



Award Categories

1. Collaboration

The Collaboration category recognizes the efforts of organizations committed to bringing others together to solve health care challenges. Nominees must demonstrate a commitment to improving health care in the communities they serve by creating partnerships that are:

- a. Bringing together individuals and organizations with different perspectives and engaging patients/caregivers, social/faith-based organizations, local government, transportation services, emergency medical services and/or others working outside of the health care system.
- b. Creating a plan for action that shares work and responsibility among all partners, in a way that leverages their strengths.
- c. Embracing a patient and family-centered approach that reflects diversity and addresses disparities.
- d. Building consensus about improvement priorities and raising awareness of the need for action to improve care.
- e. Making at least initial progress toward reaching goals.

2. Data-Driven Care

The Data-Driven Care category recognizes organizations that leverage information and technology to improve patient safety, patient engagement and care coordination.

Nominees should demonstrate an ability use data or technology creatively to solve health care challenges by:

- a. Implementing new or existing technologies to improve patient care or help patients manage their health.
- b. Using the data collection and reporting functionalities of electronic health records to drive improvement.
- c. Leveraging patient portals, applications or other technology to improve patient-provider communication.
- d. Sharing information with other organizations or clinicians to improve population health and adapt to changes in the health care environment.

3. Patient-Centered Care

The Patient-Centered Care category recognizes organizations that have made health care more responsive to the needs of patients, families/caregivers through initiatives that are:

- a. Delivering services in a manner that respects the personal and cultural values, beliefs and traditions of patients and families/caregivers.
- b. Improving communication between patients and clinicians, and coordination among health care providers and/or community partners.
- c. Engaging patients and families as equals in making health care decisions.
- d. Supporting patients and families in managing their health, particularly for chronic conditions.

4. Population Health

The Population Health category recognizes organizations that work to improve the health of patients and communities through prevention and treatment of chronic disease.

Nominees should exhibit a commitment to improving community health and reducing disparities in care by:

- a. Demonstrating patient-centered strategies to improve individual community health.
- b. Implementing evidence-based practices or programs that increase the use and availability of preventive services or treatments for underserved populations.
- c. Educating and equipping people to take better care of themselves.
- d. Demonstrating improvement in health outcomes.
- e. Reducing unnecessary hospitalizations through chronic disease management.

5. Rural Health

The Rural Health category recognizes [rural health care facilities](#)* that have made outstanding contributions to rural health care. Nominees should demonstrate a commitment to improving health services for individuals in rural areas by:

- a. Demonstrating improvement in health outcomes.
- b. Improving communication and coordination among patients, families/caregivers, health care providers and/or community partners.
- c. Embracing a patient and family-centered approach that reflects diversity and engages patients and families as equals in health care decision making.
- d. Using the data collection and reporting functionalities of electronic health records to drive improvement.
- e. Making preventive services or treatments more accessible to those who need them.

**Nominee must meet the [Rural Health Information Hub's](#) definition of rural. To verify if a nominee is rural, you may access the [Am I Rural? Tool](#).*