Dear AQI Participant:

The Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) is a voluntary quality reporting program created by The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that provides a financial incentive for eligible providers who successfully report individual quality measures or measures groups during a designated reporting period.

CMS qualifies registries to submit PQRS on behalf of their eligible professionals. The Anesthesia Quality Institute (AQI) is a qualified PQRS registry.

Currently, eligible providers may report quality measures or measures groups in one of three ways:
1. Directly to CMS on their Medicare Part B claims
2. Directly to CMS via a qualified electronic health record (EHR) product
3. To a qualified PQRS registry

Some advantages of reporting through the AQI Registry include:
- Performance data is not submitted on claims and is separated from the billing process.
- Providers do not need to assign CPT Category II codes or HCPCS Level II codes for the quality measures or measures groups since the registry performs the measure calculations and submits performance data to CMS on behalf of the provider.
- Data may be collected concurrent with the patient visit or retrospectively using a chart review process at the end of the reporting cycle.

Please complete and sign the form below to indicate your practice’s interest in reporting PQRS through the AQI registry. As part of that requirement, CMS collects National Provider Identification (NPI) numbers. Please complete the attached spreadsheet for your eligible professionals. Please provide the NPI number along with the practice assigned provider ID you submitted on the AQI website Practice Survey. These will be maintained in a separate table in our database and will not be a field included in the practice benchmarking reports.

If you are currently reporting PQRS through another vehicle, it will be important for us to discuss the ending date of your current reporting mechanism and the beginning date of reporting through AQI to avoid any duplication.
The undersigned practice would like to report PQRS through AQI’s registry. Eligible professional NPI numbers along with their corresponding AQI Provider ID numbers are provided on the attached Eligible Professionals spreadsheet.

NOTE: The Provider ID numbers must be the identical ID numbers used in the provider list on the practice’s Members Only page of the AQI website.

I hereby authorize the Anesthesia Quality Institute (AQI) to submit PQRS data to CMS on behalf of the group practice’s eligible professionals.

PRACTICE NAME: _______________________________________________________________

PRACTICE REPRESENTATIVE NAME: ______________________________________________

SIGNATURE: __________________________________________________________________

DATE: ________________________________________________________________________

Please email the Authorization Form to askqi@asahq.org.

The Eligible Professionals spreadsheet should be submitted as follows:

1. Encrypted as an attachment; OR
2. Uploaded to AQI’s secure ftp site.