

Opioid Prescriber Safety and Support (OPSS)

Your Quality Improvement Leaders for Safe Opioid Prescribing Practices

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Quality Improvement Organization Program & Strategic Partners (CMS QIOSP) is one of the largest federal programs dedicated to improving the quality of health care at the community level. The Opioid Prescriber Safety and Support (OPSS) initiative is a strategic partner of the CMS QIO Program that advances this mission with national outreach and education to eligible providers.

OPSS promotes safe opioid prescribing practices and spreads knowledge of non-opioid pain management therapies. The OPSS initiative aligns with the key principles of the CMS Roadmap to Address the Opioid Epidemic: prevention, treatment and data. Providers eligible to participate in OPSS demonstrate Medicare beneficiary prescribing practices that fall within these guidelines:

- Concurrent prescribing of opioid and benzodiazepine medications in the 90th percentile; and
- Prescribed morphine milligram equivalents (MMEs) in the 90th percentile.

Improved health care safety and quality is the goal. The CMS QIO Program and OPSS connect and convene the right people to help solve the nation's most pressing health care challenges, one provider and community at a time.

What is OPSS?

Data-driven. OPSS leverages data to identify providers who would benefit from technical assistance, making health care safer and improving care quality for Medicare beneficiaries.

Collaborative. OPSS joins forces with existing partnerships at the local, state and federal level to collaborate with eligible providers to:

- Educate and provide outreach about best practices for prescribing opioids.
- Educate and provide outreach about non-opioid pain management therapies.
- Reduce the volume of opioid prescriptions prescribed by eligible providers.

OPSS also shares its quality improvement (QI) resources to improve public health emergency readiness and response and to reduce health disparities that can emerge during a crisis.



Local.

- Help providers understand and implement Medicare and other federal health care guidelines with no-cost QI support.
- Engage with providers to help tailor national QI priorities to local conditions.
- Support health equity through engagement with patients, families and stakeholders.
- Coordinate goal setting, communication, QI resources and crisis response by facilitating partnerships with community, state and local organizations.

Measurable.

- Help gather, analyze and interpret health care data to inform decisions that impact patients, partners and communities.
- Visualize data to help providers track progress toward local and national quality goals.
- Demonstrate how clinical processes can evolve in response to real-time data.

Sustainable.

- Create and spread learning opportunities for today's evidence-based best practices.
- Develop peer and community networks for learning, collaboration and sharing.
- Teach and coach QI processes and techniques for lasting change.

To Learn More

The four-year OPSS program remains active through September 2024. Please visit QIOProgram.org to learn more about OPSS QI initiatives.