



Dear PACE Administrator,

Under contract from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Econometrica, Inc., requests your assistance in the development of health care quality measures for the PACE program. Four measures have been selected for pilot testing:

1. Falls,
2. Injury falls,
3. Pressure ulcers, including pressure ulcer prevention, and
4. Hospital readmissions.

Versions of these measures have been endorsed by the National Quality Forum as important to measure and report for hospitals and nursing homes. National policy organizations such as the Institute of Medicine, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality have highlighted the need to reduce these adverse events in order to improve the quality and safety of health care.

Your program has been randomly selected to participate in the development of the four health care quality measures. Our research team, located at the University of Kansas School of Nursing, would like to request your assistance in pilot data collection to explore the feasibility of collecting standardized data on the measures for the PACE program. In addition, we would like to solicit your feedback about the clarity of the data collection guidelines, the usefulness of the data collection forms, and the level of effort expended to collect the data. Your input is vital to the development of quality measures that are meaningful to the PACE program and to estimate the effort required for data collection.

Specifically, you will be asked to do the following:

1. Affirm your acceptance of this invitation to enroll in the pilot study.
2. Attend teleconference training on the measures and the data collection guidelines. The teleconference will occur during the week of [date]. The specific date and time will be provided to you after enrollment.
3. Coordinate and oversee the special data collection over a 1-month period ([date range]). The data elements will initially include the following:
 - a. Participants ages and genders.
 - b. Participants who fell, setting where fall occurred, and injury level.
 - c. Number of pressure ulcers, by stage, risk status, and prevention activities.
 - d. Number of hospital admissions within the 30 days.
 - e. Number of PACE participants enrolled in your program each day of the month.

As data collection and testing evolve, we might determine additional data needs. We expect that any additions will have a negligible effect on reporter burden. Data may be collected from

paper or electronic medical records maintained by health care providers, from administrative records, and from a 1-day prevalence study for the pressure ulcer data.

4. Submit the data electronically during the first 2 weeks of [month].
5. Participate in a follow-up survey about your experience with collecting data for the measures.

Please complete this brief survey [*URL here*] with your intent to participate by [Day, Date].

Our research team is located in Bethesda, MD, and Kansas City, KS. If you have questions about participation, please contact Econometrica's lead researcher, Nancy Dunton, Ph.D., FAAN, at (913) 588-1456 or ndunton@kumc.edu.

Thank you very much for your interest and consideration.

Sincerely,

Darryl W. Roberts, Ph.D., M.S., R.N.
Project Director – CMS PACE Quality
Measurement Project
Econometrica Inc.

Nancy Dunton, Ph.D., FAAN
Research Professor
University of Kansas Medical Center School of
Nursing