



# **Equity and Quality at Independent Practices in LA County (EQuIP-LA)**

Program Prospectus

April 2023 – March 2025

---

A two-year improvement collaborative focused on accelerating quality improvement in small, independent primary care practices serving Medi-Cal enrollees of color in Los Angeles County.



**California Quality  
Collaborative**

## Executive Summary

CQC invites you to join [Equity and Quality at Independent Practices in LA County \(EQuIP-LA\)](#), a two-year quality improvement collaborative for small, independent primary care practices and IPAs serving Medi-Cal enrollees of color in Los Angeles (LA) County.

The program – a joint project of the [California Health Care Foundation \(CHCF\)](#), [Community Partners](#), [California Quality Collaborative \(CQC\)](#), [Health Net](#) and [L.A. Care Health Plan](#) – will focus on building quality improvement and advanced primary care capabilities across three IPAs and 30 independent practices, with the goal of improving outcomes for patients served by those practices.

The collaborative will leverage a train-the-trainer approach. CQC will provide funding, training and other technical assistance to participating IPAs, and IPAs will work directly with their enrolled practices to tailor, test, implement and scale quality improvement best practices.

IPAs with a significant footprint in LA’s independent practice Medi-Cal delivery system and a strong interest in improving their capacity to support practice-level quality improvement are encouraged to participate.

---

## Collaborative Goals

By March 31, 2025, EQuIP-LA aims to:

- Strengthen and accelerate quality improvement and build advanced primary care capabilities across 3 IPAs and 30 independent primary care practices in LA County serving a high volume of Medi-Cal enrollees of color.
- Improve health outcomes and health care experiences and reduce health disparities among approximately 30,000 Medi-Cal enrollees of color.

---

## Measurement Set

EQuIP-LA will use the following measures to track primary care improvements across program participants:

- Hemoglobin A1c Control for Patients with Diabetes – HbA1c Poor Control (> 9%) (HBD)
- Controlling High Blood Pressure for Patients with Hypertension (CBP)
- Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL)

## Curriculum

The foundation of EQuIP-LA's curriculum will be concepts from evidence-based frameworks and best practices, including:

1) [Model for Improvement](#)

A widely used, simple framework for developing, testing and implementing changes leading to improvement

2) [10 Building Blocks of High Performing Primary Care](#)

Building blocks include practice-level advanced primary care capabilities like engaged leadership, data-driven improvement, team-based care and population management.

Woven throughout will be an emphasis on identifying and reducing disparities in care quality and outcomes. The collaborative will be supported by both a health equity and a patient and family engagement advisor.

In addition to learning about practice-level change concepts, participants will have access to skill-building trainings such as improvement coaching, motivational interviewing and patient and family engagement techniques.

## Train-the-Trainer Approach

Participating IPAs will receive funding and a range of technical assistance from CQC to support quality improvement and advanced primary care capabilities among network practices. In turn, each IPA will work directly with their enrolled practices to tailor, test, implement and scale the quality improvement recommendations.

CQC's technical assistance will focus on strategies that build upon and enhance existing IPA capabilities and relationships with the participating practices. IPAs will leave the program with deeper insights about their practices and improved ability to support those practices in their quality improvement work.

## Benefits of Participation

IPAs and practices participating in EQuIP-LA will have access to funding and a range of technical assistance.

### Direct Funding and Incentive Payments

- IPAs that meet participation requirements will receive \$75,000.
- Participating practices will be eligible to apply for up to \$30,000 to support project-related participation costs and infrastructure investments.
- Practices that opt to initiate a disparities reduction project may be eligible for additional grant funding.
- Practices that demonstrate improvement will earn performance incentive payments from Health Net and/or LA Care. Actual payments will depend on the amount of improvement and plan contract specifications. Provisional estimates are up to \$127,000 per practice per year.

### Improvement Advising

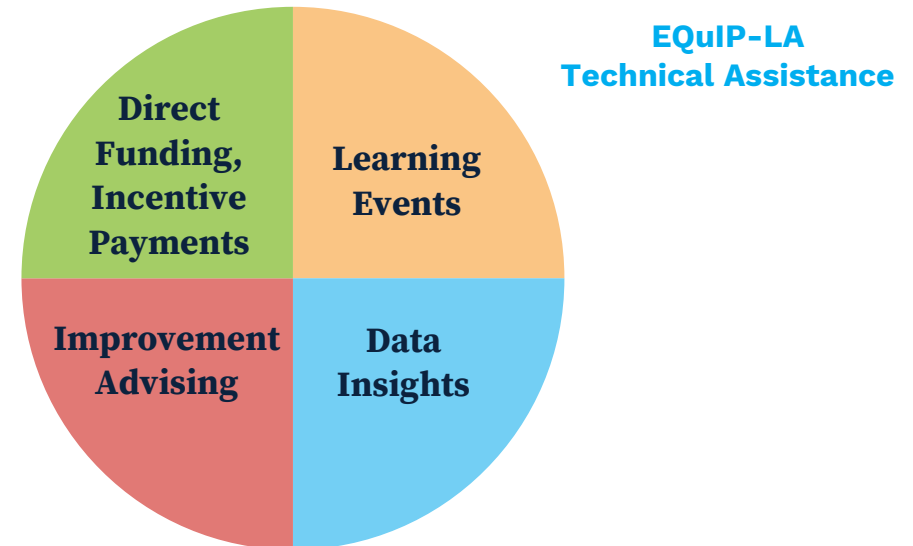
- Regular meetings with an experienced CQC improvement advisor who will support practice recruitment and ongoing engagement.
- IPA and practice-level needs assessments to identify strengths and opportunities and define an improvement plan.

### Learning Events

- A mixture of virtual and in-person learning events centered around the collaborative's curriculum.
- On-demand digital access to a resource library of learning and improvement materials.

### Data Insights

- Identification of gaps and capabilities in data systems.
- Support for reporting program performance measures stratified by race and ethnicity.
- Tools to support visualization and interpretation of performance data to identify improvement opportunities.



## Eligibility and Recruitment

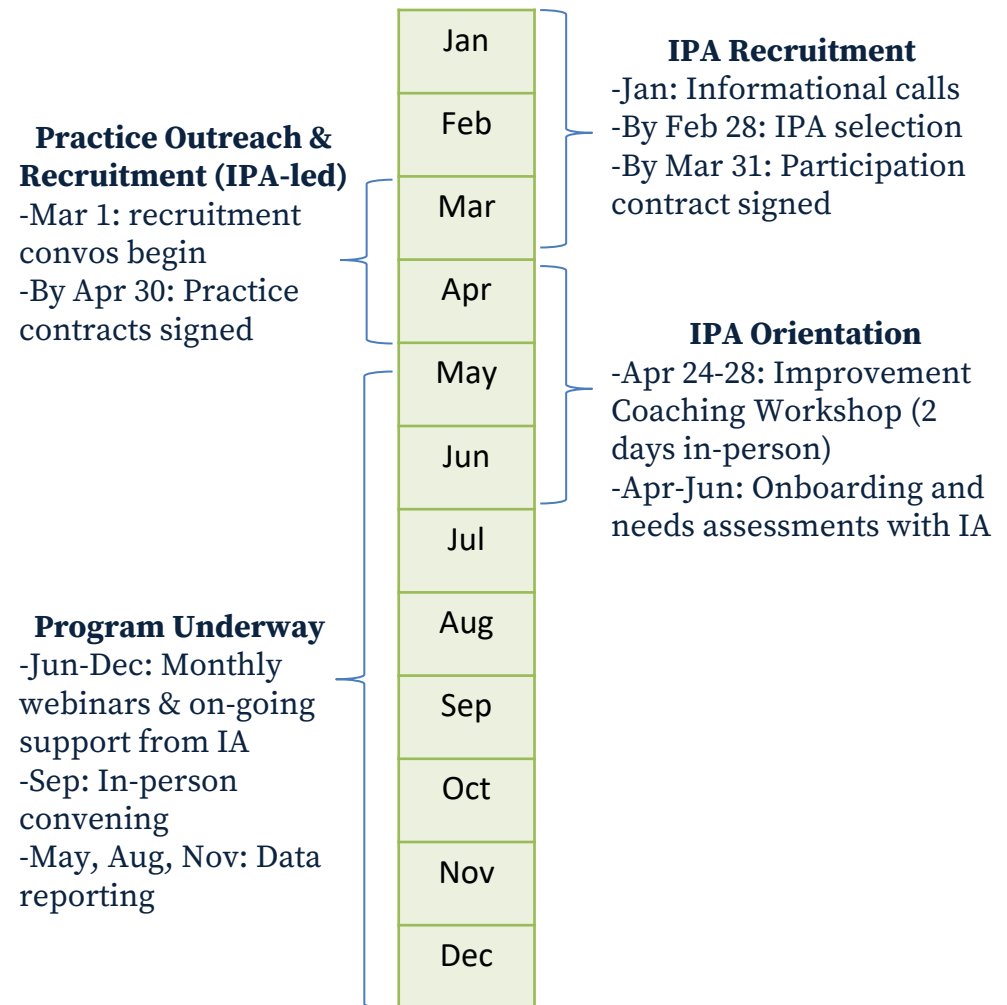
EQuIP-LA has identified several IPA partners within LA County that support a network of practices serving a high volume of Medi-Cal enrollees of color. Of those invited to participate, three IPAs will be selected for the two-year collaborative.

Selected IPAs will recruit eight or more practices to participate with them in the collaborative. CQC will provide IPAs with a list of practices meeting the collaborative's eligibility criteria. Each practice must serve at least 1,000 Medi-Cal enrollees, of whom  $\geq 60\%$  are enrollees of color.

## Participation Requirements

- Recruit 8-10 practices to participate in the program.
- Allocate appropriate staffing resources to fulfill program participation requirements.
- Attend collaborative learning events and coaching calls.
- Provide quality improvement coaching and other supports to participating practices.
- Report physician-level performance data quarterly on program measures and, where available, stratify data by race and ethnicity.
- Participate in project evaluation (may include interviews, focus groups or surveys to assess participant experience and identify field learnings).

## 2023 EQuIP-LA Timeline



California Quality Collaborative (CQC), a program of the Purchaser Business Group on Health, is a health care improvement program dedicated to helping care teams gain the expertise, infrastructure and tools they need to advance care quality, be patient-centered, improve efficiency and thrive in today's rapidly changing environment.

We are proud to offer this program in collaboration with our partners:



To learn more, contact Peter Robertson at [probertson@pbgh.org](mailto:probertson@pbgh.org).