

Diffusing a Culture of Quality through the Academy's Quality Leader Alliance (QLA)

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Learning Objective: Develop a network of RDN and NDTR experts in the quality arena to engage, develop, and utilize quality strategy resources by the Academy's Quality Management Committee (QMC).



Relevance: By fulfilling initiatives of the Quality Strategies Workgroup (QSWG), the Quality Leader Alliance (QLA) published the *Quality Resource Collection* and launched a series of Quality Improvement (QI) virtual huddles.

Quality Strategies Workgroup Members	
Tami Frable-Newman, Chair	
Shari Baird	
Julianna Bailey	
Linda Kluge	
Susan Konek	
Kimi McAdam	
Nancy Walters	
Pauline Williams	

Quality Leader Alliance Members	
Karen Arnold	Amy Lesh
Anne Coltman	Ashley L. Matthews
Marcea Cotter	Julie Moses
Kelly Danis	Keiy Murofushi
Lea Ann Dick	Mary Paeth
Mary Ellen Druyan	Joseph Quinlan
Tracey Elmes	Christina Rollins
Kim Feeney	Mary Roseman
Susan Goolsby	Lisa Simm
Nancy Hakel-Smith	Susan Smith
Lisa Jones	Amber Vasquez
Sherri Jones	Elizabeth Winthrop
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Background: In 2016 the QMC and QSWG created the QLA, a cohort of individuals who perform an exceptional level of quality management activities to network, develop, communicate and educate practitioners on quality concepts and resources. From conceptualization to design and logistics, QSWG members established guidelines, policies and procedures, and in a 4 month period marketed, recruited, and selected 25 exceptional candidates to form the QLA.



Methods: QSWG tasked QLA members to produce an 'easy to use' quality resources guide. QLA members researched, identified and classified several resources for the collection. Secondly, QLA members showcased their quality work through a series of 'Quickinars'. These 30 minute sessions allowed for one QLA member to present their QI project and dialogue with the QLA.

QLA National Geographic Distribution

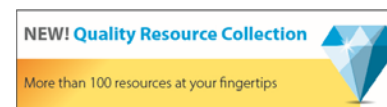


QLA Practice Areas



Results: In February 2017, the *Quality Resource Collection* was published with more than 100 various resources. This served to develop quality management knowledge and skills as a critical component of food, nutrition, and dietetics practice. The first QI virtual huddle 'Quickinar' was conducted in December 2017 with an overwhelming number of QLA members participating. Feedback through online evaluations was extremely positive.

Conclusion: As the quality paradigm sharply shifts towards practitioner accountability, QLA members are at the forefront educating and preparing their RDN and NDTR peers to seize the lead role in quality initiatives.



Call to Action: Learn and increase your knowledge of Quality Strategies by:

- watching the Quality Strategies Modules
- visiting the Quality Strategies Website
- becoming familiar with the QLA and aspire to join during the open enrollment period (March – April)

Webpages:

- www.eatrightpro.org/QualityStrategies
- www.eatrightpro.org/QLA