

Virginia State Rural Health Summit

Quality Advisory Council Report March 12, 2009

The last meeting of the Quality Advisory Council was electronic. Chair, Paul Crews, reviewed the Councils Objectives as shown below.

Objectives	Status
1. Establish the Quality Advisory Council	This step has been done.
2. Create a database that supports and identifies health inequities and how to measure progress against the established baseline.	Current – work in process
3. Host a state wide Rural Health Quality Summit.	Under consideration – need the results of the survey to be more effective with what to address and quality planning material.
4. Establish a plan to improve transitions of care from hospital to home, etc.	Baseline to be established form survey results, action plan developed
5. Database/rural relevant and meaningful indicators/transparency of quality data.	Contingent upon survey results
6. Increase # of health promotion/disease prevention programs through grants to rural communities	On-going conversation. Part of current study/planning
7. Develop common quality measures for program assessment and outcomes.	The measures developed will depend on areas of concern identified in the survey

The Quality Advisory Council will use a **Results Oriented Survey** as the primary guide to determine standards or measurements for rural healthcare quality.

The survey results are a critical tool to defining the approach to providing patients with timely, well-organized care and greater access to providers. We will address routine prevention, screenings, management of chronic conditions and patient responsibility. Time is a major deterrent for providers with more patients than time; therefore, the survey will address coordinated care in a mode of continuous quality improvement partnerships. “Provider Patient Partnerships of responsibility to achieve the desired results for both.

Next Steps - Moving from plan to action. The Quality Council is communicating via teleconference; most recently on February 23, 2009.

Some areas of discussion are moving through the planning phase to implementation.

Survey –

- Designed to assess patient/provider issues and opportunities and to learn where rural people are in the Quality – Continuous Improvement Initiative.
- Designed to learn what people really know about quality (i.e., Do individuals who are providing direct or indirect care and/or related services know the basics of what Quality is?
Do they understand ‘why’ Quality matters?
Are they trained in the basics?
Where is the starting point?

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Use of Resources - Develop a survey from expertise of the group rather than hire it done.

Work Economically; yet, effectively - Conduct the survey with Survey Monkey @ no cost, rather than hiring this done.

Virginia State Rural Health Plan

Quality Advisory Council

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