

# Quality Connection



August 2010 Issue

## In This Issue

[Use PROs to Measure Progress and Inform Discharge Planning](#)

[QualityMetric News](#)

[Product Spotlight](#)

[New Publications](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

## Use PROs to Measure Progress and Inform Discharge Planning

How can I best measure case management participants' health improvement or decline? Can PROs help me accomplish this?

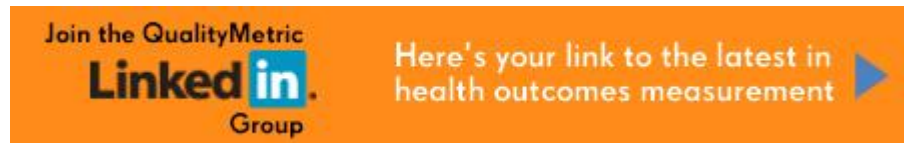
These are questions that case managers commonly ask regarding patient-reported outcome (PRO) health surveys. Donna Fontaine, Senior Account Executive of Health Management at QualityMetric, addresses these questions and more in an [article](#) featured in the June/July 2010 issue of *Case In Point*, the official magazine of the Case Management Society of America.

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## QualityMetric News

- In June, QualityMetric [teamed up](#) with Palladian Health to present at [AHIP's](#) Institute 2010 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The presentation highlighted how Palladian is using QualityMetric PROs at the point of care to drive clinical decision-making, measure treatment effectiveness, track patient progress, and provide efficient care. [View](#) the presentation slides to learn more about the insights shared to help health care professionals deliver on the promise of health reform.
- [Gus Gardner](#), President and Chief Operating Officer at QualityMetric, was featured in a spotlight [article](#) for the June 23, 2010 issue of Ingenix Innovation's eNewsletter. In this article, titled *Entire Health System Benefits from Patient-reported Outcomes*, Gardner highlights how PROs can help health care professionals achieve various goals when implemented. These include improving health management programs, demonstrating value to employers, providing a comprehensive snapshot of member health, and allowing stakeholders to evaluate the comparative effectiveness of treatments.
- Mark Kosinski, MA and Regina Rendas-Baum, MS, QualityMetric [scientists](#), recently published an [article](#) titled *Psychometric Evaluation of the Glaucoma Symptom Identifier*. They found that the Glaucoma Symptom Identifier (GSI) is a psychometrically valid tool adequate for helping glaucoma patients and their physicians assess current and future glaucoma symptoms.

- QualityMetric scientist Regina Rendas-Baum, MS, has also authored an [article](#) related to the Fatigue Impact Scale (FIS). Titled *A Novel Approach to Estimate the Minimally Important Difference for the Fatigue Impact Scale in Multiple Sclerosis Patients*, this article outlines how the results of the study can be used to aid clinicians in interpreting scores in patients with multiple sclerosis.



## Product Spotlight

The MOS Sleep Scale was originally developed in the Medical Outcomes Study (MOS), but has recently been revised. The new form differs from the original in that it has five response options, rather than six, for each question. One response option has been eliminated based on findings from SF-36<sup>®</sup> Health Survey translation studies ([Keller, Ware, Gandek et al., 1998](#)). It was found that the response choice was not consistently ordered in relation to other adjacent response choices. Eliminating this response option simplified the format of the form with little or no loss of information.

Visit our [website](#) to learn more.



## New Publications

QualityMetric publishes a user guide to accompany each PRO that we develop. Here are a few of our newly released publications.

- **Quick Start Guide for the Use of Pediatric Asthma Impact Survey with the SF-10 Health Survey for Children**  
 This guide provides users with the basic information necessary to familiarize themselves with the Pediatric Asthma Impact Survey<sup>™</sup> (PAIS-6<sup>™</sup>) and to understand how to properly use the instrument. It also discusses how PAIS-6 results can be augmented by findings from the SF-10<sup>™</sup> Health Survey for Children. The companion guide, *The SF-10 Health Survey for Children: A User's Guide* (Saris-Baglana et al., 2007), offers an overview of the development, use, and interpretation of the SF-10, and is also available from QualityMetric.
- **Quick Start Guide for the Use of the Rhinitis Impact Survey with the SF-12v2 Health Survey-SET**  
 This guide provides users with the basic information necessary to familiarize themselves with the Rhinitis Impact<sup>™</sup> Survey (RIS-6<sup>™</sup>) and to understand how to properly use the instrument. It

also provides a discussion of how the meaningfulness of RIS-6 results can be augmented by findings from the SF-12v2<sup>®</sup> Health Survey-SET.

- **Quick Start Guide for the SF-12v2 Health Survey**

This guide thoroughly documents the SF-12v2<sup>®</sup> Health Survey, including the development, reliability, and validity of the survey, as well as its substantial improvements over the SF-12<sup>®</sup> Health Survey. A portion of the guide focuses on the comparability of scoring the SF-12 and SF-12v2, and also the SF-12, SF-36<sup>®</sup> Health Survey, and SF-8<sup>™</sup> Health Survey. Guidelines concerning the choice of which form to use are an added bonus.

[Contact](#) an Account Executive to place an order or learn more.

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## Upcoming Events

QualityMetric representatives will be spreading the word on PROs at the following conference soon:

- **October 13-15 The Forum 2010: 12th Annual Meeting of [DMAA](#) Care Continuum Alliance, Washington, DC**  
Visit us at booth #316/318.

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