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Volume 1 Issue 2

## ACEP Emergency Quality Network (E-QUAL)

The ACEP E-QUAL Network is seeking EDs to join this national quality movement. We seek emergency physicians, resident physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, clinical nurses and our primary and specialty care colleagues to join the [Emergency Quality Network](#). Joining the Emergency Quality Network is easy and can be matched to your ED's needs and interests!

### Why Join?

Joining E-QUAL has numerous benefits:

- Support your local quality improvement efforts
- Gain access to best practice toolkits including guidelines and talking points
- Submit and receive benchmarking data Feature your ED's quality improvement efforts to hospital leaders and payers.
- Learn from expert national faculty
- Gain national recognition for your successes in improving care
- Get access to high-quality eCME for free
- Earn ABEM MOC credit (LLSA and Part IV Activities)
- Meet CMS PQRS quality reporting requirement if you also join the ACEP Clinical Emergency Department Registry (CEDR)

### How to Join?

**Step 1:** Join the E-QUAL by filling out an [online interest survey](#) to receive the latest news, updates and project details

**Step 2:** Take the Emergency Quality Network Readiness Assessment

**Step 3:** Sign-up for one or all of the Emergency Quality Network Learning Collaboratives!

***Become part of this national quality movement to redefine and rebrand emergency care!***

**[Join Today!](#)**

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### E-QUAL Network Learning Collaboratives

- Improving outcomes for patients with sepsis
- Reducing avoidable imaging in low risk patients through implementation of ACEP's Choosing Wisely recommendations
- Improving the value of ED chest pain evaluation by reducing avoidable admissions in low risk patients with chest pain



## Improve Outcomes for patients with sepsis

### April Sepsis Webinar

The ACEP E-QUAL Network hosted the second [Sepsis Initiative webinar](#) series on April 20, 2016, featuring guest speaker, Todd Slesinger, M.D. who presented on SEP-1 guidelines and the sepsis tool kit. Dr. Arjun K. Venkatesh also joined the webinar to provide information on the new Clinical Emergency Department Registry (CEDR) Septic Shock Quality Measure Set.

[Webinar recording](#)

### Sepsis Initiative Webinar Series [Register Today!](#)

*All webinars take place from 12:00pm-1:00pm EST*

Date	Topic
<b>Thursday, May 19</b> <a href="#">Register Today!</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sepsis: New Definitions Panel Webinar</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, June 22</b> <a href="#">Register Today!</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Harnessing the EHR in Sepsis Identification</li> <li>Human Elements in Screening and Initiation of Treatment of Sepsis</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, July 20</b> <a href="#">Register Today!</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence-based Approaches to Resuscitation (fluids, blood, etc.)</li> <li>Effective Sepsis Resuscitation in Medically Complex Patients</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, August 17</b> <a href="#">Register Today!</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to Work with the ICU to Improve Sepsis Care Transitions</li> <li>How to Improve Inter-Hospital Transfers for Patients with Sepsis</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, September 21</b> <a href="#">Register Today!</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antibiotics and Source Control Essentials in Sepsis</li> <li>Common Sepsis Pitfalls and Barriers to Quality Improvement</li> </ul>

## Save the Date!

### Leadership & Advocacy Conference

#### **Disruptive Innovation - Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> 1:55pm-2:30pm**

Drs. Schuur and Venkatesh will be presenting E-QUAL highlights and outline opportunities for EDs at this year's Legislative and Advocacy Conference. In addition they will discuss best practices in quality improvement, current CMS efforts regarding the measurement and support of ED quality, and outline CMS efforts in the TCPI to support clinician transitions to new alternative payment models.

**Register Today!**



**Reduce Avoidable Testing**  
for low risk patients through implementation  
of Choosing Wisely Recommendations

## June 2016!

E-QUAL will be launching the next initiative on reducing avoidable imaging through the implementation of [Choosing Wisely recommendations](#) this summer. The E-QUAL Network will support clinicians and patients in implementing ACEP's Choosing Wisely™ recommendations for:

- Imaging for atraumatic low back pain
- Head CT scan after minor head injury
- Chest CT for pulmonary embolus
- Abdominal CT for renal colic

The learning period will include the following activities

- Monthly Webinars
- Tool kit guidelines, resources and material
- CME Credit
- Benchmarking data
- Office Hours

For more information on how to participate please visit the [E-QUAL homepage](#).

### **Questions?**

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Visit: <http://www.acep.org/equal/>

## E-QUAL & TCPI Partner with Practice Transformation Networks (PTNS)

The goal of CMS's TCPI Initiative is to enable large scale clinician transformation in order to deliver better care that will result in better health outcomes at lower costs. CMS is supporting 30 Practice Transformation Network (PTNs) nationally by creating peer-based learning networks designed to coach, mentor, and assist clinicians in developing core competencies specific to practice transformation. Find out more information on your local PTN below!

### HealthPartners Delmarva (HPD)

HealthPartners Delmarva is the Practice Transformation Network supporting ED clinicians in the State of DE, MD and VA. As a participating physician in this pilot, you will be working with HealthPartners Delmarva who will be leading this CMS funded project. You will be supported by the HPD team which is responsible for facilitating the transformation process. Practices can expect to participate in Healthcare Communities, CMS's collaborative social network and will receive targeted site visits, semi-annual collaborative meetings in collaboration with ACEP as well as regular practice emails and conference calls. While this project is measured by the number of clinicians that are impacted by this program, in reality, it is the multi-disciplinary process improvement teams that will be leveraged to lead change within the practice and across the communities.

Please contact Michele Posteles via [HVDPTN@gmail.com](mailto:HVDPTN@gmail.com) for additional information.

### Consortium for Southeastern Hypertension Control (COSEHC)

The QualityImpact, Consortium for Southeastern Hypertension Control (COSEHC) will serve 3,400 providers in the Southeastern U.S. (Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia) over the next four years in their transition toward value-based delivery models. QualityImpact presents a tremendous opportunity for practices to receive support and resources to enable their success in transitioning to value-based reimbursement. COSEHC will support practices and emergency department care by providing a comprehensive, transformation "package" at **no cost** that includes:

- MDinsight – A sophisticated, interoperable population health management platform
- Care Delivery Consulting – Process improvement facilitation enabling improved efficiency
- Clinical Quality Improvement – Expert-led guidance tailored to care gaps/opportunities

To learn more, visit [www.qualityimpact.org](http://www.qualityimpact.org) or contact Debra Simmons, the PTN Program Director at [dwirth@wakehealth.edu](mailto:dwirth@wakehealth.edu).

### Rhode Island Practice Transformation Network

The Rhode Island Practice Transformation Network, a service of the Rhode Island Quality Institute, is offering customized practice transformation assistance to emergency department (ED) clinicians to prepare them for upcoming changes to reimbursement both at the federal (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) and local (Medicaid and commercial payer) levels. These changes are part of several initiatives to move from volume to value based payment. The RI PTN will provide workflow redesign assistance, help in using data to inform clinical and business decisions and to improve population health, care management and care transitions training, approaches to encourage patient and caregiver engagement, and strategies to collaborate with both primary and specialty care clinicians. A practice facilitator will be assigned to assess your ED, identify quality improvement needs, and work out a plan to accomplish your goals. The RI PTN covers the state of Rhode Island and neighboring communities and is limited to serving 1,500 clinicians. Visit [www.transformyourpracticeri.org](http://www.transformyourpracticeri.org) or [info@riqi.org](mailto:info@riqi.org) for further information.

## E-QUAL & TCPI Partner with Practice Transformation Networks (PTNS)

### **Southern New England Practice Transformation Network**

The Southern New England Practice Transformation Network (SNE-PTN) seeks to engage Emergency Medicine physicians in this CMS-funded program. There is no cost for physicians to participate. All Massachusetts and Connecticut physicians who do not participate in a Medicare shared savings ACO are eligible. We collaborate with ACEP to help Emergency Physicians achieve the Triple Aim: better care, better health, and lower costs. The over-arching goal is to facilitate success as payment reform rapidly advances. Increasingly, re-imburement will be tied to quality and efficiency, thus creating a compelling case to improve health care delivery.

SNE-PTN provides a Quality Improvement Advisor, who will visit sites and guide clinicians through QI activities to achieve their goals, using a customized approach of consultation and guidance to meet clinicians where they are – and help them achieve their specific strategic aims. Participants get free resources to help support practice transformation, which might include optimization of care delivery, data management, behavioral health integration, and coordination of care throughout the “medical neighborhood.” SNE-PTN helps sites develop well-functioning multidisciplinary care teams, optimize workflows, and enhance EMR functionality so that physicians will have the time to do what they were trained to do: take care of patients.

More information: [www.sneptn.org](http://www.sneptn.org)

### **The Care Transitions Network for People with Serious Mental Illness**

The Care Transitions Network for People with Serious Mental Illness in New York State is providing clinicians, organizations, and communities with the necessary resources and tools to improve health outcomes for people with serious mental illness. The aim is to reduce avoidable emergency department visits and all-cause re-hospitalization rates. To achieve this goal, the Care Transitions Network is building a web of organizations and practices across communities who will work together toward this goal. This initiative is empowering organizations and clinicians to improve the quality of care for people with serious mental illness through expert clinical consultation and technical assistance on evidence-based practices and operational efficiencies. Examples include expediting access to psychiatric care, increased use of long acting injectables, and utilizing community diversion programs. The Care Transitions Network will support you and your organization in providing the best care tailored to people with serious mental illness while managing the increasing demands of an emergency department.

To learn more about the Care Transitions Network, please [visit our website](#), or contact [CareTransitions@TheNationalCouncil.org](mailto:CareTransitions@TheNationalCouncil.org)