Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Program Participation Agreement

The Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (MBQIP) is a new initiative of the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy through the Rural Medicare Hospital Flexibility (FLEX) Program to support all Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) in implementing quality improvement (QI) initiatives. Through this new program, the FLEX Monitoring Team will collect rural-relevant quality measures reported by CAHs nation-wide to develop a national bench-marking system that will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of rural QI initiatives and to identify QI best practices.

This initiative will have several positive outputs:

- The FLEX Monitoring Team will aggregate CAH-reported quality measures on a timely basis and routinely provide reports to each State FLEX program.
- Up-to-date information will be available to educate policy-makers on quality in CAHs and to answer policy discussion questions about value-based purchasing and CAH reimbursement.
- Aggregated quality data from CAHs will be used to develop a national toolbox of QI best practices.
- CAHs will have enhanced access to technical assistance regarding data collection and reporting, for example CART trainings.

Participating CAHs will agree to report the following quality measures to CMS Q-Net Data Warehouse for subsequent compilation and analysis by the FLEX Monitoring Team:

- Starting September 1, 2011, CAH will report Phase 1 Measures
  - Pneumonia: Hospital Compare CMS Core Measure (participate in all sub-measures); AND
  - Congestive Heart Failure: Hospital Compare CMS Core Measure (participate in all sub-measures)
  - 30-day Readmission rates: Pneumonia and Congestive Heart Failure
- Starting September 1, 2012, CAH will also report Phase 2 Measures
  - Outpatient 1-7: Hospital Compare CMS Measure (all sub-measures that apply); AND
  - Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS)

Data Use Agreement

☐ By checking here, the provider hereby confirms its written consent as required by 42 CFR section 480.140(d) to the release of the confidential Quality Review Study information for purposes as outlined below:

- The data from Phase 1 and 2 measures submitted by the hospital into CMS Q-Net Data Warehouse will be provided to the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy and the FLEX Monitoring Team, who will analyze the data.
- Beneficiary level data will not be accessed.
- Hospital level data will be analyzed by the FLEX Monitoring Team. Results reported by the FLEX Monitoring Team will be presented in an aggregated manner.
- Unidentifiable hospital level data will be reported to the Kansas Flex program for further comparison within the state.

CEO Signature: **Date:**

Hospital Name:

Address: City: State: KS Zip:

Phone: E-mail: