



FACT SHEET

Physician Group Incentive Program Inpatient Utilization Initiative

About Value Partnerships

Value Partnerships is a collection of clinically oriented initiatives among Michigan physicians, hospitals and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan that are improving clinical quality, reducing complications, controlling cost trends, eliminating errors, and improving health outcomes throughout Michigan.

About The Physician Group Incentive Program

This program began in 2005 to encourage and incentivize physicians to more effectively manage populations of patients with chronic diseases and build an infrastructure to more robustly measure and monitor care quality. As of January 2010, 38 physician organizations and 8,148 physicians are working together to improve health care for roughly 1.8 million Michigan Blues members.

The Patient Centered Medical Home Model

In July 2009, BCBSM established the PCMH Designation program to provide additional financial support to those PGIP primary care physicians who have made significant progress in incorporating PCMH infrastructure and care processes into routine practice and have achieved outstanding results on quality and efficiency measures.

Overview

The purpose of the Inpatient Utilization Initiative is to prevent and reduce unnecessary hospitalizations, and decrease inpatient discharge rates for patients with Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions (ACSCs). ACSCs are chronic and acute conditions that if treated with early intervention may prevent extensive complications and the progression of severe disease. The conditions, if managed in a high quality outpatient setting, may also prevent the need for hospitalization.

Objectives

- Redesign existing processes to improve overall care delivered to PGIP attributed members
- Provide members at risk for ACSCs with timely and effective primary care with an emphasis on disease state management
- Develop interventions to manage disease progression, reduce preventable complications, and avoid unnecessary hospitalizations and ED (Emergency Department) visits for ACSCs

Incentive Design

Incentives for this initiative are based on participation and performance components, with increasing weight given to performance over time. BCBSM will be looking at performance – how the PO is performing relative to other PO's; and improvement – how the PO is reducing the gap between their PO and the top performing PO's with regard to ACSC's.

Evaluation

PGIP-level and PO-level improvements will be evaluated by the following measures:

- Reduction in ACSC-related inpatient discharges
- Reduction in ACSC-related inpatient discharges admitted via ED.
- Reduction in ACSC-related ALOS
- Reduction in ACSC-related total standard cost

Evaluation and Results

Over the first year, the PO's have reported many major accomplishments. These include, but are not limited to:

- o Hospital-wide education to providers and leadership of the hospital discharge process
- o Standardized discharge documents and instructions
- o Updating medication profiles
- o Scheduling follow-up appointment prior to discharge
- o Printed copy of discharge paperwork, as well as verbal discharge education provided to patient and family
- o Establishing standard protocols for chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension



Questions about the Specialist Referral Initiative? Please contact Della Rees, PhD
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For more information on PGIP, or for a copy of the full initiative description, please contact: providerpartnerships@bcbsm.com