

# CAH Quality Network



## Technical Assistance

The North Dakota Critical Access Hospital Quality Network serves as a link for North Dakota's Critical Access Hospitals to share best practices, tools, and resources related to providing quality care. Technical assistance is available through the Network to all CAHs in North Dakota.

### 1. [ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/cah-quality-network](http://ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/cah-quality-network)

The Network's web page is hosted through the UND Center for Rural Health's website. The site features resources relevant to CAH quality, a shared calendar of events across the state, presentations, and the Network's newsletter. Also included on the site is a list of North Dakota's CAHs, contact information, maps outlining CAH locations and their primary referral patterns, and more.

### 2. Educational Offerings

The Flex Program hosts a North Dakota Flex Annual CAH and RHC meeting in the Spring. Continuing Medical Education credits (CMEs) are offered for this educational meeting. Additionally, other educational events are offered throughout the year based on current topics. Agendas are meant to support Flex and Network goals, featuring best practices of North Dakota CAHs and their partners.

### 3. Hospital Reporting Quality Efforts

The Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Program (MBQIP) seeks to increase attention on quality healthcare to all CAH Medicare beneficiaries, both inpatient and outpatient. The Network works with CAH staff at their request to provide consultation (on or off site) with hospital reporting quality efforts. This initiative takes a proactive and visionary approach to ensure CAHs are well-equipped and prepared to meet Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) quality requirements.

### 4. Planning & Setting Priorities

Assistance is available to CAHs and their partners to provide information for decision making of quality improvement related initiatives. Through individuals with content expertise (e.g. Emergency Department Transfer Communication EDTC), the Network can assist in facilitating meetings to discuss needs and help set priorities. This is accomplished through the identification of best practices from other similar facilities, evidence-based practices, and more.



## 5. Medicare Conditions of Participation

**Regulatory Changes:** The Network monitors regulatory changes and posts updates to the Network's ND CAH listserv.

**Collaborative Sharing:** The Network hosts quarterly meetings to facilitate the exchange of state survey findings between North Dakota CAHs. Best practices, policies and other resources are shared to help CAHs prepare for their surveys and to help develop a plan of correction if necessary.

**North Dakota Conditions of Participation (CoP) Checklist:** The checklist is for informational purposes only. It is meant to be a tool to assist Network members with the state operations manual and North Dakota state regulations. The checklist is a compilation of frequently missed regulations and rules in a checklist format. The booklet can be found on the ND CAH Quality Networks webpage [ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/cah-quality-network](http://ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/cah-quality-network).

## 6. Director of Nursing Mentorship

The Director of Nursing (DON) Mentorship program is an opportunity for North Dakota CAH directors of nursing to assess information, discussion, and training from fellow directors of nursing from other North Dakota CAHs. The activities are meant to foster supportive relationships between CAH staff to improve quality of care. Mentorship calls are monthly and can be found on the North Dakota Healthcare Partners Events Calendar at [www.ndhpec.com/calendar/](http://www.ndhpec.com/calendar/).

## 7. Virtual Library of Shared Tools

The Virtual Library of Shared Tools is a repository of best practices, policies, and procedures and is password protected so that it's only accessible to Network members. These resources can be accessed through the Network's webpage at [ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/cah-quality-network](http://ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/cah-quality-network).

## 8. Listserv

The North Dakota CAH Quality Network administers a private listserv, hosted through the University of North Dakota Center for Rural Health. Access is limited to North Dakota CAHs and is administered by the Network Coordinator. Use of the listserv is encouraged by individual CAH staff as a tool to share information, post questions, and interact with their peers. The Network utilizes the listserv as its primary mode of communication, notifying CAHs of regulatory changes, upcoming events, and more.

### For more information, contact:

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