

A Quality Assurance Plan

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QUALITY MEASURES

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NO FINANCIAL CONFLICT
OF INTEREST TO DISCLOSE

Why Have A Performance Improvement Plan (QAPI)?

- Accreditation Requirement
 - Joint Commission
 - DNV
 - UHMS
- Licensure Requirement
 - Medicare
 - Medicaid

Why Have A Performance Improvement Plan (QAPI)?

- Medicare links reimbursement to quality indicators
- Medicaid has started to link reimbursement to quality indicators
- To improve the safety and quality of
 - Care
 - Treatment
 - Services provided

The Best Way to Achieve Better Care

- Measure performance of processes that support care
- Use data to make improvements

SUCCESS STARTS AT THE TOP

Leadership Responsibilities

- Educate employees to create an awareness that quality is considered a priority.
- Set QAPI priorities, (or delegate managers to do so)
- Provide necessary resources
- Ensure the flow of information within the organization
 - Department staff
 - QAPI Hospital Committee
 - Hospital Board of Directors
- Make quality of care a standing agenda item

Well Designed QAPI Program

- Uses planned, systematic approach
- Focuses on top priority improvement projects
- Uses appropriate statistical methods to collect data and measure performance
- Detects areas for improvement
- Guides towards actions for improvement
- Re-measures & ensures sustained improvement
- Is ongoing and builds upon data over time

Key Components of the Plan

- Comprehensive policy and procedure
- Indicators
- Criteria for each indicator
- Threshold for criteria
- Method for data collection
- Frequency for data collection
- Method for communication of results
- Implementation of changes for improvement
- Method for sustained improvement

What is a Clinical Indicator?

A quantitative measure of an important process or outcome of care

Guides for Developing Indicators

- Required indicators by Medicare, Medicaid, JC, DNV, and UHMS
- New or updated standards by regulatory agencies
- JC NPSGs
- High risk, high volume, problem prone areas
- New or changed procedures in the department

QAPI Program Areas Required to be Addressed for Accreditation

- | | |
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| <p><u>UHMS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Clinical □ Administrative □ Cost-of-Care Issues □ Patient Outcomes | <p><u>Joint Commission</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Environment of Care □ Infection Prevention and Control □ Medication Management □ Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services |
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Required Areas of Evaluation

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| <p><u>UHMS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Unexpected results or complications of hyperbaric treatment □ Clinical performance & practice patterns of providers □ Quality of care & completeness of entries in medical records □ Other professional services provided □ Patient satisfaction results □ Staff concerns □ Accessibility of services provided □ Medical/Legal issues □ Wasteful practices □ Utilization review □ Patient grievances | <p><u>Joint Commission</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Adverse & Sentinel Events □ Significant medication errors □ Significant adverse drug reactions □ Patient perception of safety and quality of care, treatment and services □ Additional areas for other parts of the hospital such as O.R. sentinel events, etc. |
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Examples of Indicators

- Appropriate utilization of HBO therapy
- Adverse events
- Complaints/Misconduct
- Effective communication among caregivers
- Medications are accurately and completely reconciled for each patient across the continuum of care

Determining Criteria for Indicators

- What tells you if indicator is met or not?
- Ask yourself, “how do I know this wasn’t done as it should have been”?
- Is there a new process or procedure being implemented?
- Are there new regulations related to indicator?
- What inconsistencies in department performance have surfaced?

Examples of Criteria Indicator: Adverse or Sentinel Events

- Middle ear barotraumas
- Sinus barotraumas
- Pneumothorax
- Claustrophobic episode/attack
- Oxygen toxicity seizure
- Patient falls
- Significant Medication Error
- Significant Adverse Drug Reaction
- Other Adverse Patient Event
- Sentinel Event

Determining Thresholds

Identify the results that will signify appropriate performance for the indicator being measured

Guides for Determining Thresholds

- Thresholds established from external sources (UHMS, Databases)
- Seriousness of consequences for not meeting criteria
- High risk or problem prone areas may need to be 100%
- Be able to explain how you determined your thresholds

Examples of Thresholds

INDICATOR:
Adverse Events

CRITERIA:

THRESHOLD:

Middle ear barotraumas	2.00%
Claustrophobic episode/attack	2.00%
Oxygen toxicity seizure	0.01%

HBOT event threshold percentages were taken from the UHMS Committee Report.

Determining Source of Data for Collection

- Direct observation
- Medical records
- Department logs
- Patients

Determining Auditing & Reporting Frequencies

- Critical nature of indicator
- Anticipated compliance rate
- Facility Policy and Procedure

Analyze Data

- Ensure you can validate accuracy of data
- Include all data for the defined review period (month, quarter)
- Don't try to conceal unfavorable results
- Don't fail to investigate significant inconsistencies

Final Steps

- Communicate results to appropriate staff, committees, and Board
- Involve leaders and staff with plan of correction & then implement
- Re-measure to ensure sustained improvement
- Start cycle all over again if necessary

Let's Make it Easy

EXAMPLE PLAN TO TAKE HOME WITH YOU

2025	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Appropriate utilization of PPE/sterile	Initial	Reassess	Reassess	Reassess	Reassess	Reassess	Reassess	Reassess	Reassess	Reassess	Reassess	Reassess
Infection events			Initial			Reassess			Reassess			Reassess
Complaints/Misconduct			Initial			Reassess			Reassess			Reassess
Effective communication among caregivers	Initial			Reassess			Reassess			Reassess		
Medications are accurately and completely reconciled for each patient across the continuum of care		Initial			Reassess			Reassess				Reassess
Adherence to CDC hand hygiene guidelines			Initial			Reassess			Reassess			Reassess
Adherence to evidence-based practices to prevent health care associated infections due to multidrug resistant organisms in the wound center	Initial			Reassess			Reassess			Reassess		
The Infection Control Specialist & manages the patient's system		Initial			Reassess			Reassess				Reassess
Maintenance of complete & accurate patient records	Initial			Reassess			Reassess			Reassess		

