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Healthcare Quality Watch

May/June 2019

IPRO Annual Meeting to Feature State Policy Experts

Senior-level state health policy experts will engage in a panel discussion on *The Impact of Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) on the Health of Communities* at IPRO's 35th Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held on June 6 at the Garden City Hotel in Garden City, New York. Moderated by Andrew Croshaw, MBA, Chief Executive Officer of the health policy consulting firm Leavitt Partners, the session will include presentations by Johanne Morne, Director of the New York State Department of Health's AIDS Institute and Dave Richard, Deputy Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

Mr. Croshaw will provide the Annual Meeting's keynote address. Another speaker, Kenneth Teasley, will offer a patient's perspective of the impact of social determinants of health. To register for the event, visit <https://ipro.org/event/ipros-35th-annual-meeting> or email annualmeeting@ipro.org.

News Service Issues Annual State-Based Health Rankings

New York ranks #13 in the nation in healthcare performance, according to the annual national report just released by *US News*. The news service ranks performance in three major categories: (1) access—the percentage of adults and children who go without medical and dental care for reasons including cost; (2) quality—preventable hospital admissions, federal Medicare plan ratings and nursing home and hospital performance data; and (3) public health—rates of obesity, smoking, suicide, and indicators of mental health as well as adult and infant mortality. New York is ranked as high-performing in its percentage of uninsured adults (8% vs. the national average of 13.8%), preventable hospital admissions (4,228 per 100,000



IPRO 35th Annual Membership Meeting



admissions vs. the national average of 4,603 per 100,000 admissions) and obesity (a rate of 25.7% vs. the national rate of 31.3%). For detailed results on states' comparative performance on healthcare measures as well as a number of other lifestyle indicators, visit the *US News* website at <https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/rankings/health-care>.

State Offers New Population Health Agenda

This winter IPRO co-sponsored New York's 2019 Population Health Summit in Albany—an event which included the official launch of the latest iteration of the State's Prevention Agenda—the blueprint for state and local action to improve the health and well-being of all New Yorkers and promote health equity across populations who experience disparities. Highlights of the Agenda's cross cutting objectives for 2019-2024 include 5 percent improvements over baseline year 2016 in premature deaths and differences in premature deaths between Blacks/Hispanics and Whites. Similarly the goal is 5 percent improvement for age-adjusted preventable hospitalizations, as measured in aggregate and by race. The Agenda proposes increasing the percentage of adults with health insurance from 91.4 percent to 97 percent and the percentage of adults with a regular health provider from 82.6 percent to 86.7 percent. The New York State Prevention Agenda is available for download at https://health.ny.gov/prevention/prevention_agenda/2019-2024/.

IPRO Manager to Speak on Automated Decision Support

IPRO Senior Manager Anne Myrka will present her work in automating clinical decision support at the mid-year meeting of the American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists (ASHP), to be held this December in Las Vegas. The Management of Anticoagulation in the Peri-Operational Period (MAPPP) application developed by Myrka and colleagues at IPRO, supports real-time clinical decision support during surgeries and procedures. The ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting typically draws 25,000 attendees from across the nation and from U.S. territories. For more information about the event, visit the association's website at www.ashp.org.



CMS Restructures BFCC-QIO Regions

CMS recently awarded five year contracts to Livanta LLC and KEPRO to serve as Beneficiary and Family Centered Care – Quality Improvement Organizations (BFCC-QIOs). Under the new contracts the country will be divided into 10 regions to better align states and territories with the CMS Regional Offices. Livanta will continue to serve as the BFCC-QIO for Region 2, which includes New York State. However, effective on June 8, 2019, the toll-free Medicare Beneficiary Helpline numbers will change. For Region 2 (NY, NJ, PR, VI) the new Helpline numbers are 1-866-815-5440, TTY 1-866-868-2289. BFCC-QIOs assist Medicare beneficiaries with quality of care complaints, hospital discharge and service termination appeals, and Immediate Advocacy. More information is available at <http://www.livantaqio.com/en> (Livanta) and <https://www.keproqio.com/> (KEPRO).

Feds Offer Ambitious National Quality Program Goals

Ambitious national quality improvement targets were included in a competitive request for proposals (RFP) recently issued by the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). These performance targets outline CMS' expectations for the organizations competing for new five-year Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organizations (QIN-QIO) contracts that are expected to be awarded this summer. Currently there are 14 QIN-QIOs operating in all 50 U.S. states and territories. These contractors include the IPRO-led Atlantic Quality Innovation Network (AQIN) entity, which covers New York, South Carolina and the District of Columbia. The new national targets included in the competitive solicitation address a number of priorities for the nation's QIN-QIOs, including:

- Combating the opioid crisis (20% reduction in opioid related adverse events including deaths),
- Reducing provider burden (decrease burden associated with non-value added administrative tasks by 33%),
- Driving value-based approaches to transforming healthcare by using the Medicare program as a powerful platform for driving change, especially where improved quality and systematic population management can have a high impact, including:
 - Preventing 720,000 individuals from developing CKD or progressing to ESRD;
 - Preventing one million cardiovascular events;
 - Preventing 76,000 Medicare beneficiaries from developing diabetes;
 - Reducing by 20% all cause harm in hospitals;
 - Reducing hospital admissions by 8% nationally, and reducing hospital readmissions by 10% nationally.

For more information regarding the QIN-QIOs, visit www.qioprogram.org.

IPRO is a non-profit organization that works with government agencies, providers and consumers to implement innovative programs that bring policy ideas to life. For over 30 years we've made creative use of clinical expertise, emerging technology and data solutions to make the healthcare system work better.



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