



Join the ACE Quality Journey Today!

The National Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative (NNHQCC) is enrolling facilities across the U.S. in an exciting five year collaborative from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to assist staff in their efforts to ensure that every nursing home resident receives the highest quality of care. As part of the Atlantic Quality Innovation Network (AQIN), The Carolinas Center for Medical Excellence (CCME) is now enrolling nursing homes in the **ACE Quality Journey**, an interactive statewide quality improvement initiative to instill quality improvement practices, improve clinical outcomes, and increase resident satisfaction.

In alignment with the National and CMS Quality Strategies, we invite you to enhance your knowledge and proactive use of Quality Assurance Performance Improvement (QAPI) principles, publically reported quality measure data, and Nursing Home Quality Composite Measure data to address system-wide issues and eliminate or reduce preventable health care-acquired conditions. Avoiding costs associated with staff turnover and poor resident outcomes such as hospital readmissions, falls, infections, and pressure ulcers while improving your market share in a rapidly changing reimbursement environment are goals of the **ACE Quality Journey**.

We invite you to participate in diverse methods of learning (e.g., face-to-face learning sessions, networking, teleconferences) and the opportunity to share knowledge, and lessons learned. We will hear from high performing nursing homes regarding their improvement processes as they relate to publically reported quality measures, composite measures, and improved clinical outcomes. This statewide quality improvement initiative begins April 1, 2015.

Join the ACE Quality Journey to learn, network with your peers, and receive the following at no cost:

- Series of regional half day learning sessions for leadership and other staff members
- Evidence-based guidelines, tools, and resources
- Free CEUs for nurses and administrators
- Peer coaching and networking
- Statewide events with other health care providers
- Electronic ACE mailing list and website

No matter where your facility is in the journey to integrate QAPI and transform your culture through person-centered care, participation in the **ACE Quality Journey** will be value added for you and your staff. You choose areas of focus and work with teams across the state to share ideas and best practices. We provide free quality improvement resources, expertise, and technical assistance in response to your facility's current needs and priorities.

About Atlantic Quality Innovation Network (AQIN)

The Carolinas Center for Medical Excellence (CCME) is a member of the AQIN, a Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO), offering health care quality improvement learning opportunities, technical assistance, and resources across New York, South Carolina, and the District of Columbia. CCME serves as the QIN-QIO for South Carolina.



Participation Agreement

Our facility will participate in the **ACE Quality Journey** beginning April, 2015. As participants, we agree to meet the following requirements:

1. Commit dedicated staff and resources to remain active in the collaborative and to participate in all collaborative sessions including face-to-face events to be offered regionally.
2. Develop strategies for overall quality within our organization by working to:
 - a. Utilize a data-driven and proactive approach to quality improvement.
 - b. Initiate, update, and maintain the QAPI Self-Assessment tool.
 - c. Identify opportunities for improvement both organizationally and clinically.
 - d. Address gaps in systems through systematic analysis and planned interventions.
 - e. Utilize interdisciplinary teams to address identified areas and measure progress.
3. Submit requested data and reports to support collaborative efforts.
4. Share best practices and lessons learned with other participating facilities.
5. Publicly disclose participation in the **ACE Quality Journey**.

I have verified the above information and by signing below, declare our facility's commitment to participate.

Nursing home leadership or executive must sign: Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Operations Officer (COO), Administrator, or Owner

Print Name of Facility

CMS Certification Number (CNN)

Print Executive Name and Title

Executive Signature

Date

Executive's Email

Executive's Phone

Street Address, City, State, Zip code

Please complete this form and return email or fax to: 919.461.5700, Attention: Jo Taylor

For questions, please contact the AQIN South Carolina team at scace@thecarolinascenter.org or **803.212.7522**.