



January Newsletter 2018

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

Working on a performance improvement project with a group accelerates improvements. Participants are able to make breakthrough progress by reflecting on shared experiences and learning how peers address common challenges. Participants also benefit from the structure and support the organizer provides.

Your group might include other homes in your organization, a regional group working with your QIO, or a state-based project. Those working on reducing readmissions might take this up a notch by partnering with hospitals in their care community or ACO. What better way to improve transitions in care and to ensure that individuals receive the most appropriate level of care while minimizing exposures and disruptions?

If you are working with a group of nursing homes, please contact the Campaign to establish a website account for the group organizer. These third-party accounts can be used by participants in your group to directly share progress with you, and will provide you with downloadable data files and trend graphs to support your work. Help@nhQualityCampaign.org

Over 300 nursing homes are involved in a group project like this.



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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

January 8, 2018

Incentivizing Consistent Assignment

Discussion about state programs in Tennessee and Utah that provide incentives for nursing homes to implement consistent assignment.

Slides available under

"Policy and Practice Webinars" on our [Videos & Webinars page](#).

Recording available soon.





IMPORTANT FOR 2018: Hospitalizations Tool

Homes tracking hospitalizations should download a new copy of the Hospitalizations Tracking Tool (Excel workbook) to use beginning January 2018 and review the [Bridging](#)

[Instructions](#). Both of these items are available on the [Hospitalizations Identify Baseline](#) page.

Q. Where can I find the 2018 Version of the Hospitalizations Tracking Tool?

A. From the website homepage www.nhQualityCampaign.org, click on the gear icon ([Get Tracking Tools](#)), and then Hospitalizations.

1. **Download** the zipped file
2. **Open** the tracking tool
3. **Save** it to your computer once you are looking at the "Welcome" page of the actual tracking tool. Change the name to include "2018" at the **beginning** of the filename.

Q. Why can't I just keep using the same Tracking Tool?

A. The Hospitalizations Tracking Tool lasts for one calendar year, and outcomes are calculated monthly. The formula are referencing date ranges within the month.

Please download a copy of the 2018 workbook and begin recording your Admission and Transfer events in that workbook beginning January 1, 2018.

Q. How can readmission rates be calculated if my information is in two workbooks?

A. Great question! December 30-day readmissions need to reference unplanned transfers occurring through January 31, 2018. So on or after February 1, 2018, you'll need to copy data from your 2018 TransferLog to your 2017 TransferLog.

[Click here for full instructions.](#)

STOP NOROVIRUS

Norovirus is a tiny germ that spreads quickly and easily. It causes vomiting and diarrhea that come on suddenly. A very small amount of norovirus can make you sick. The number of virus particles that fit on the head of a pin is enough to infect over 1,000 people.

DID YOU KNOW?

75% of norovirus outbreaks occur in long-term care setting like nursing homes. Older residents are more likely to get very sick or die from norovirus.



[CDC webpage: Prevent norovirus](#)
[Stop norovirus poster](#)
[More infographics, videos and media](#)

Partnership Releases Updated Tools for Self-assessment

In November of 2015, CMS released Survey & Certification Memo 16-06 ([SC-Letter-16-04-Focused-Survey-Tools](#)), which included tools that were utilized for the Focused Dementia Care Survey process. These tools were released with the intent that facilities would use them to assess their own practices in providing resident care.

Recently, the tools have been updated and current versions have been added to the National Partnership to Improve Dementia Care website via the following links: [Resident Questions Worksheet 2018](#); [Facility Questions Worksheet 2018](#).

The Focused Dementia Care Survey process is separate from the standard survey process, as are the revised tools. However, the new Dementia Care Critical Element Pathway ([Form CMS-20133](#)) was developed using principals from the Focused Dementia Care Survey process.

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