



Optimizing Health by Advancing the Quality of Medication Use

Pharmacy Quality Alliance

Commitment Statement on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic

National Academy of Medicine Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic

April 2019

The Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA) is a partner in the National Academy of Medicine’s Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic. The Collaborative is a one-of-a-kind, interdisciplinary and cross-sector public-private partnership dedicated to reversing national trends in opioid misuse and overdose. As a collaborative partner, PQA is committed to sharing knowledge, aligning initiatives and addressing challenges to combat the nation’s opioid crisis.

PQA is a leading developer of consensus-based measures for medication safety, adherence, and appropriate use. We are providing important and timely tools to address the opioid epidemic with our performance measures to improve the safety of opioid prescribing. We have developed an [Opioid Core Measure set](#), which includes four opioid measures to evaluate patients with prescriptions for opioids at high-dosage, from multiple prescribers and pharmacies, or in combination with benzodiazepines. PQA currently is developing three new measures, aligned with the CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain, to address initial opioid prescribing found to increase risk for chronic opioid use and opioid use disorder.

PQA works with stakeholders across healthcare to support the safe and appropriate use of medication through quality measurement. We are aligned with the Collaborative’s efforts to address the opioid epidemic. PQA is a committed and active participant in the Collaborative’s work, including its working groups on “Prescribing Guidelines and Evidence Standards” and “Research, Data, and Metrics.”

Pharmacy Quality Alliance: PQAalliance.org

National Academy of Medicine Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic: nam.edu/OpioidCollaborative