

## PQS and EQuIPP

Pharmacy Quality Solutions (PQS) was created in 2012 as a joint venture between Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA) and CECity. PQS is led by a team of experienced pharmacists and quality improvement experts who were instrumental in the creation and testing of PQA measures that have been included in both the Quality Ratings System for Health Insurance Exchange Plans and the Medicare Part D Star Ratings.

- At the heart of PQS's services is EQuIPP™ – a multi-tenant, web-based platform that supports both community pharmacies and managed care organizations (health plans, pharmacy benefit managers) in managing medication use quality information.
- Information is updated monthly, providing a near-real time assessment, and is benchmarked at the national, state, and pharmacy organization level.
- Quality measure performance lays the foundation for performance-based contracts and payment systems for pharmacy networks

### Key reasons to regularly access your EQuIPP performance dashboard:

1. **Performance Data:** The monthly data update provides the pharmacy team with information on how their patient centered care activities are impacting the quality of medication use.
2. **Performance Trending:** EQuIPP provides visibility to six months of rolling performance data that shows how your pharmacy's performance is changing over time as a result of improvement activities.
3. **Peer Comparisons:** See where you stand on measures compared to peers in your pharmacy organization, across your state, and the nation. EQuIPP also allows your pharmacy to compare performance to the top 20% of pharmacies across the country.
4. **Plan Level Data:** Ability to view your pharmacy's quality performance including Star rating metrics in specific managed care organizations. For example, pharmacies can view how they are performing for select groups which provide opportunities for Pay for Performance (P4P) bonus payments and Quality-Based Networks (QBN).
5. **Patient Counts:** EQuIPP displays the number of patients represented by each managed care organization that is utilizing the platform. This allows you to see which organizations are most prevalent in your region.
6. **Outlier Data:** Patient information for Outliers (patients that are negatively impacting the performance score) are displayed for those organizations that elect to display this information. *If available*, this information is visible from the pharmacy performance report screen. Clicking on the "outliers" button will open a new screen with individual patient information.
7. **Improvement Strategies Tab:** Information to support the development of effective performance improvement strategies is available via EQuIPP.

**Physician Engagement:** Resources and tools you can use to better communicate with physician partners, including the Pharmacist's Letter physician fax form for High Risk Medications.

**Patient Engagement:** Educational materials are made available with easy-to-understand explanations of concepts that you can use to help educate and inform your patients regarding cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Adherence questionnaires and estimators are available to help you work with patients to identify individual barriers to medication adherence.

**Staff Engagement:** EQuIPP contains learning opportunities for you and your entire staff to help better understand the driving forces behind our changing healthcare quality landscape.

8. **FAQ Tab:** The EQuIPP team updates the information in the FAQ section tab regularly; if you have a question regarding the data on your dashboard, chances are that someone else has already asked that question, so refer to the FAQ tab for details, definitions, tutorials and more.
9. **Continuing Education:** CE activities to support outcomes driven healthcare are embedded in EQuIPP.

*If you haven't logged into EQuIPP recently, take some time to explore the information available to you and your pharmacy team! Contact us through EQuIPP support or email us at [info@pharmacyquality.com](mailto:info@pharmacyquality.com)*