



QUALITY-OF-CARE ASSESSMENT

LifeGuard provides licensing boards and health care organizations with quality-of-care assessment services for physicians. The program uses several evidence-based assessment tools to measure clinical knowledge, decision-making and documentation skills. The goal of this program is to ensure that the physician is practicing safely, attaining the highest and most up-to-date standard of clinical excellence, and complying with state and federal regulatory requirements, when applicable.

QUALITY OF CARE ASSESSMENT

The quality-of-care assessment is utilized by state boards as well as hospital, health systems, and large physician practices when there is a concern related to a physician's compliance to specialty care standards, medical record documentation guidelines, and regulatory requirements that has or could result in an adverse patient outcome.

WHAT TO EXPECT

During a quality-of-care assessment, the referred physician will undergo assessment with a specialty peer physician and other LifeGuard team evaluators. Our team of evaluators will request medical records relevant to the quality-of-care concerns. These records will be reviewed by the specialty peer physician and LifeGuard team evaluators, to determine that the physician is prescribing care and treatment relevant to the specialty's standards of care. The assessment may also include other examination components such as stimulated chart recall discussion when a specific concern with the care and treatment may be identified to allow the physician to articulate his/her thoughts on the case. Reflection of how the physician treated a patient, especially if an adverse outcome was experienced, can be a valuable assessment tool. Evaluation of record-keeping documentation will focus not only on the appropriateness of the physician notes, but also the comprehensiveness of the documentation.

Assessments and plans for remediation will be completed within-person reviews, followed by supportive clinical strategies, protocols and practices that can be integrated for quality improvement. Specific recommendations can include enhancement in medical record processes, participation in tailored medical education, and ongoing monitoring to determine implementation of recommendations and sustained improvement.

WHO SHOULD CONSIDER LIFEGUARD'S PRACTICE MONITORING PROGRAM?

Physicians, health care organizations and state licensing boards who need to ensure that patient care and treatment is meeting specialty standards and medical record documentation guidelines should consider this program. These programs provide frameworks and guidance through which physicians can identify opportunities to enhance their clinical performance, improve patient safety and ensure compliance with standards, guidelines, and state/federal regulatory requirements.

WHY CHOOSE LIFEGUARD

A nationally recognized program, LifeGuard has been a vanguard for addressing clinical competency assessment needs for physicians and other health care professionals. Conceptualized by doctors for doctors, LifeGuard provides comprehensive assessment services and recommendations for remediation tailored to the individual needs of physicians and other eligible health care professionals. Through carefully customized evaluation programs, we aim to facilitate higher performing physicians, promote patient safety, and enhance the quality of medical care provided to ensure complete clinical competence. LifeGuard is not associated with any health system and as a core tenant utilizes a team of independent evaluators who have an explicit goal to fairly evaluate the physician.



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LifeGuard's mission is to promote patient safety and quality of care by providing comprehensive and individualized clinical assessments and educational remediation plans for physicians referred to the program.



CONCEPTUALIZED AND SUPPORTED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA MEDICAL SOCIETY.



The Foundation of the Pennsylvania Medical Society provides programs and services for individual physicians and others that improve the well-being of Pennsylvanians and sustain the future of medicine.