



Viral Load Suppression (VLS) Quality Improvement (QI) Contest Description

VLS Contest Purpose and Goals

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.

VLS Contest Eligibility

Any quality improvement team is eligible to participate in the contest, provided they register before the end of the registration period (see contest timeline). 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 and housing programs.

Since some organizations have multiple sites or multiple programs, they will be allowed to submit separately for these different sites/programs.

Submission Requirements and Format

The requirements for submission will be to include 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?

A story board format will be provided that contestants may use for submitting their quality improvement project. Contestants may also use a modified version of the storyboard format or another format of their choosing.

Contest Timeline:

September 2016: Contest Publicized

September 15th 2016: Contest Registration Opens

January 15th 2017: Contest Registration Closes

January-December 2017: QI Projects are Carried Out

January 19th 2018: Contest Submissions Due

March 21st 2018: Winners Announced

Scoring of QI Projects and Winner Selection

The NYS QOC Contest Committee* will choose the Best VLS QI Project, as well as the first and second runners up. In judging, the committee will take into account the innovative and collaborative strength of the improvement activity, its replicability as well as its overall effectiveness in improving the rate of viral load suppression. The use of data in analyzing and understanding characteristics of PLWHA who are not virally suppressed to tailor QI efforts, and to measure improvements will also be considered. Staff and consumer involvement in the QI activity will also be considered as well as sustainability, spread of the improvement, and how well the story of improvement is told in the entry.

These components are all captured on the standard scoring tool that was developed for this competition. The QI project that has the highest overall score from the most judges, when all scoring components on the scoring tool are added up, will be the winner of the contest. Second and third place will also be judged based on overall scores.

A People's Choice Award will also be given. Anyone who is interested in the competition, including consumers, contestants and other providers, will be able use an online voting platform to view the entries and vote for their favorite one. A copy of the score card will also be made available on the online platform, so as to guide the judgment of the entries. Each person will only be allowed to vote one time. The QI project with the most votes will win the People's Choice Award.

Contest Winners Announcement Platform

A combined live and virtual award ceremony will be held on March 21, 2018. A few central gathering places will be designated. The event will be broadcast virtually to connect the different groups and people who can't make it to any of the gathering places.

Certificates

Certificates will be provided to each winner.

* NYS QOC Contest Committee membership (proposed): Carol DeLaMarter, Clemens Steinbock, Stephen Crowe, Chris Wells, Leah Hollander, Dan Belanger, Dan Tietz, Bruce Agins, Part A, Housing, Prevention and Primary Care Program representative.