



Dear New York State HIV Care Provider,

We are delighted to announce the first annual Viral Load Suppression Quality Improvement Contest. We hope you will join us in this friendly competition that will help to end the AIDS epidemic in New York State by 2020.

The goal of this contest is to identify exemplary viral load suppression quality improvement projects, give recognition to the responsible quality improvement teams and share them so that other teams can benefit from what has been learned, ultimately spreading the improved viral load suppression processes to other programs in NYS.

Any quality improvement team is eligible to participate in the contest, provided they register before the end of the registration period (see below). This includes, but is not limited to,

- eHIVQUAL submitters,
- NYLinks participants,
- Learning network participants,
- HIV quality management programs,
- Supportive service providers, including those receiving Part A funding,
- AIDS Adult Day Health Care programs,
- Housing programs.

If your organization has multiple sites or multiple programs, you will be allowed to submit separately for these different sites/programs.

The requirements for submission will be to include, at a minimum, a baseline data point, an end-line data point and a story about the process of getting from baseline to end line.

Submissions should also show evidence of measurable improvement in viral load suppression and answer the following questions:

- What was the intervention and why did it lead to improved viral load suppression?
- Who actually implemented the intervention?
- Is the intervention sustainable and replicable?

An optional storyboard template is attached for your consideration. Contestants may choose to use this template or develop their own story format.

Please enter the contest by completing the attached registration form and submitting it to the NYS Quality of Care Program via Dan Belanger at daniel.belanger@health.ny.gov no later than January 15th, 2017. The contest will begin in January, 2017 and run through December, 2017, with submissions due January 19th, 2018. More detailed information about the contest can be found in the attached contest description.

We are looking forward to seeing your entry! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dan. Together we can help people living with HIV/AIDS to achieve a healthy quality of life and to end the epidemic in New York State by 2020. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Bruce D. Agins, MD, MPH
Medical Director, AIDS Institute

Dan Belanger, LMSW
Director, NYSDOH Quality of Care Program