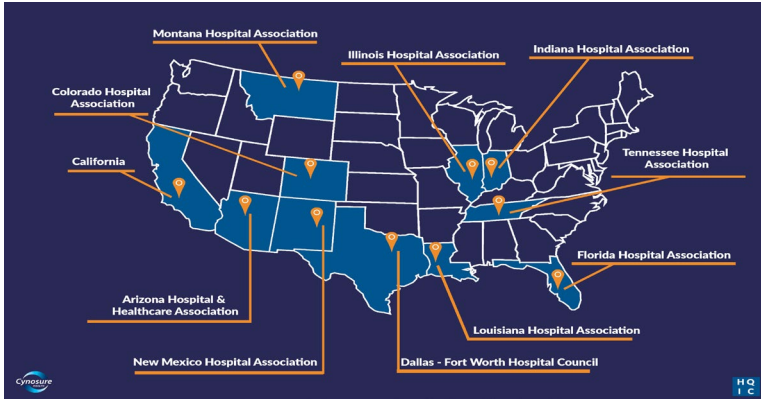


# Hospital Quality Improvement Contractor (HQIC)

CMS recently announced the awards for the national Hospital Quality Improvement Contract (HQIC), targeting small and rural hospitals, and facilities that serve vulnerable populations. Your facility is one of more than 2,400 hospitals nationwide that CMS identified for participation in HQIC, which is being offered at no cost to participating hospitals. The Louisiana Hospital Association's Research and Education Foundation (LHAREF) believes your hospital would benefit from, and be successful in, this four-year program. The focus of HQIC is to reduce patient harm, address the opioid epidemic, improve behavioral health outcomes and improve care transitions for our patients and communities. This program will also support hospitals in responding to public health emergencies, like COVID-19, to ensure safe care and to facilitate preparedness for future public health crises.



## Convergence Health (Cynosure) State Partners:

- Arizona Hospital & Healthcare Association
- California
- Colorado Hospital Association
- Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council
- Florida Hospital Association
- Illinois Hospital Association
- Indiana Hospital Association
- LHA Research and Education Foundation
- Montana Hospital Association
- New Mexico Hospital Association
- Tennessee Hospital Association

## What Will Your Hospital Receive?

Your state partner and the HQIC national team will provide at no cost:

- **Technical assistance and coaching** on quality improvement; culture change; patient and family engagement; and data submission, interpretation, analysis and more.
- **Clinical topic-specific resources and peer-to-peer resources** including up-to-date checklists, discovery tools, change packages and case studies.
- Peer-to-peer networking and sharing at **virtual training events**.
- Access to **virtual, on-demand learning modules**.
- **Best practice hospital stories and case studies**, which highlight specific topics and provide detailed information on successes and lessons learned.

## How Can Your Hospital Participate?

- **Commit!** Have your CEO and quality lead co-sign the **letter of commitment**.
- **Submit data.** Collect and submit **monthly data** on commonly-reported, nationally-standardized quality measures. CMS has not yet released the formal measure set, but data will be obtained from NHSN, claims and self-reporting.
- **Engage and share:**
  - Engage with **subject-matter experts**, and share your improvement stories with peers.
  - Prepare for, and participate in, virtual **site visits** to help hospital employees learn about barriers and other issues affecting your hospital.
  - Support changes within your facility by utilizing **cross-cutting improvement strategies** to improve patient

## Hospitals Will Receive Ongoing Support & Resources on the Following Topics:

### Core HQIC Topics

- Adverse Drug Events (ADE)
- Antibiotic Stewardship (includes CDI and MRSA)
- Behavioral Health
- Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI)
- Central line-associated blood stream infections (CLABSI)
- Opioid Stewardship
- Patient and family Engagement
- Pressure Injury (Hospital-Acquired)
- Public Health Emergencies (COVID)

### Core HQIC Topics (Continued)

- Readmissions
- Sepsis

### Additional HQIC Topics

- Quality and Patient Safety (includes some certification preparation online courses [tentative based upon CMS program approval])
- Engagement (Leadership, Board, and Staff)
- Developing metric to measure and tools to report on all-cause harm

Please contact your state lead at [msmith@lhaonline.org](mailto:msmith@lhaonline.org) with any questions.