



EQUADRSM CONTINUES TO DRIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN REHAB CARE

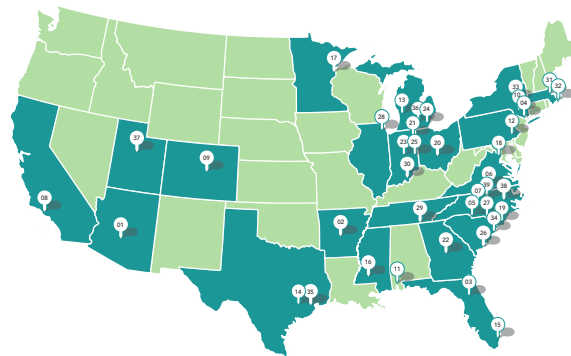
Carolinas Rehabilitation



Carolinas HealthCare System

EQUADRSM

Continues to Drive Improvements in Rehab Care



NATIONAL QUALITY BENCHMARK DATABASE ALLOWS PEERS TO SHARE BEST PRACTICES

In less than a decade, Carolinas Rehabilitation's ground-breaking quality benchmark program has evolved into a trusted resource that's been proven to improve care at inpatient rehabilitation facilities nationwide.

Started in 2009, EQUADRSM (Exchanged Quality Data for Rehabilitation) is open to all inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRFs). Members get access to a confidential database of quality metrics that can be used to benchmark outcomes against peers, as well as share best practices within a protected legal environment.

"EQUADRSM started off as a handful of rehab hospitals sharing quality data but has since grown into a fully accredited Patient Safety Organization (PSO) with over 30 members," says Stacey Coffee, Clinical Informatics and PSO Coordinator for EQUADRSM. "Hospitals across the country use the information from EQUADRSM to improve the quality and safety of the patient care they deliver in their facilities. The information we gather and share helps prevent falls, injuries, pressure ulcers, infections and other serious medical conditions before they happen."

EQUADRSM, a federally designated PSO, develops quality metrics based on industry best practices, national standards and existing reporting obligations. That PSO designation ensures all data submitted is confidential.

The EQUADRSM Network

- Is the only rehabilitation-specific Patient Safety Organization in the United States
- Acts as the central database for the collection of inpatient rehabilitation quality and safety metrics. Combines and analyzes data to better understand industry-wide outcomes
- Provides a forum for quality professionals to discuss issues and best practices for inpatient rehabilitation hospitals
- Maintains strict criteria on what type of facilities can join to increase the integrity, validity and reliability of the program
- Provides the confidentiality protections of an Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality-accredited Patient Safety Organization
- Has internet-based electronic submission
- Provides rehab-specific quality/safety benchmarks to drive performance and improve outcomes

Coffee, a certified rehabilitation registered nurse and frequent conference presenter, has also served as a rehabilitation liaison, mentor and clinical instructor. Most recently, she served as Carolinas Rehabilitation's service line educator.

"EQUADRSM creates a collaborative community where members can learn from one another under the confidentiality protections of an accredited Patient Safety Organization," says Coffee. "By providing benchmarking data and a forum to share best practices, EQUADRSM equips members to rapidly drive quality improvement efforts in their own facilities."

In 2012, it became mandatory for IRFs to report quality data, but they've since struggled to understand and use the data to improve care. EQUADRSM overcomes that challenge by using the data to develop targeted strategies that have been proven to have the most positive effect on outcomes.

"The data gets used to advance performance efforts and address areas where improvement is needed," says Coffee. "EQUADRSM members also have access to quarterly webinars, which allow members to share best practices, discuss challenges and interact in the protected environment of an accredited PSO."

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act strongly incentivizes PSO participation. By 2017, qualified plans in health insurance exchanges may not contract with a hospital of 50 beds or more unless that hospital has a patient safety evaluation system in place and reports data to an accredited PSO.

"EQUADRSM helps us learn about the underlying causes of risks and harms in the delivery of healthcare," says Coffee. "This process helps other facilities reduce the trial-and-error process, quickly disseminate identified best practices and create a safe zone for hospitals to have these discussions."

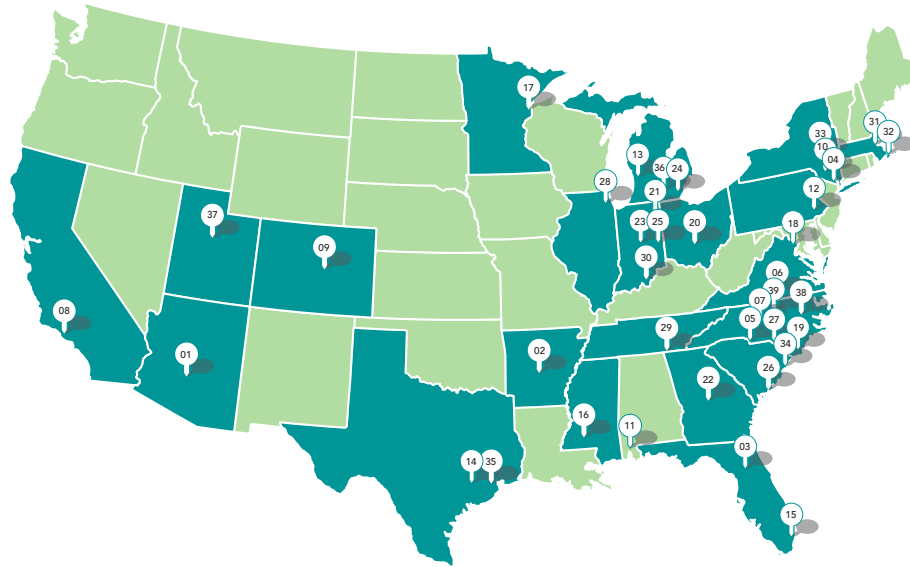
**To learn more, or to become a member of EQUADRSM,
email us at equadr@CarolinasHealthCare.org.**

Rehab Experts Praise EQUADRSM

"The thing that I like most about being a member of EQUADRSM is not only the benchmarking data it provides, but also the webinars where we collectively go over data, share best practice information and have the opportunity to network with each other," says Don Huston, an administrator with Cone Health Rehabilitation Center in Greensboro. "I have used the EQUADRSM benchmarking data to set outcome goals for our inpatient rehabilitation facility, and we have implemented ideas that have been shared by other EQUADRSM members."

"Having a safe environment to talk about what's working and what isn't working is essential to finding the answers," says Sarah Lake-Wallace, with TIRR Memorial Hermann in Houston, TX. "All the members are committed to helping us all succeed. [EQUADRSM has] raised some wonderful opportunities for my organization. The quarterly calls keep me current on legislative concerns, process changes and new learning opportunities."

THE EQUADR™ NETWORK MEMBERS



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| 01 Banner University Medical Center Rehabilitation Institute
Phoenix, AZ | 21 Parkview Rehabilitation Center
Fort Wayne, IN |
| 02 Baptist Health Rehabilitation Institute
Little Rock, AR | 22 Rehabilitation Hospital Navicent Health
Macon, GA |
| 03 Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital
Jacksonville, FL | 23 Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana
Indianapolis, IN |
| 04 Burke Rehabilitation Hospital
White Plains, NY | 24 Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan
Detroit, MI |
| 05 Carolinas Rehabilitation
Charlotte, NC | 25 Reid Hospital
Richmond, IN |
| 06 Centra Acute Rehabilitation Center
Lynchburg, VA | 26 Roper Rehabilitation Hospital
Charleston, SC |
| 07 Cone Health Rehabilitation Center
Greensboro, NC | 27 Scotland HealthCare System
Laurinburg, NC |
| 08 Cottage Rehabilitation Hospital
Santa Barbara, CA | 28 Shirley Ryan AbilityLab (Formerly RIC)
Chicago, IL |
| 09 Craig Hospital
Englewood, CO | 29 Siskin Hospital for Physical Rehabilitation
Chattanooga, TN |
| 10 Helen Hayes Hospital
West Haverstraw, NY | 30 Southern Indiana Rehab Hospital
New Albany, IN |
| 11 J.L. Bedsole/Rotary Rehabilitation Hospital
Mobile, AL | 31 Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital
Boston, MA |
| 12 Magee Rehabilitation
Philadelphia, PA | 32 Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital Cape Cod
East Sandwich, MA |
| 13 Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital
Grand Rapids, MI | 33 Sunnyview Rehabilitation Hospital
Schenectady, NY |
| 14 Memorial Hermann Katy Rehabilitation
Katy, TX | 34 Tideland's Waccamaw Rehabilitation Hospital
Murrells Inlet, SC |
| 15 Memorial Rehabilitation Institute at MRHS
Hollywood, FL | 35 TIRR Memorial Hermann
Houston, TX |
| 16 Methodist Rehabilitation Center
Jackson, MS | 36 University of Michigan Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility
Ann Arbor, MI |
| 17 Miller-Dwan Rehabilitation Center
Duluth, MN | 37 University of Utah Rehabilitation
Salt Lake City, UT |
| 18 National Rehabilitation Hospital
Washington, DC | 38 Vidant Health Regional Rehabilitation Center
Greenville, NC |
| 19 New Hanover Regional Medical Center
Wilmington, NC | 39 WakeMed Rehab Hospital
Raleigh, NC |
| 20 Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
Dodd Hall Inpatient Rehabilitation
Columbus, OH | |