDC Link: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/flu-season-2014-2015.htm>
<http://www.flu.gov>

VDH link: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/flu/Vaccine.htm>

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Speakers confirmed for Annual Meeting*:

**Dr. Shawn Griffin, Chief Quality and Informatics Officer
MHMD, Memorial Hermann's CI Network in Houston, Texas**

**Craig Dolezal, Senior Vice President
Aon Hewitt, national benefits consulting company**

Please join Virginia Quality Care Partners' Board of Managers for the **2014 Annual Meeting**



Thursday, October 30, 2014
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The Country Club of Virginia
6031 St. Andrews Lane
Richmond, Virginia 23226

Complimentary Valet Parking

* for VQCP physicians and active mid-level providers

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2015 Quality Program

We heard you! Based on practitioner feedback, we are trying to decrease the number of measures required for the 2015 Quality Program while still capturing sufficient information that will allow VQCP practitioners to drive improvement of care. "Cross-cutting measures," designed to have a positive impact on patient health across specialties, will be included. Flu immunization is one example. Proposed 2015 quality metrics were sent to Physician Champions and practice managers for their feedback.

We are always interested in your feedback! Please contact me for questions regarding the 2015 Quality Program or general VQCP questions by calling 804-887-2177 or email [Gigi deBlois](#).

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[Virginia Quality Care Partners](#)

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