

Introduction to MHA Quality Programs

MT Rural Hospital Flexibility
Program (Flex)

Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program

History

- Established by the Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997.
- Funded by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) based on the experiences of rural demonstration projects developed through Montana Health Research and Education Foundation (MHREF).
- MT DPHHS Office of the Inspector General (formerly Quality Assurance Division) is the grantee with MHREF as a sub-recipient.
- Grant year is September 1 – August 31.

Purpose

- Promote quality and performance improvement.
- Assists in developing and maintaining quality health care network systems.
- Strengthen and integrate Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in rural areas.
- Support conversion and designation of small rural hospitals to Critical Access Hospital (CAH) status.

Flex Program Areas

Quality
Improvement

Operational &
Financial
Improvement

Population Health
Improvement

Rural EMS
Improvement

Innovative Model
Development

CAH Designation

Eligibility Requirements

Flex Program funding is provided to CAHs through access to education and programs developed by MT Flex and not directly allocated to a hospital via sub-grants.

In order for hospitals to access Flex programming, the FORHP has put in place reporting requirements of the **Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (MBQIP)**. Hospitals that don't meet minimum MBQIP data reporting requirements are not eligible to receive benefit of Flex-funded activities. Eligibility is tracked by MT Flex Program staff on a regular basis.

MBQIP Data Reporting Requirement

At least **ONE** MBQIP Core Measure

for at least **TWO** quarters

in at least **THREE** of the four Quality Domains listed below.

*Care Transitions
Outpatient
Patient Engagement
Patient Safety*

Quality Improvement

MBQIP: Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project

MBQIP	Care Transitions	Outpatient	Patient Engagement	Patient Safety
<i>Core Required</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency Department Transfer Communications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AMI (CMS OP-2 & OP-3) ED Throughput (CMS OP-18 & OP-22) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCAHPS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthcare Worker Immunization Antibiotic Stewardship (NHSN Facility Annual Survey)
<i>Additional Optional</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge Planning Swing Bed Care Medication Reconciliation Readmissions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chest Pain: Aspirin on arrival ED Throughput: Door to diagnostic evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ED Patient experience survey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) Adverse Drug Events (ADE) Falls

Quality Improvement

Activities

- Education on Quality Improvement Framework and best practices.
- Regional, Peer, and Interest Cohort opportunities.
- Live & virtual networking & education with state peers.
- Certification Prep Courses.
- Quality Reporting technical assistance.
- Support quality improvement projects via learning by doing.

Operational & Financial Improvement

Activities

- PIN Benchmarking Project.
- Support financial improvement projects via learning by doing.
- Annual coding education.
- Survey Readiness resources and education.
- Strategic Planning Facilitation with the Balanced Scorecard Model.
- Lean Internship Program with Montana State University.

Population Health Improvement

Activities

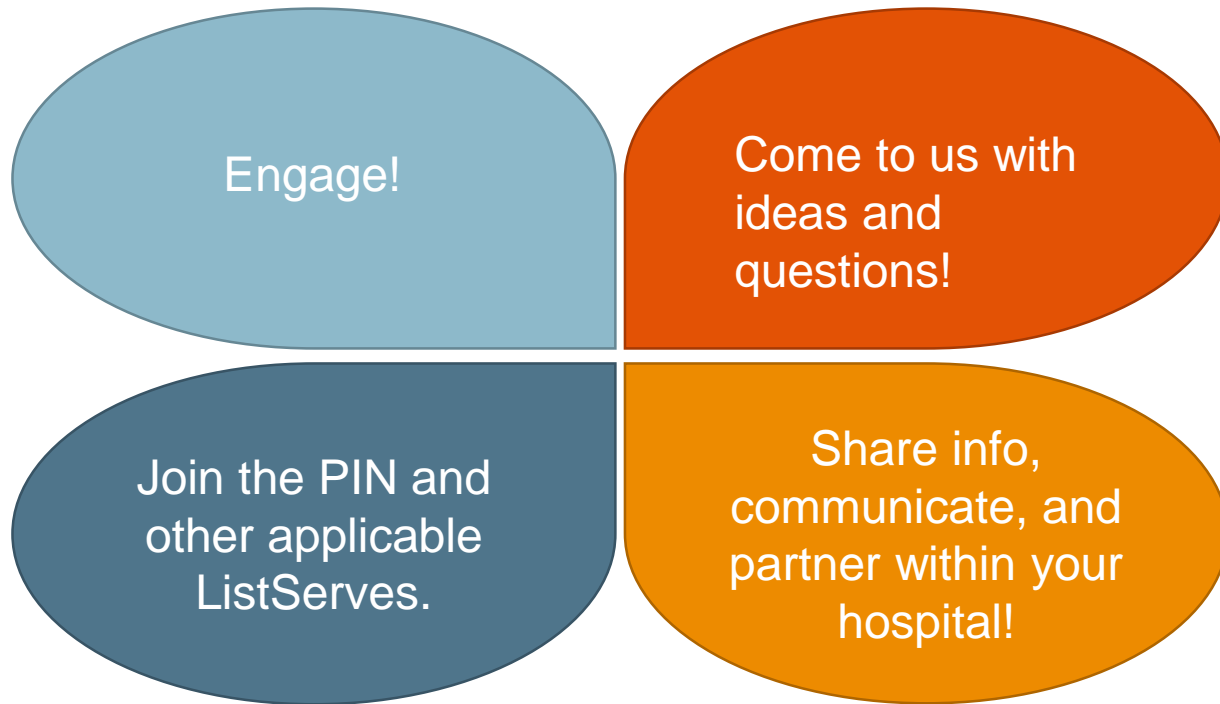
- Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Implementation Plans
- Data Hub of Community Health Services Development (CHSD)
- *Worksite Wellness
- *Rural Train-the-Breastfeeding Trainer Program
- *Critical Access Certified Lactation Scholarship Program

Rural EMS Improvement

Activities

- *Manage National CARES Registry data bridge to reduce duplicate data entry
- *Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) Training

Communicate & Connect

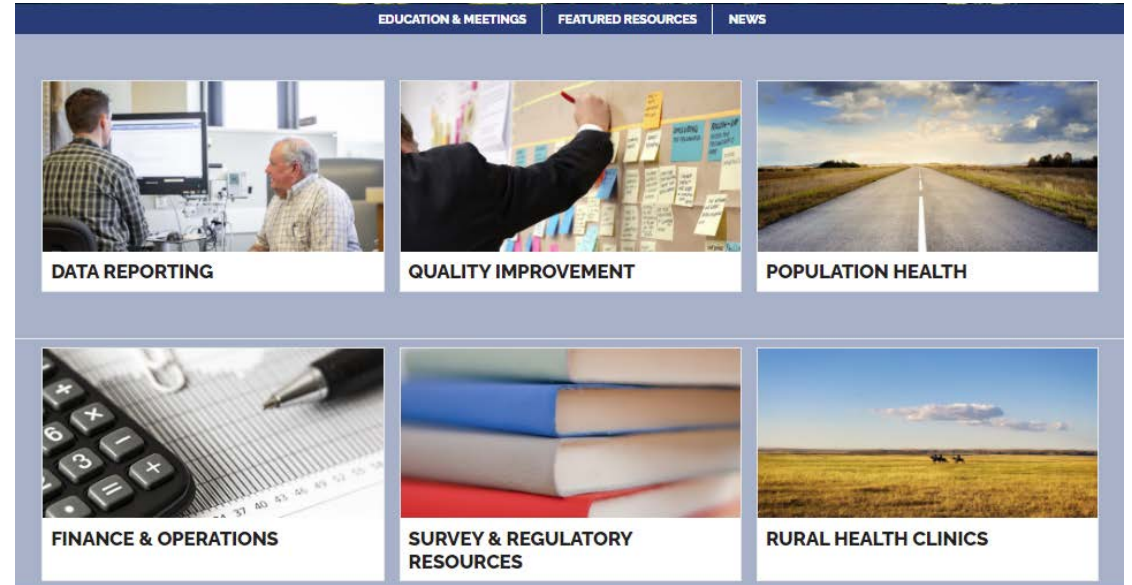


- List Serves
 - PIN List Serve
 - Rural Health Clinic List Serve
 - Association Contact Lists
- Weekly Quality Report (Monday)
- PIN Quarterly Newsletter
- MHA's Education Update (Friday)
- MHA's Weekly News Report (Friday)

Resources

PIN Website: www.mtpin.org

- [Flex Data Reporting Programs](#)
- [Survey & Regulatory Resources](#)
- [Flex Activity Catalogue \(2021-2022\)](#)



Do you have questions from this presentation?
We would love to hear from you!

Email our team (contact info next slide)
or attend our monthly [Office Hours](#) call.



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