Welcome to the October 2017 issue of the Home Health Care CAHPS (HHCAHPS) Coordination Team Quarterly Review (CTQR)! CTQR newsletters are posted on the HHCAHPS website under the General Information tab. Please visit the HHCAHPS website for more information on the items mentioned in this newsletter: https://homehealthcahps.org/Home.aspx.

**What's New**

- The *Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS) Rate Update for Calendar Year (CY) 2018, Home Health Value-Based Purchasing Model, and Home Health Quality Reporting Requirements Proposed Rule* was published in the Federal Register on July 28, 2017. It is available on the HHCAHPS website linked here.

- Preview Reports for the period CY16,Q2–CY17,Q1 will be posted on the HHCAHPS website on October 6, 2017. To access your agency’s Preview Report, log onto the HHCAHPS website and select **Survey Preview Report** under the “For HHAs” tab on the grey menu bar.

**Hurricanes Harvey and Irma**

These guidelines should be followed by HHCAHPS Survey vendors in the wake of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

- Submit a Discrepancy Notification Report (DNR) documenting any deviations from HHCAHPS Survey protocols due to these hurricanes, including suspension of data collection activities for agencies and/or patients located in impacted areas.

- Continue to seek CMS approval (via the submission of a late field request) for any data collection activities that need to be initiated more than 26 days after the end of a sample month.

- Monitor CMS’ Emergency Response and Recovery webpage

- Review the CMS Memos on scope and duration of the exceptions under the Medicare Quality Reporting Program (Harvey and Irma).

- Monitor the HHCAHPS website for additional guidance.

**Important Dates to Remember**

- Next survey vendor data submission deadline, for CY17, Q2 data: **October 19, 2017**.

- The **Vendor Participation Form** (vendor application) will be available on the HHCAHPS website in early November 2017.

**HHCAHPS Participation Over Time**

The chart below shows the number of unique HHAs that have submitted HHCAHPS Survey data since the 2012 APU period. The number ranges from 7,881 HHAs in the 2012 APU to 9,933 HHAs in the 2017 APU period.

![Unique HHAs that Submitted HHCAHPS Survey Data (by APU Period)](chart.png)

**Contact Us**

The HHCAHPS Coordination Team can be reached by e-mail (hhcahps@rti.org) or by telephone (1-866-354-0985).