

§ 475.104 Requirements for demonstrating ability to perform review.

(a) A physician-sponsored or physician-access organization will be found capable of conducting review if CMS determines that the organization is able to set quantifiable performance objectives and perform the utilization and quality review functions established under section 1154 of the Social Security Act in an efficient and effective manner.

(b) CMS will determine that the organization is capable of conducting utilization and quality review if—

(1) The organization's proposed review system is adequate; and

(2) The organization has available sufficient resources (including access to medical review skills) to implement that system; and

(3) The organization's quantifiable objectives are acceptable.

(c) CMS may consider prior similar review experience in making determinations under paragraph (b) of this section.

(d) A State government that operates a Medicaid program will be considered incapable of performing utilization and quality review functions in an effective manner, unless the State demonstrates to the satisfaction of CMS that it will act with complete independence and objectivity.

§ 475.105 Prohibition against contracting with health care facilities.

(a) *Basic rule.* Except as permitted under paragraph (b) of this section, the following are not eligible for QIO contracts:

(1) A health care facility in the QIO area.

(2) An association of health care facilities in the QIO area.

(3) A health care facility affiliate; that is, an organization in which more than 20 percent of the members of the governing body are also either a governing body member, officer, partner, five percent or more owner, or managing employee in a health care facility or association of health care facilities in the QIO area.

(b) *Exceptions.* Effective November 15, 1984, the prohibition stated in paragraph (a) of this section will not apply

to a payor organization if CMS determines under § 462.106 that there is no other eligible organization available.

(c) *Subcontracting.* A QIO must not subcontract with a facility to conduct any review activities except for the review of the quality of care.

[50 FR 15328, Apr. 17, 1985. Redesignated at 64 FR 66279, Nov. 24, 1999]

§ 475.106 Prohibition against contracting with payor organizations.

Payor organizations are not eligible to become QIOs for the area in which they make payments until November 15, 1984. If no QIO contract for an area is awarded before November 15, 1984, a payor organization will be determined eligible by CMS, if an eligible organization that is not a payor organization is unavailable at that time. CMS may determine the unavailability of nonpayor organizations based on the lack of response to an appropriate Request for Proposal.

[50 FR 15328, Apr. 17, 1985]

§ 475.107 QIO contract award.

CMS, in awarding QIO contracts, will take the following actions—

(a) Identify from among all proposals submitted in response to an RFP for a given QIO area all proposals submitted by organizations that meet the requirements of § 462.102 or § 462.103;

(b) Identify from among all proposals identified in paragraph (a) of this section all proposals that set forth minimally acceptable plans in accordance with the requirements of § 462.104 and the RFPs;

(c) Assign bonus points not to exceed 10% of the total points available to all physician-sponsored organizations identified in paragraph (b) of this section, consistent with statute; and

(d) Subject to the limitations established by §§ 462.105 and 462.106, award the contract for the given QIO area to the selected organization for a period of two years.

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