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MARYLAND'S EPISODE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM DELIVERS BREAKOUT YEAR, GENERATING $96.3 MILLION IN SAVINGS

BALTIMORE – October 15, 2026 — CRISP, Maryland's state-designated health information exchange, announced the fourth performance year (PY4) results for the **Episode Quality Improvement Program (EQIP)**, a value-based Medicare incentive program for Maryland practitioners. In calendar year 2025, EQIP generated $96.3 million in gross savings, representing a 58 percent increase from the previous year. Of the 128 participating EQIP Entities, 97 met the performance thresholds and qualified for shared savings, resulting in $35.8 million in net distributions.

"PY4 represents an important milestone for EQIP and for Maryland's continued progress toward value-based care," said Megan Priolo, DrPH, MHS, Executive Director of CRISP. CRISP is proud to provide the reporting infrastructure and support that help enable Maryland practitioners to identify opportunities to improve quality and manage care more effectively."

As part of the State's AHEAD model, EQIP supports improvements in care across a broad range of clinical episodes and specialties. Collectively, PY4 EQIP Entities managed 158,698 episodes of care—more than 10 percent above PY3. EQIP also broadened its clinical scope by adding 21 episodes, including a new Obstetrics and Gynecology clinical category.

EQIP is administered by the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) and CRISP, with support from MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society. MedChi continues to support EQIP through practitioner recruitment, education, technical assistance, and program advocacy. It also provides administrative support to participants, helping practitioners across Maryland participate in value-based care.

"EQIP demonstrates the value of giving Maryland practitioners meaningful opportunities to participate in value-based care and the tools and support needed to succeed," said William Henderson, Acting Executive Director of the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission. "The strong results from the fourth performance year demonstrate the impact that value-based care can have when providers are accountable for both the quality and cost of care. As Maryland continues its work under the AHEAD Model, programs like EQIP will be an important part of advancing a more coordinated, sustainable health care system."

"EQIP continues to show what is possible when Maryland physicians have the tools, resources, and support they need to improve care while participating in value-based payment models," said Gene Ransom, CEO of MedChi. "The significant increase in savings and the growing number of episodes managed through EQIP reflect the commitment of Maryland practitioners to delivering high-quality, cost-effective care. MedChi is proud to support

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physicians throughout this process and to help ensure they have the education, technical assistance, and advocacy needed to succeed in the evolving health care landscape."

EQIP will begin its sixth performance year in January 2027. To learn more, visit www.medchi.org or contact the MedChi EQIP Team at MedChiEQIP@medchi.org.

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 CRISP

CRISP is the State Designated Health Information Exchange (HIE) and Health Data Utility (HDU) for Maryland. CRISP is a non-profit organization that facilitates the electronic transfer of clinical information between disparate health information systems. For more information, please visit https://www.crisphealth.org/.

About Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC)

The Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) is an independent state agency tasked with regulating the quality and cost of hospital services to ensure that all Marylanders have access to high-value healthcare. The HSCRC is committed to enhancing the quality of healthcare and patient experience, improving population health and health outcomes, and reducing the total cost of care for Marylanders.