



News: For Immediate Release
Additional Information Contact:
Gene M. Ransom, CEO
Mobile: 410-924-4445

MEDCHI AND MHA APPLAUD CMS INNOVATION CENTER AND STATE ON IMPORTANT PRIMARY CARE ANNOUNCEMENT

CMMI and Maryland Department of Health to Expand Primary Care Program during Open Application Period

BALTIMORE, June 13, 2022 — MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, and the Maryland Hospital Association are applauding the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI), part of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and the Maryland Department of Health as they immediately begin accepting applications from Maryland primary care practices and Care Transformation Organizations for participation in the Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP). Open enrollment for this program had been stalled for two years due to the covid pandemic.

The MDPCP is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical support to eligible Maryland primary care practices and Federally Qualified Health Centers for the delivery of advanced primary care. MDPCP supports allow primary care providers to play an expanded role in prevention, management of chronic disease, and preventing unnecessary hospital utilization. As of May 2022, 508 primary care practice locations and more than 2,150 health care providers are participating in the program serving more than four million Marylanders.

Gene Ransom, CEO of MedChi, “applauds the hard work of the Hogan administration with the federal government to get the program open for new registrants and for getting a new track approved for physicians already serving the program.”

“Bolstering primary care helps our communities stay healthy. This program builds better alignment with physicians and community practitioners and helps us all advance the total health of Marylanders under the state’s total cost of care agreement,” explains Bob Atlas, Maryland Hospital Association President & CEO.

Participants are expected to transform the way they deliver primary care in order to provide comprehensive care management and patient-centered care. All participating practices have access to a Practice Coach, who provides ongoing assistance in meeting program requirements, and resources, such as support via meetings and webinars, an

interactive Learning System, and data-driven tools to support functions like risk stratification, social needs screening, and behavioral health integration.

Eligible primary care practitioners include those who specialize in general practice, family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatric medicine, geriatric medicine, and co-located psychiatry. Among other requirements, eligible practices must:

- Use a 2015 certified electronic health record (EHR)
- Provide services to a minimum of 125 attributed Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries

The annual application period is open through midnight on Friday, July 15, 2022. Program information and the program application can be found at health.maryland.gov/MDPCP.

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. Formed in 1799, it is still the largest physician organization in Maryland today. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients, and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit www.medchi.org.

About the Maryland Hospital Association

The Maryland Hospital Association serves Maryland's 60 nonprofit hospitals and health systems through collective action to shape policies, practices, financing, and performance to advance health care and the health of all Marylanders. Visit mhaonline.org.