MACPAQ Film Review Program

Participant Fact Sheet

**Virginia Cardiac Services Quality Initiative (VCSQI)**  
*In partnership with Johns Hopkins University & University of Maryland*

# What is MACPAQ?

MACPAQ (Maryland Assuring Quality in PCI) is a peer-review initiative led by Johns Hopkins and the University of Maryland. The goal: improve the quality, appropriateness, and safety of percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI) across participating hospitals through expert, blinded film reviews.

## Program Purpose

* Ensure appropriateness, accuracy, and consistency in PCI services
* Offer independent, non-punitive feedback to support internal quality improvement
* Promote peer learning and clinical accountability

## Program Workflow

1. VCSQI provides a random list of elective PCI cases from your center.
2. Your team uploads the corresponding angiographic films to a secure portal.
3. MACPAQ reviewers independently assess each case for:
   * Procedural appropriateness
   * Technical performance
   * Stenosis severity
4. MACPAQ sends the results back to VCSQI, which prepares:
   * Case-specific comments
   * Aggregate reports with trends, outliers, and commendable practices

## Focus of the Review

* No additional documentation required — films only
* Review criteria based on:
  + ACC/AHA Guidelines
  + Standard clinical practice
  + Angiographic stenosis severity
* Evaluation of appropriateness, technique, and documentation accuracy

## Key Benefits

* Non-punitive learning tool – ideal for M&M, peer review, and quality improvement meetings
* Confidential – results are not shared with any third-party organizations
* Drives internal improvement and helps identify variation in practice

## What the Data Shows

From recent MACPAQ reviews of Virginia centers:

* 100% of cases reviewed were found “Appropriate” per ACC/AHA PCI guidelines.
* Commonly treated lesions: Proximal RCA, Obtuse Marginal, Mid RCA.
* Reviewer feedback covered:
  + Stent size and length appropriateness (“adequate,” “good,” or “could be improved”)
  + Guide catheter selection and final angiography technique
  + Presence of complications (e.g., dissection, occlusion) with descriptive annotations
* Examples of Reviewer Comments:

*“Planned PCI of the proximal LAD appears well-indicated.”  
“Not possible to fully assess without clinical history — recommend clinical correlation.”  
“Distal RCA functionally occluded, PCI likely warranted.”*

## Key Benefits

* Confidential and non-punitive
* Feedback supports M&M Conferences, Cath Lab Quality meetings
* Identifies variations and trends in decision-making
* Drives clinical accountability and best practice sharing
* Free to all VCSQI member hospitals

## Contact

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