



Fact Sheet

Physician Group Incentive Program

2012

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

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 September 2011, 40 physician organizations (POs) across the state of Michigan representing nearly 15,000 primary care physicians and specialists are working together to improve health care for nearly 2 million Michigan Blues members. Additionally, PGIP is cultivating a healthier future for all Michigan residents by catalyzing all payer system development. Patients throughout the state, regardless of payer, benefit from the improved care processes developed through the PGIP provider community.

Electronic Prescribing Initiative

Overview

The goal of the Electronic Prescribing Initiative is to improve the safety, quality and cost-effectiveness of the prescription process through widespread adoption and increased use of electronic prescribing and clinical decision support tools.

Objectives

The objective of the Electronic Prescribing Initiative is to annually increase the percentage of physicians (including both primary care physicians and specialists) who achieve full functionality with full utilization for all prescriptions that can be legally transmitted electronically. Full functionality is defined as:

- Vendor meets Medicare requirement standards
- Vendor contractually guarantees at least 96% uptime
- For controlled substances, physicians are able to use e-Rx system to obtain decision support and complete medication history.

Incentive Design

POs complying with Initiative expectations will be paid up to \$2,000 per physician (PCP or specialist). Eligible physicians must belong to a practice unit that is:

- Actively engaged for no longer than one incentive reporting period in implementing a qualified e-prescribing system or in the process of extending use of a qualified e-prescribing system from physician champions to all physicians
- Actively using a qualified e-prescribing system by all physicians

The incentive payment is pro-rated by the number of attributed members per physician using an adjustment factor. Starting with the July 2011 payment, the POs that have not met their maximum per physician payment (up to \$2,000/physician) will continue to get \$500 increments until they reach the maximum payment; the POs that have met their maximum payment will be paid only for physicians new to PGIP and the payment will be a onetime payment of up to \$2,000/physician.



Participation Criteria

To participate in this initiative, POs must currently participate in the Physician Group Incentive Program and must apply to participate in the Adoption and Use of Electronic Prescribing Initiative.

Evaluation

Two participation-based metrics self-reported by participating POs are used to evaluate the PGIIP e-prescribing Initiative and calculate payment of the incentive:

- Full e-prescribing system in place and used by physician champions
- Full e-prescribing system in place and used by all physicians

Results

As of January 2011, the number of PGIIP physicians (PCPs and specialists) in practice units reported to be fully using e-prescribing was 6,139, over 54% of BCBSM PGIIP physicians. Of the physicians actively utilizing e-prescribing as of January 2011, 66% are primary care physicians and 34% are specialists.

Questions about the E-Prescribing Initiative?

Please contact Robin Mitchell, Health Care Manager, at rmitchell@bcbsm.com or Niki Su at xsu@bcbsm.com.

For more information on PGIIP, or for a copy of the full initiative plan, please contact:

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