DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Patient Safety Organizations: Voluntary Relinquishment for QA to QI LLC

AGENCY: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of delisting.

SUMMARY: The Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Final Rule (Patient Safety Rule) authorizes AHRQ, on behalf of the Secretary of HHS, to list as a patient safety organization (PSO) an entity that attests that it meets the statutory and regulatory requirements for listing. A PSO can be “delisted” by the Secretary if it is found to no longer meet the requirements of the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005 (Patient Safety Act) and Patient Safety Rule, when a PSO chooses to voluntarily relinquish its status as a PSO for any reason, or when a PSO’s listing expires. AHRQ has accepted a notification of voluntary relinquishment from QA to QI LLC, P0091, of its status as a PSO, and has delisted QA to QI LLC accordingly.

DATES: The delisting was effective at 12:00 Midnight ET (2400) on June 15, 2019.

ADDRESSES: The directories for both listed and delisted PSOs are ongoing and reviewed weekly by AHRQ. Both directories can be accessed electronically at the following HHS website: http://www.pso.ahrq.gov/listed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cathryn Bach, Center for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety, AHRQ, 5600 Fishers Lane, MS 06N100B, Rockville, MD 20857; Telephone (toll free): (866) 403-3897; Telephone (local): (301) 427-1111; TTY (toll free): (866) 438-7231; TTY (local): (301) 427-1130; Email: pso@ahrq.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Background

The Patient Safety Act, 42 U.S.C. 299b–21 to 299b–26, and the related Patient Safety Rule, 42 CFR part 3, published in the Federal Register on November 21, 2008, 73 FR 70732–70814, establish a framework by which individual and entities that meet the definition of provider in the Patient Safety Rule may voluntarily report information to PSOs listed by AHRQ, on a privileged and confidential basis, for the aggregation and analysis of patient safety events.

The Patient Safety Act authorizes the listing of PSOs, which are entities or component organizations whose mission and primary activity are to conduct activities to improve patient safety and the quality of health care delivery.

HHS issued the Patient Safety Rule to implement the Patient Safety Act. AHRQ administers the provisions of the Patient Safety Act and Patient Safety Rule relating to the listing and operation of PSOs. The Patient Safety Rule authorizes AHRQ to list as a PSO an entity that attests that it meets the statutory and regulatory requirements for listing. A PSO can be “delisted” if it is found to no longer meet the requirements of the Patient Safety Act and Patient Safety Rule, when a PSO chooses to voluntarily relinquish its status as a PSO for any reason, or when a PSO’s listing expires. Section 3.108(d) of the Patient Safety Rule requires AHRQ to provide public notice when it removes an organization from the list of federally approved PSOs.

AHRQ has accepted a notification from QA to QI LLC, to voluntarily relinquish its status as a PSO. Accordingly, QA to QI LLC, P0091, was delisted effective at 12:00 Midnight ET (2400) on June 15, 2019.

QA to QI LLC has patient safety work product (PSWP) in its possession. The PSW will meet the requirements of section 3.108(c)(2)(i) of the Patient Safety Rule regarding notification to providers that have reported to the PSO and of section 3.108(c)(2)(ii) regarding disposition of PSWP consistent with section 3.108(b)(3). According to section 3.108(b)(3) of the Patient Safety Rule, the PSO has 90 days from the effective date of delisting and revocation to dispose of PSWP consistent with the disposition of PSWP that is currently in the PSO’s possession. More information on PSOs can be obtained through AHRQ’s PSO website at http://www.pso.ahrq.gov.

Virginia L. Mackay-Smith, Associate Director.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Public Health Service Act, Delegation of Authority

Notice is hereby given that I have delegated to the Director, Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Services (CSELS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Director, Human Resources Office (HRO), CDC, without authority to redelegata, the authority vested in the Director, CDC/Administrator, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), under Section 317F, Title III of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. 247b–7, as amended, to carry out a loan repayment program in accordance with Section 317F, guidelines and procedures issued by the Director, CDC/Administrator, ATSDR, CSELS, HRO, and all other applicable federal laws, regulations and policies, in conjunction with the Future Leaders in Infectious and Global Health Threats (FLIGHT) program.

This delegation became effective on June 26, 2019.

Robert R. Redfield, Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Administrator, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing an opportunity for the public to comment on CMS’ intention to collect information from the public. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (the PRA), federal agencies are required to publish notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information (including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information) and to allow 60 days for public comment on the