

Town & Country receives Platinum Award

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Town & Country Health and Rehab has received a Platinum 2009 Louisiana Nursing Home Quality Award presented by eQHealth Solutions, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Louisiana.

The award was announced at the 2010 Louisiana Medicare Healthcare Quality Summit & Awards hosted by eQHealth Solutions in Baton Rouge in April, 2010.

With this award, Town & Country Health and Rehab is one of 14 nursing homes in the state to receive a Platinum 2009 Louisiana Nursing Home Quality Award.

The Louisiana Nursing Home Quality Award recognizes Louisiana nursing homes that are performing quality initiatives aimed at improving resident care in the nursing home setting.

This is the third year these awards have been presented at the Summit. The awards are based on percentage improvement on the National Patient Safety Initiative (NPSI) quality measures of physical restraints, and high-risk pressure ulcers, or innovative culture change efforts.

The percentage of quality measure improvement calculations are based the facility's MDS QM/QI data. Nursing homes must also have a regulatory history that would not exclude them from being award winners.

To achieve a Platinum Award, nursing homes must have achieved a minimum of 85 to 100 percent improvement in one or both project topics from Quarter 1 and 2, 2008 when compared to Quarter 1 and 2, 2009; or achieved 80-100 points in the Innovator Award track.

Staff members from Town & Country Health and Rehab have been working with quality improvement specialists from eQHealth Solutions to use proven, evidence-based practices to improve care for their residents.

"When we began these awards five years ago, we had several goals," said Gary Curtis, CEO of eQHealth Solutions.

"The first was to recognize providers who had achieved measured improvements in patient care as determined by national standards. Then, by publicizing these results, our second goal was to create an environment that encouraged others to strive for this same recognition."

Curtis said that based on the increasing number of providers who are making these improvements, the ultimate goal of improved care is occurring.

"One provider at a time, one patient encounter at a time, the quality of health care continues to improve throughout Louisiana," he said.

"The medical staff of Town & Country Health and Rehab is dedicated to providing the very best in resident care and our efforts have been enhanced through our quality improvement partnerships with eQHealth Solutions," said Sharon Walker, Town and Country CEO. "We are extremely proud to be a recipient of these distinguished awards."