



SUPERIOR HEALTH
Quality Alliance

Infection Prevention and Control – What Superior Health Has to Offer

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April 18, 2023

What is Superior Health Quality Alliance (Superior Health)?

- Formed in 2019 with eight health care organizations across six states.
- Serves as the Quality Innovation Network – Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO) for Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin.
- Working to achieve broad national Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Quality Strategy Goals.
- Our goal is to collaboratively improve the quality of health and health care for the consumers, patients, clinicians, organizations and communities we serve.

Superior Health Nursing Home Support

- Superior Health has a large team of quality improvement advisors (QIAs) providing support on several infection prevention and control (IPC) activities:
 - Cohorting and visitation
 - Emergency preparedness
 - Immunization
 - IPC training
 - Infection control assessment and response
- Superior Health is **not** regulatory.
- Collaborative relationship to improve quality of care.

Current IPC focused offerings

- [Front Line Forces](#)
- [Nursing Home Roundtables](#)
- Mobile Vaccination Clinics
- [Emergency Preparedness Training Series](#)
- [Real Time Medical Systems Collaborative](#)
- One-on-one Technical Assistance

QSO-23-10

- Directed plan of correction includes completing a root cause analysis and working with the QIO or another infection control consultant to implement a corrective action plan.
- While Superior Health is continuing to develop new processes around this most recent [memo](#). We will do our best to support the quality improvement needs of the nursing homes.

Targeted Response Quality Improvement Initiatives

How is Superior Health notified of an outbreak in a nursing home?

- Notified by CMS when a nursing home has a COVID-19 outbreak with ≥ 5 residents testing positive.
- This **does not** indicate that the home did not follow protocols or did anything non-compliant. It simply indicates there have been ≥ 5 residents testing positive.

What Happens Next?

A QIA from Superior Health will reach out to the nursing home and begin the process.

- **Non-regulatory** – meant to be informational, determine needs, offer assistance and help with implementation of best practices.
- Review of current outbreak.
 - Is the nursing home working with their local Health Department or Division of Public Health (DPH) Regional Infection Preventionist?
 - Has the facility identified any breakdowns in processes that may have contributed to the spread of the outbreak?
 - Do they have the personal protective equipment (PPE) needed?
 - Have staff been fit tested?
 - Vaccination for staff and residents.

Review of Infection Prevention Program

- Infection Prevention and Control Assessment Tool (ICAR)
- Utilize recently completed ICAR, if applicable. Goal is to not duplicate services
- Who is the lead for the infection prevention (IP) program? What is their training specific to IP? Do they have the support/ training they need?
- Are staff following your infection prevention policies? Are you auditing those processes to confirm? What is your data showing?
 - Hand hygiene, PPE, disinfection of shared equipment

Performance Improvement Project (PIP)

- CMS suggests at least one PIP with data collection.
- ICAR often indicates opportunity for improvement.
- Many nursing homes are already auditing in more than one area for compliance – that can be the focus.
- Utilize this in your Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) process.

Onsite Visit

- Onsite visit by a qualified infection prevention consultant at **no charge** to the facility.
- **Non-regulatory.**
- Conducted with facility staff.
- Informational and collaborative. Find areas with opportunity for improvement.
- Offer solutions to areas identified.

Technical Assistance in Wisconsin

- Since the start of COVID-19, Superior Health has completed technical assistance with 256 Nursing Homes.
 - 2022: 124
 - 2023 (to date): 23
- At the request of nursing homes, 70 onsite visits have occurred.
 - 2022: 49
 - 2023 (to date): 11 with more currently being scheduled
- Assistance can be requested even if your nursing home has not been identified by CMS as having a COVID-19 outbreak.

Questions?

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Resources

- [Superior Health Quality Alliance](#)
- [Nursing Home Targeted Response Quality Improvement Initiative](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [Nursing Home Quality Improvement Collaborative](#)
- [Targeted COVID-19 Training for Nursing Homes: Tutorial for Accessing CMS Quality, Safety & Education Portal \(QSEP\) Training \(PDF\)](#)

Continue the Conversation in

Superior Health Connect



Connect is a shared learning environment for Superior Health participants to come together to foster and promote an all-teach-all-learn climate that provides the framework to improve and sustain mutual health care quality improvement initiatives locally, regionally, and nationally.

<https://bit.ly/3BhfHc1>



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12SOW-WI-NH-23-39 041323