**Practice Incentive Payment Quality Improvement (PIP QI)**

SNHN is committed to ensuring general practices in the region deliver services to achieve better health outcomes for the patients they serve. We aim to work with practices on quality improvement activities to improve data quality, identify areas for improvement through the use of data reports and feedback.

On 1st August 2019 the new PIP QI will commence which involves practices submitting data to the PHN and working with us on continuous quality improvement activities.

*The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) defines continuous quality improvement as an ongoing activity undertaken within a general practice with the primary purpose to monitor, evaluate or improve the quality of healthcare delivered to practice patients.*

As of 31st July 2019 the following four incentives will cease:

* Diabetes PIP
* Asthma PIP
* Cervical Screening PIP
* Quality Prescribing PIP

The seven PIP Incentives that will remain unchanged are:

* eHealth Incentive
* After Hours Incentive
* Rural Loading Incentive
* Teaching Payment
* Indigenous Health Incentive
* Procedural General Practitioner Payment, and
* General Practitioner Aged Care Access Incentive

These incentives will be replaced by a Quality Improvement incentive which will involve the exchange of de-identified from general practice to SNHN using a data extraction tool. SNHN uses the PenCS data extraction tool – CATPlus. We provide general practices with a licence for the tool at no cost to the practice. An agreement between the PHN and your practice will need to be completed before the tool can be installed.

The CATPlus tool is installed on your server and then linked to other workstations as required by the practice, this could include GP’s, PN’s and PM’s but at the discretion of the practice.

Practices will be provided with quarterly reports from the deidentified data supplied against a set of 10 measures, see below. General practices participating in the PIP QI will be required to work with SNHN on quality improvement activities. These QI activities can be linked to the 10 measures but this is not a requirement. Some general practices have been participating in QI programs with SNHN therefore they can continue to build upon QI that has already commenced with us.

The Practice Incentives Program (PIP) supports general practice activities that encourage continuing improvements, quality care, enhancing capacity and improving access and health outcomes for patients. The QI Incentive aims to recognise and support those practices that commit to improving the care they provide to their patients. Participating practices will be supported to utilise the information they have about their own communities and their knowledge of the particular needs of their own patients to develop innovative strategies to drive improvement.

**The ten Improvement Measures:**

1. Proportion of patients with diabetes with a current HbA1c result

2. Proportion of patients with a smoking status

3. Proportion of patients with a weight classification

4. Proportion of patients aged 65 and over who were immunised against influenza

5. Proportion of patients with diabetes who were immunised against influenza

6. Proportion of patients with COPD who were immunised against influenza

7. Proportion of patients with an alcohol consumption status

8. Proportion of patients with the necessary risk factors assessed to enable CVD assessment

9. Proportion of female patients with an up-to-date cervical screening

10. Proportion of patients with diabetes with a blood pressure result

Practices can choose to focus their quality improvement activities on these *Improvement Measures*, but this is not a requirement, they can be used as a guide. It is the responsibility of the practice to maintain their own records.

**SNHN will provide all participating practices with the following:**

* QI Guide
* QI Worksheet for recording and assessing your ideas for improvement
* Poster for your waiting room to let your patients know you participate in QI activities using data
* Folder for the safe keeping of your QI activities, unless you already have a system in place

**How to participate in PIP QI.**

1. Register for PIP QI **after 1st August 2019** – this can be done through the HPOS portal accessible via your PRODA account.
2. Contact SNHN to have the CATPlus tool installed if you do not currently have this.
3. Work with SNHN on QI activities.

**PIP QI Payment**

Practices can receive a maximum payment of $12,500 per quarter, based on $5.00 per Standardised Whole Patient Equivalent (SWPE).

**Quality Improvement**

Quality Improvement should ideally be a ‘whole of team’ approach to work on your chosen area for improvement. You could nominate a QI Leader in your practice to assist in monitoring and driving your activities and to ensure you are meeting your obligations for the PIP QI. The Primary Care Team at SNHN is available to assist with any queries or concerns you may have so please contact your support coordinator if you require assistance.

Documents relating to the PIP QI can be found on the Department of Health website following the link below.

<https://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/PIP-QI_Incentive_guidance>

Link to our documents.