

Fact Sheet

Physician Group Incentive Program 2011



Michigan Transitions of Care Collaborative (M-TC²)

Overview

M-TC² provides a forum for hospitals (via their hospitalists) and ambulatory based physicians to develop multidisciplinary teams to improve collaboration and communication hand-overs in the current care transition processes. M-TC² utilizes the Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM) Better Outcomes for Older Adults through Safer Transitions (BOOST[®]) program. Each PO will receive ongoing expert consultation with the coordinating center - a partnership between the University of Michigan Health System, St. Joseph Mercy Health System, and an SHM-trained BOOST mentor.

Objectives

- Encourage POs to increase collaboration and develop interconnected processes with their partnering hospitals to address opportunities for improvement in the care transition process
 - Encourage hospitalists to implement positive system-based changes to promote collaboration between the care providers serving patients during their discharge to home
 - Test new approaches to systematizing care transitions
- As this initiative matures, the objectives will be to ultimately:
- Reduce 30-day readmissions rates
 - Reduce preventable 14-days post-discharge ED utilization rates

Incentive Design

PGIP provides a participation-based incentive the first two years of participation in this initiative. The participation payments are designed to remove barriers POs may experience while supporting implementation of improved communication processes and implementing BOOST interventions.

At the end of the second year of participation, POs can earn a one-time reward in addition to the participation payment. POs that score 80% or higher for the average of the performance metrics below are eligible for the reward:

1. Level of multidisciplinary team attendance/participation in all coordinating center/BOOST mentor meetings
2. Level of collaboration between the inpatient/outpatient team representatives
3. Level of process gap analyses
4. Level of implemented process improvement(s) with subsequent review of impact upon the care transition process

The incentive payment in the third year of participation will be based on performance on reducing 30-day readmission rates and 14-day post-discharge ED utilization rates.

About Value Partnerships

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

About The Physician Group Incentive Program

The Physician Group Incentive Program (PGIP) began in 2005 to encourage and incentivize physicians to more effectively manage populations of patients and build an infrastructure to more robustly measure and monitor care quality. As of August 2010, 37 physician organizations (POs) and over 8,600 physicians are working together to improve health care for more than 1.8 million Michigan Blues members.



Participation Criteria

This initiative is open to POs that partner with hospitals with hospitalist programs.

Evaluation

While the long-term goals of the M-TC² Initiative include improved patient outcomes and reduced readmission rates, the intervention is also directed at short-term process steps and intermediate goals that should assist hospitalists and physicians in reducing the patient's likelihood of receiving redundant or avoidable care.

The intermediate goals include:

- Establishing an infrastructure for development, implementation, and evaluation of process improvement strategies
- Designating a location, unit, floor, or patient population by disease to implement small tests of change, including the outpatient primary care physician (PCP) level of care
- Implementing BOOST[®] strategies
- Evaluating outcomes of each change implemented

Results

Fourteen POs and 13 hospitals participated in the initial year of M-TC². The participants included a wide range of practitioners representing nursing, case management, pharmacy, PCPs, and hospitalists, as well as senior administrators.



Questions about the Michigan Transitions of Care Collaborative (M-TC²) Initiative?

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