

INSERT REGARDING CURRENT AHRQ GUIDANCE ON USING THE AHRQ QI FOR HOSPITAL PUBLIC REPORTING.

Effective Date: December 2005

The following text in *Refinement of the HCUP Quality Indicators* regarding use of the AHRQ QI for hospital public reporting has been superseded:

Page 24 (Executive Summary): “For reasons fully described in the report, these indicators may not be appropriate for public accountability programs, at least without further attention to the potential limitations and sources of bias”.

Page 23: “For reasons fully described in the report, these indicators may not be appropriate for public accountability programs, at least without further attention to the potential limitations and sources of bias”.

Page 29: “Because of the limitations associated with administrative data, the HCUP QIs are not designed for purchasing decisions and public reporting on individual hospitals.”

Current guidance on use of the AHRQ QI for hospital public reporting is summarized in an AHRQ *Summary Statement on Comparative Reporting*¹ and accompanying publication titled *Guidance for Using the AHRQ Quality Indicators for Hospital-Level Public Reporting or Payment*².

The AHRQ QI project team is currently reviewing and summarizing the current evidence regarding the suitability of the AHRQ Quality Indicators for public reporting. This summary will be published in late 2006-early 2007.

¹ AHRQ Summary Statement on Hospital Public Reporting.
<http://www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov/news/AHRQSummaryStatement.pdf>.

² Remus D, Fraser I. *Guidance for Using the AHRQ Quality Indicators for Hospital-level Public Reporting or Payment*. Rockville, MD: Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2004. AHRQ Pub. No. 04-0086-EF. The document may be downloaded from the AHRQ Quality Indicator website at <http://www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov/documentation.htm>.