

More information on QPI and PIP

Contact the Medicare Australia PIP Enquiry Line on **1800 222 032** or visit www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/pip for information on:

- ▶ registering your practice for the PIP
- ▶ number of activities required by your practice
- ▶ PIP payment queries.

Contact NPS on 02 8217 8700 or email info@nps.org.au to:

- ▶ register for the NPS publications mailing list
- ▶ enquire about QPI activities.

Go to the NPS website www.nps.org.au for information on:

- ▶ NPS publications
- ▶ upcoming QPI activities and events
- ▶ Frequently Asked Questions about the QPI and the PIP
- ▶ NPS privacy policy.

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QUALITY PRESCRIBING INCENTIVE

A Short Guide



How the QPI helps your practice

The QPI is one of the incentives of the Practice Incentives Program (PIP) that helps your GPs keep up to date with best practice in quality use of medicines.

Benefits of QPI activities include:

- ▶ Financial rewards to practices for GP participation in a range of educational activities provided or recognised by NPS.
- ▶ Contributes to quality care, including better prescribing and improved health outcomes for patients.
- ▶ Assisting GPs to meet compulsory CPD requirements, and practices to maintain accreditation standards.

How to participate in the QPI

To receive financial rewards for taking part in QPI activities your practice must first be eligible to participate in the PIP. The PIP is administered by Medicare Australia on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. To participate in the PIP, practices must:

- ▶ ensure they are accredited*, or registered for accreditation, against the RACGP *Standards for General Practices*
- ▶ register with Medicare Australia.



To register with Medicare Australia or find out more about PIP, call the PIP inquiry line on **1800 222 032** or visit www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/pip

* Practices must achieve full accreditation within 12 months of joining and then maintain full accreditation.

QPI financial incentives

Incentive payments are made to practices for completing QPI eligible activities. Activities are completed by individual GPs in a practice but payments are based on the whole practice meeting a minimum participation level. Payments are calculated at \$1 per Standardised Whole Patient Equivalent (SWPE) per year.†

Individual GPs can complete more or less activities, as long as the practice completes the total number of activities required.

 All relevant activities **must be completed by 30 April each year**; payments are made in  the May quarter.

QPI activity requirements

A practice is required to complete at least three activities per FTE GP in the QPI reference period 1 May–30 April. One of these three activities must be a clinical audit provided or recognised by NPS. (View a list of available NPS audits at www.nps.org.au/clinical_audits)

To help choose and plan your practices' QPI activities and monitor participation, NPS provides a yearly QPI/PIP planner and quarterly participation statements. (A copy of the planner can be downloaded at www.nps.org.au/about_points)

Medicare Australia provides statements to practices to outline their QPI/PIP activity requirements in the third quarter each year.



A practice can establish their activity requirements by contacting Medicare Australia on **1800 222 032**.

† The average full-time equivalent (FTE) GP has a SWPE value around 1000 annually, which equates to \$1000/annum.

QPI eligible activities

NPS educational visits

NPS Facilitators visit GPs in their practice and discuss how current evidence on therapeutic topics translates into quality prescribing for patients. This may be a 1-to-1 visit, a small group discussion or an interactive workshop.



Find your local general practice network at www.agpn.com.au

NPS clinical audits

NPS provides at least five clinical audits each year. These are either paper-based or online.

NPS case studies

NPS case studies are included in *NPS News*.[‡] Case studies can also be completed online at <http://casestudy.nps.org.au>. On completion participants receive a report containing aggregated GP responses and expert commentaries.

Other clinical audits recognised by NPS

Clinical audits conducted by other providers may be QPI eligible activities. Contact NPS to check if an audit you intend to participate in is recognised for the QPI. These activities may also incur a cost. Please contact the audit provider to find out.



For more details about QPI eligible activities visit www.nps.org.au/about_points

Many QPI eligible activities may also be eligible for points under the RACGP Quality Improvement and Continuing Professional Development Program and/or the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine Professional Development Program. Contact NPS or the activity provider.

[‡] If your practice does not receive *NPS News*, please contact NPS via fax (02 9211 7578) or email info@nps.org.au NPS privacy policy can be viewed at www.nps.org.au/privacy