CIVITAS
Networks for Health

February Network News

February 15, 2023

Housekeeping Reminders

- This is a Zoom webinar
- All webinar participants are automatically muted, and your video is not displayed
- If you would like to ask the presenters a question, please use the **Q&A** function on the task bar
- Use the **chat** feature to introduce yourself – name, organization and location, share resources, etc.
- If you have any questions following the webinar, please reach out to contact@civitasforhealth.org

Agenda

- **Welcome and Civitas Updates** – *Lisa Bari, Chief Executive Officer and Jolie Ritzo, Senior Director of Network Engagement*
- **Civitas Member News** – *Jolie Ritzo and Lisa Bari*
- **Civitas Workgroup / Council Feature** – *Digital Measures and Measurement workgroup / Government Relations and Advocacy Council*
- **Civitas Programs and Funding Updates** – *Jessica Little, Vice President of Business Development and Programs*
- **Spotlight Presentation** – Update on National Quality Forum Measure Application Partnership Coordinating Committee, *Sara Hallvik, Vice President of Data Solutions at Comagine Health*

Civitas Updates

Welcome Kate Kroell!

Kate Kroell, MPH is the new **Business Development Manager for Civitas Networks for Health**. With a background in public health and food access, she has over seven years of experience in nonprofit development and supports fundraising and membership activities. She completed a Master of Public Health program at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia.

CIVITAS
Networks for Health

Congratulations!

Jessica Little, M.S., R.D. Now is the Vice President, Business Development and Programs at Civitas Networks for Health

CIVITAS
Networks for Health

Congratulations to the first set of TEFCA QHINs!

- On Feb. 13, 2023, HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra recognized the first set of Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA) Qualified Health Information Networks (QHINs).
- This milestone announcement marks important progress in national interoperability.
- **The six QHINs selected were:**
  - CommonWell Health Alliance,
  - eHealth Exchange*
  - EPIC
  - Health Gorilla*
  - Kno2*
  - KONZA**
- *Three* of these QHINs are Civitas members, and one** is the services provider for two Civitas HIE members. Congratulations to the RCE, Sequoia Project, and all the QHINs!*

Upcoming Speaking Engagements!

CIVITAS
Networks for Health

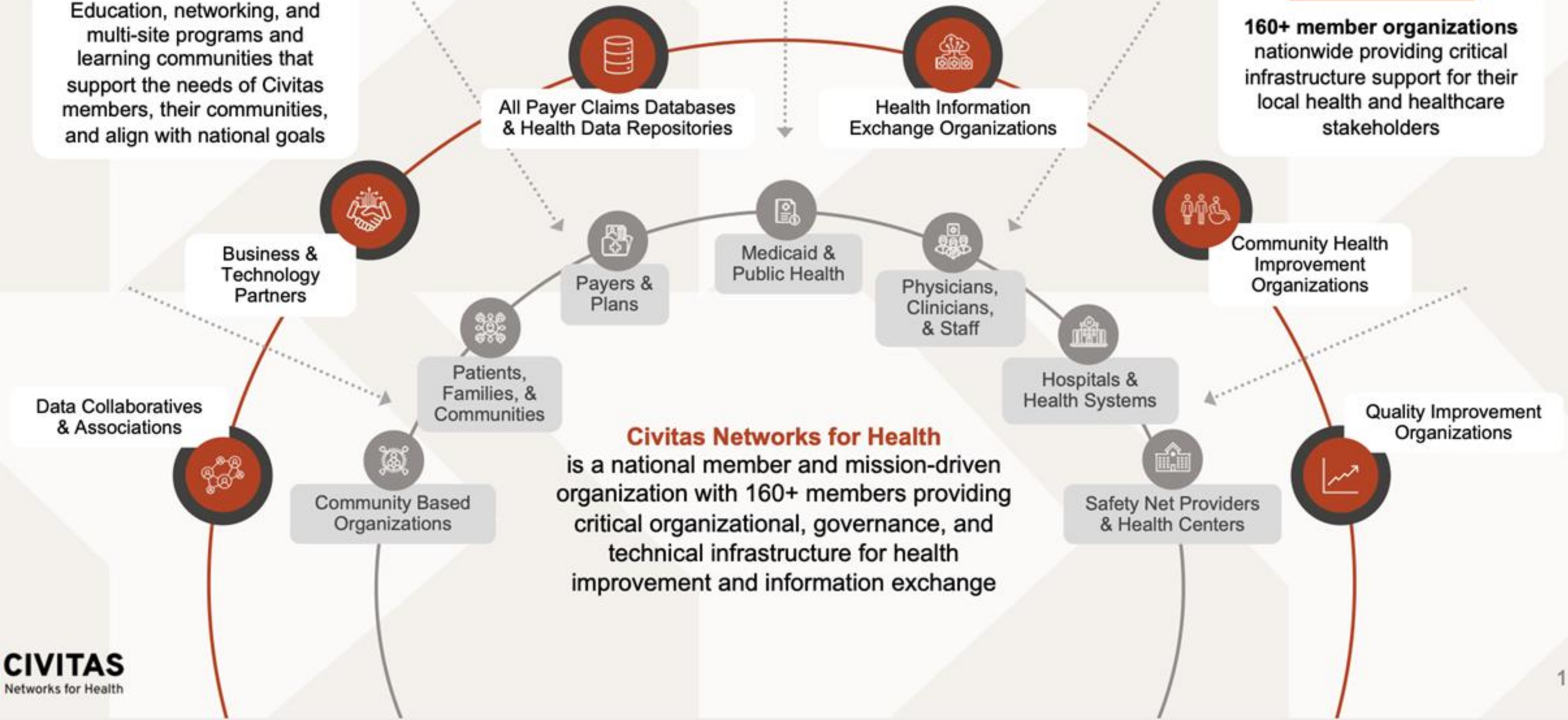
Who We Serve

Programs

Education, networking, and multi-site programs and learning communities that support the needs of Civitas members, their communities, and align with national goals

Members

160+ member organizations nationwide providing critical infrastructure support for their local health and healthcare stakeholders



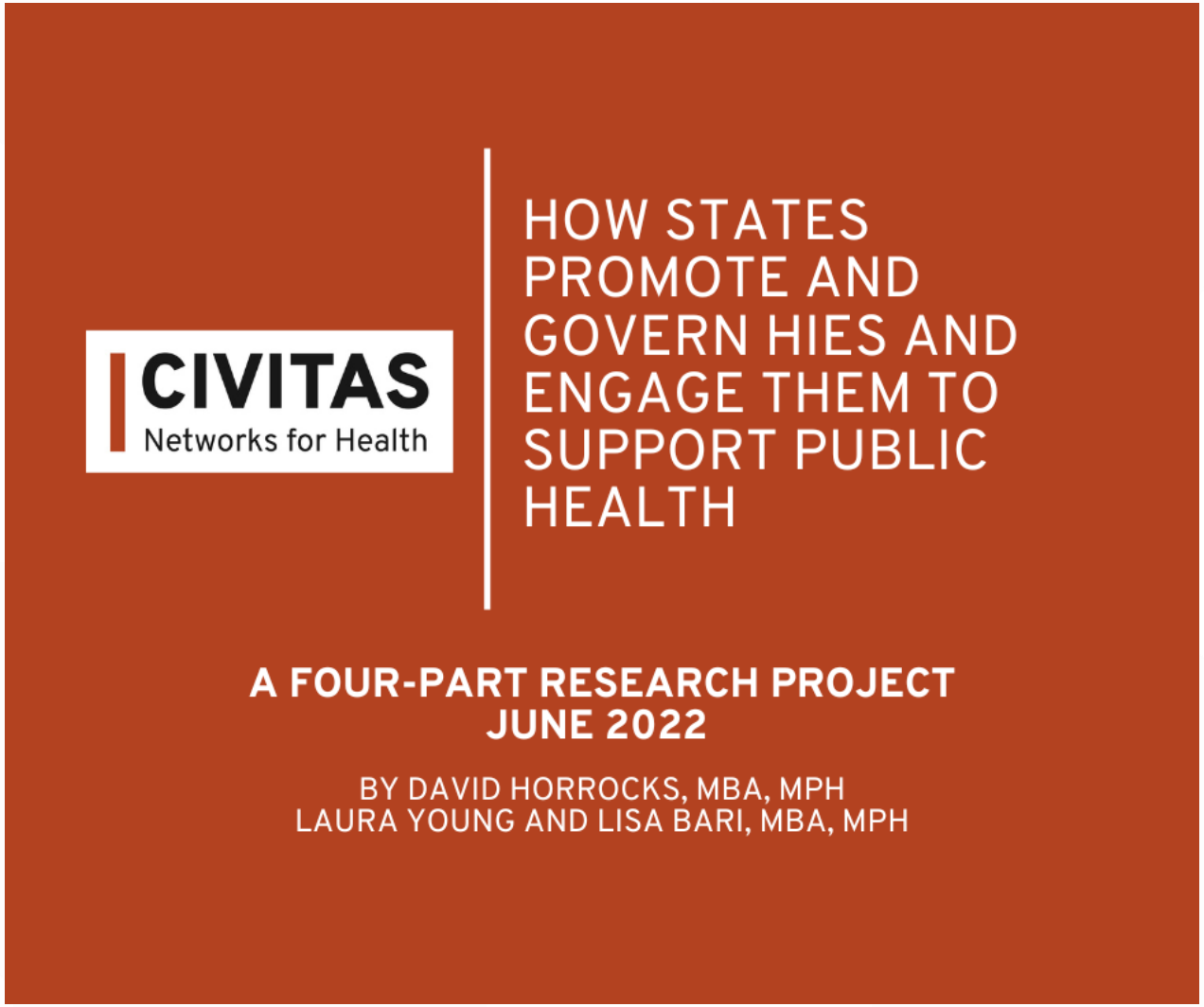
Civitas Networks for Health is a national member and mission-driven organization with 160+ members providing critical organizational, governance, and technical infrastructure for health improvement and information exchange

Upcoming Events

- Networks News will take place on Wednesday, March 15.
- Join us on Tuesday, March 21st from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. ET for the third session of the Civitas Member Roundtable on Sensitive Health Data. Register Now!
- Civitas will be hosting the first Quarterly Public Policy Briefing of 2023 at the start of April – invitation and additional information coming soon.

New Civitas Resources!

- David Horrocks, Laura Young, and Civitas' CEO Lisa Bari partnered on a research project last year, which has now been published as a four-part paper series on **How States Promote and Govern HIEs and Engage Them to Support Public Health.** They are now widely available on our website!
- Here is the link to the Civitas Resources page!



National HIO Survey Is Still Running!

The nationwide survey of HIOs being led by Civitas Networks for Health in collaboration with Dr. Julia Adler-Milstein at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and sponsored by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) is being disseminated to HIEs. This initiative began prior to the incorporation of Civitas Networks for Health with the Strategic Health Information Exchange Collaborative.

If you have been asked to complete the survey and have not, we highly encourage participation.

2023 Conference Updates

- **Conference registration and the hotel room block will launch next week!**
- The sponsorship prospectus is now publicly available!
- The call for proposals will be launching at the end of this month!
- We will be announcing keynote speakers starting next week and in the weeks to come!

Save the Date for 2024!

Civitas has locked in dates for our 2024 Annual Conference in Detroit, Michigan!

Block your calendar October 13 - October 16, 2024!

Membership Renewal

All Civitas members should have received an invoice for their 2023 membership term. If you have not already received your invoice, or have any questions about your invoice, please reach out to Niurka (Nikki) Lluveras-Hernandez (nlluveras@civitasforhealth.org).

Please note that organizations must pay their membership dues to continue receiving member benefits.

Civitas Member Staff Feature Stories

- Civitas is excited to announce that we will be creating monthly stories featuring our members' staff. We want to continue to showcase the tremendously talented and dedicated people across our network who are working hard to realize their organization's mission and assist in improving the health of the communities they serve.
- If you have someone on your team that you think deserves to be featured, please reach out to Malik Chambers, mchambers@civitasforhealth.org and share why.
- We will respond first come first serve while also prioritizing the diversity of member types. Initially, this opportunity is for our full members.

Civitas Member News

Member News

- CIVHC released its Provider Payment Tool, the first of its kind in Colorado state.
- CyncHealth achieved a HITRUST Risk-based, 2-year (r2) certification for their Cloud Based Data Services platform.
- Diameter Health, now part of Availity, achieved the Certified Data Partner designation in the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Data Aggregator Validation program.
- East Tennessee Health Information Network (etHIN) partnered with 4medica to Reduce Duplicate Patient Records through their cloud-based Data Quality Platform.
- Healthy Alliance CEO, Erica Coletti, MBA, was recently featured in an HFMA article on why community partnerships are so critical for promoting health.
- Health Improvement Partnership of Santa Cruz County has appointed Maritza Lara, MHCL, as its new Executive Director.

Member News

- MedAllies has been selected by MEDITECH as the Health Information Service Provider (HISP) for Expanse MEDITECH service.
- PHIX recently released a research article; *The Impact of Community Health Information Exchange Usage on Time to Reutilization of Hospital Services.*
- Quality Health Network (QHN) has named Marc Lassaux as the company's Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer.
- Unite Us and Ohio Health Information Partnership (CliniSync), are partnering to expand the coordinated care network known as Unite Ohio.
- The Wisconsin Statewide Health Information Network (WISHIN) announced that it has earned the Validated Data Stream designation in the new National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Data Aggregator Validation program.

Civitas Workgroups/Council Feature

Digital Measures and Measurement Workgroup

- Co-chaired by Julie Sonier, President and CEO at Minnesota Community Measurement and Sarah Cotter, Director, Client Engagement & Population Health at HEALTHeLINK
- Meets from 1:30 – 2:30p ET on the last Monday of each month
- Recent focus of meetings has included NCQA's Data Aggregator Validation program
- Upcoming meetings topics will include measurement and analytics to support stakeholder needs, working with payers, and regional vs. national measurement models

Government Relations and Advocacy Council Update

- The draft 2023 advocacy agenda will be reviewed by the council during their February Meeting and will be shared with the network once finalized.
- Civitas submitted comments for the Part 2 Rule that can be found on the advocacy page of the Civitas website.
- We are planning to comment on the Interoperability Rule and will be looking for input from all Civitas members for our comments.

Marketing and Communications Workgroup

The Civitas Marketing and Communications Workgroup will be meeting on Tuesday, February 28th from 12- 1 pm ET and will feature a presentation from **Colin Hung, Chief Marketing Officer at Healthcare IT Today on social media strategy.**

Please reach out to contact@civitasforhealth.org if you would like the meeting invitation.

CIVITAS
Networks for Health

Program and Funding Updates

Implementation Activities Supported by RWJF

Dissemination and Implementation activities to Advance Public Health Data

- **Sustainable, cross-sector data sharing** partnerships
- **Co-designed approach to implementation** that centers health equity
- Development and dissemination of **resources and technical assistance**
- Terminology and technical workstreams to address **public health and health equity objectives**

Activities are designed to align with and advance
Recommendations from the National Commission to Transform Public Health Data Systems

Opportunities for Peer-to-Peer Learning

For 3 Selected Pilots:

- Bi-weekly Virtual Technical Assistance sessions
- Designated In-person Regional Convenings
- Peer-to-Peer Learning Opportunities

For Everyone:

- Ongoing Gravity Pilots Affinity Group (Civitas-supported)
  - Last Thursday of the month from 2:30 pm ET to 4:00 pm ET
  - Continuing meeting series through September 2023
- Ad hoc shared learning based on community needs

Key Dates for Gravity Pilots Phase 2

RFP Release Date

- February 2, 2023

Application Due Date

- February 24, 2023

Notification Date

- March 17, 2023

2023 Pilots Affinity Group Meeting Schedule

- Every last Thursday of the month from 2:30 pm ET to 4:00 pm ET

Questions? Contact Heidi Penix (hpenix@civitasforhealth.org)

Member Interest Request – HRSA RFP

Comprehensive Systems Integration for Adolescent and Young Adult Health (HRSA-23-079)

1) Establish a cross-sector alliance comprised of nationally recognized partners in health, school, and community systems that will collectively provide national leadership;

2) Support the alliance to develop and disseminate a national blueprint to improve adolescent health and well-being through systems integration in states, territories, and tribal organizations;

3) Provide targeted technical assistance (TA) to learning collaboratives comprised of leadership teams in states, territories, and/or tribal organizations working to implement cross-sector systems integration models;

4) Deliver TA to support Title V agencies that have selected performance measures related to improving adolescent health and/or behavioral health; and

5) Increase the number of state, territory, and tribal organizations accessing and implementing systems integration models to improve youth health and well-being.

Interested members can contact Kate Kroell (kkroell@civitasforhealth.org) for more information.

Spotlight Presentation: NQF MAP Coordinating Committee Update

Sara Hallvik, Vice President of Data Solutions, Comagine Health

Comagine Health

Measure Applications Partnership (MAP) Update

Sara Hallvik, MPH

VP, Data Solutions

Comagine Health

The Measure Applications Partnership (MAP) is a public-private partnership convened by The National Quality Forum (NQF)

- In partnership with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
- Designed to provide input to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on the selection of performance measures for public reporting and performance-based payment programs

Comagine Health

MAP's pre-rulemaking work is conducted by:

- The Rural Health Advisory group
- The Health Equity Advisory Group
- The Clinician Workgroup
- The Hospital Workgroup
- The Post-Acute Care/Long-Term Care (PAC/LTC) Workgroup
- The Coordinating Committee

Civitas members participate in several of these workgroups and advisory groups, and Civitas holds a voting seat on the Coordinating Committee.

Comagine Health

The Coordinating Committee met for 2 days in January 2023

- The Workgroups and Advisory groups recommend one of four actions on each Measure Under Consideration (MUC):
  - Support for Rulemaking
  - Conditional Support for Rulemaking
  - Do Not Support for Rulemaking with Potential for Mitigation
  - Do Not Support for Rulemaking
- The Coordinating Committee then votes (yes/no) whether to adopt the Workgroup's recommendation
- These recommendations are all provided to CMS, who makes the final decision

Comagine Health

The Coordinating Committee reviewed 52 measures under consideration for 17 federal quality programs

- More than twice as many as were reviewed last year
  - Cost Measures
  - COVID19 Measures
  - Cross-Setting Discharge Function Score Measures
  - Geriatric Measure
  - Volume Measures
  - Patient Activation Measure
  - Social Determinants and Disparities Measures
  - Safety Measures
  - Rural Emergency Hospital Quality Reporting Program Measures
  - Measures pulled from Consent Calendar

General Themes

- Many measures lacking endorsement received conditional support for rulemaking, pending review and endorsement by a consensus-based entity
- Concerns were raised about all COVID vaccination measures, specifically not wanting to penalize providers in areas with high community vaccine hesitancy
- Concerns were raised about all cost measures and the role of primary care provider vs specialists in controlling costs

General Themes

- Questions around process to ensure measures aren't duplicative
- Cross setting measures received strong support (e.g facility volume in inpatient, ambulatory surgery center)
- Patient activation measure received strong support, though program-specific use was questioned
- Robust and largely supportive discussion and public testimony on Social Determinants and Disparities Measures

Social Need Measures Pulled from Consent Calendar

- **MUC2022-098:** Connection to Community Service Provider *(MIPS)*
- **MUC2022-111:** Resolution of At Least 1 Health-Related Social Need *(MIPS)*

- Both measures received strong support from public testimony
- Both measures pulled because of outstanding concerns on lack of reliability, use of social needs screening tools that have not been standardized, and the role of insurance
- Coordinating Committee ultimately voted to support the Work Group recommendations, "Support for Rulemaking," on both measures with nearly unanimous support

All Cause Risk Measures Pulled from Consent Calendar

- **MUC2022-055:** Hybrid Hospital-Wide All-Cause Risk Standardized Readmission Measure *(Hospital IQR)*
- **MUC2022-057:** Hybrid Hospital-Wide All-Cause Risk Standardized Mortality Measure *(Hospital IQR)*

- Both measures pulled because the measure specification changed significantly after work group recommendations, including Medicare Advantage patients
- Coordinating Committee was ultimately not concerned about this change and voted "Conditional Support for Rulemaking," pending endorsement by a consensus-based entity, on both measures with nearly unanimous support

Geriatrics Measure Pulled from the Consent Calendar

- **MUC2022-112:** Geriatrics Hospital Measure *(Hospital IQR)*
  - Measure pulled due to concern about duplication with MUC2022-032: Geriatrics Surgical Measure *(Hospital IQR)*
  - The Coordinating Committee did not reach consensus on workgroup recommendation so had to vote again
  - Ultimately voted "Conditional Support" pending endorsement by a consensus-based entity, further work on paring down the elements included in the attestation and presenting information about gaps for the components covered by the measure

Want more information?

- https://www.qualityforum.org/map/

- **Thank you!**

Discussion / Q&A

CIVITAS
Networks for Health

CIVITAS
Networks for Health

Contact

www.civitasforhealth.org

twitter.com/civitas4health

contact@civitasforhealth.org