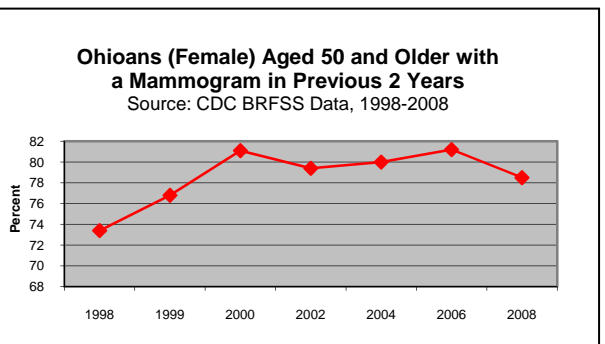
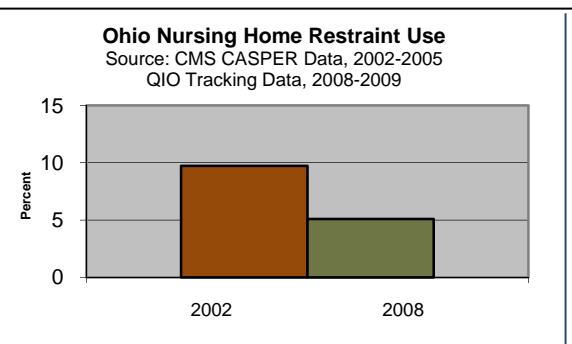
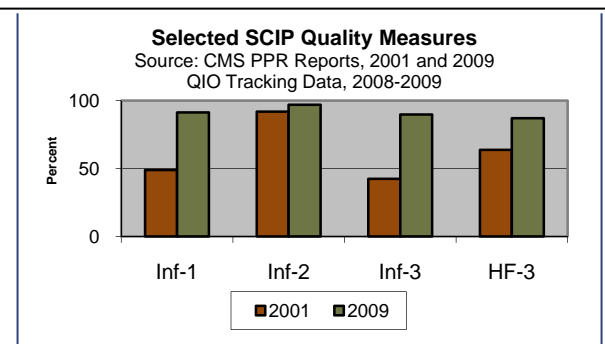
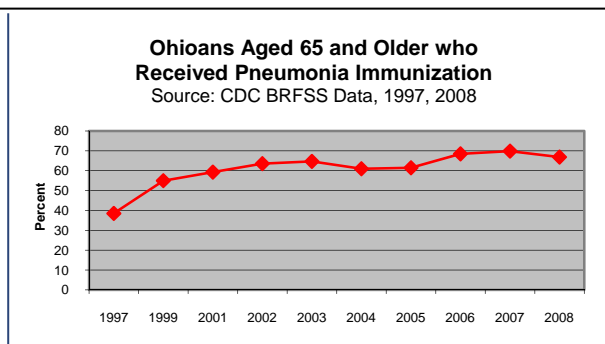
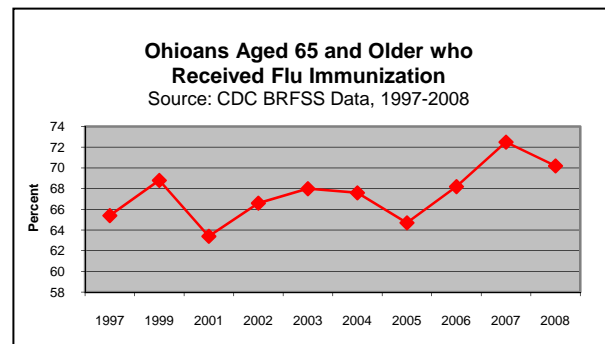
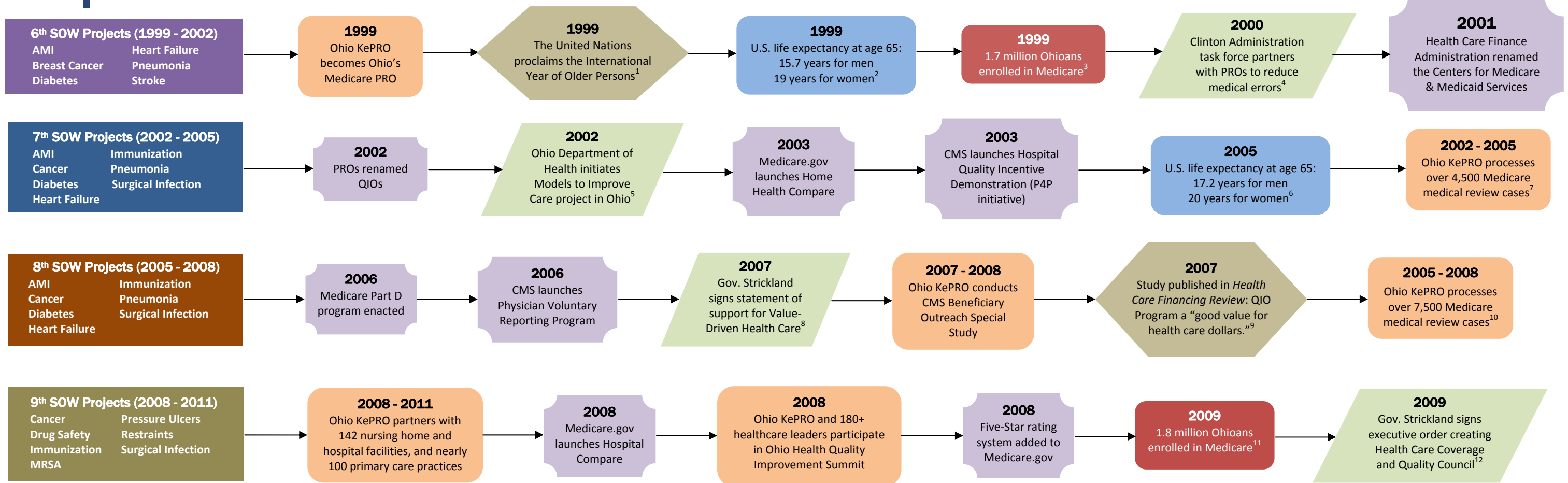


TEN years of Quality Improvement

The world was quite a different place in 1999, when Ohio KePRO became Ohio's Medicare Peer Review Organization (PRO) in the 6th Statement of Work (SOW). There was still talk of the healthcare industry being "recession-proof," and we had not yet experienced 9/11, SARS, Hurricane Katrina, or H1N1. Since then, we've had three U.S. Presidents, each with a different perspective on the healthcare system. Ohio has had two governors, and an aging population that has expanded from 1.7 million Medicare beneficiaries to over 1.8 million.

In this changing environment, our areas of focus and approach to quality improvement have shifted with changes in the Medicare quality improvement program—including the shift from PRO to Quality Improvement Organization (QIO), an increased focus on pay-for-performance (P4P) initiatives, an emphasis on health information technology (HIT), and a move toward quality improvement across care settings. With U.S. life expectancy steadily increasing,

Medicare has moved to the forefront of the healthcare discussion, making a value-driven approach more important now than ever. By working with healthcare partners and stakeholders, Ohio KePRO continues to play an active role in driving quality improvement efforts statewide. Below are some QIO and industry highlights from the past decade.



1. National Center for Health Statistics. *Health, United States, 1999 with Health and Aging Chartbook*. Hyattsville, Maryland; 1999.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.
4. The American Health Quality Association. *QIOs Seen as Solution to Reducing Medical Errors*. 22 February 2000. Available at www.ahqa.org. Accessed May 26, 200

5. Ohio Department of Health. *Ohio Department of Health Annual Report, 2003*. Columbus, OH; 2004.
6. National Center for Health Statistics. *Health, United States, 2008 with Special Feature on the Health of Young Adults Chartbook*. Hyattsville, Maryland; 2009.

7. Ohio KePRO. Annual Medical Services Review Reports: August 1, 2002 – April 30, 2005.
8. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Value-Driven Health Care: State and Local Government*. Available at www.hhs.gov/valuedriven. Accessed May 26, 2009.
9. Shih A, Dewar DM, Hartman T. Medicare's Quality Improvement Organization Program value in nursing homes. *Health Care Financing Review*. 2007; 28(3): 109-116.

10. Ohio KePRO. Annual Medical Services Review Reports: August 1, 2005 - April 30, 2008.
11. National Center for Health Statistics. *Health, United States, 2008 with Special Feature on the Health of Young Adults Chartbook*. Hyattsville, Maryland; 2009
12. Office of the Governor, State of Ohio. *Executive Order 2009-03S*, 5 March 2009.