

## VQI Pacific Northwest Regional Group Meeting 5/23/17

1. VQI PNW Regional Group welcoming new members from Swedish Hospital
2. Five new hospitals in Canada forming new Canada regional group.
3. VQI @ VAM National Meeting 5/30/17-5/31/17. Slides will be available on Pathways.
4. Some hospitals have firewalls blocking VQI newsletter. Please let Pathways Support know if this is an issue Pathways Support [psupport@m2s.com](mailto:psupport@m2s.com)
5. New regional website for PNW with members-only area is being validated.
6. The two new national VQI QI projects are discharge medications (antiplatelet and statin), and EVAR Long-Term Follow-Up.
7. New online VQI QI Resources in the Resources section of Pathways offer a step by step approach to QI, including a project charter template and QI project charter examples.
8. MACRA/MIPS discussion: MIPS will affect most Vascular surgeons. CMS provides a minimal data submission option in 2017 to avoid a 4% penalty on physician reimbursement. VQI will announce a new MIPS/MACRA webinar in July 2017 with more step by step submission information for physicians.
9. VQI blinded datasets have new quality assurance methods.
10. PNW member site requested a grace period to enter data from the previous year if needed. Anne Parker will look into this.
11. The TCAR Surveillance project was explained in Dr. Aranson's presentation.
12. Dr. Starnes proposed a Complex EVAR project involving creating a policy to use steerable sheaths on all FEVAR cases to reduce procedure time and flouro time.
13. Dr. Starnes nominated Wayne Zhang, MD, section chief at VA Puget Sound Health Care System to represent the regional group on the Research Advisory Council.
14. Barriers/Cost to VQI discussed: Abstraction time, cost. Discussion that Industry registry is a way for sites to cover their costs of participating in VQI.
15. Expanding participation in PNW Regional Group: Potential members are asked to reach out to hospitals with vascular surgeons who aren't currently participating in VQI. Field reps attempting to engage re; MIPS/MACRA, and extending invitations to regional meetings. New members will be joining from Multicare & Franciscan.
16. Action items: Dr. Starnes will reach out to invite hospitals to participate. Anne Parker will provide a list of hospitals and the names of their vascular surgeons. Nadine will follow up on member questions about risk models.
17. Next regional meeting: Next regional meeting will take place in conjunction with PNWVS, November 2-3, 2017 in Portland, OR at The Nines. Details to follow.