

Ten Things you Need to Know About Value-Based Care in Maryland

Maryland and MedChi lead the way on value-based care initiatives. Maryland has several state-specific advanced payment models, and we worked hard this session on comprehensive value-based care legislation. But it's a complicated topic to say the least. Here are ten things you need to know about value-based care in Maryland:

1. Maryland as instrumental is developing physician-friendly value-based care legislation this session

This legislation contains the strongest protections for the physician community for those physicians that chose to enter these arrangements and for those that want to remain fee-for-service, including a provision that states that a carrier may not reduce the fee schedule of a physician who remains fee-for-service and does not participate in a two-sided incentive arrangement. [Click here](#) for a chart illustrating the bill as initially put forth in December 2020 and the bill as passed by the committees. It is anticipated that the legislation will move through the full General Assembly and that the Governor will sign it.

2. MedChi is helping other states as they develop legislation

Recently MedChi presented to the AMA advocacy resource center on the Maryland legislation, and the society has answered questions for two other State societies who are dealing with similar bills.

3. MedChi can help practitioners who are considering value-based contracts

MedChi can answer general questions for practices who are considering these models. MedChi can also be a resource for physicians in an employed setting to understand what these models mean to them from a bonus or payment perspective.

4. Maryland has several state-specific federally approved advanced payment models

The State of Maryland has the Maryland Primary Care program, and four tracks under the Episode Quality improvement programs for physicians to be in a federally CMMI Approved advanced model (AAPM).

5. The Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP) is widely successful

This program in its fourth year is one of the largest and most successful advanced payment models in the United States. It is an adult primary care advance payment model that you can learn more about [here](#)

6. MDPCP will have open enrollment this summer

After CMS closed off enrollment after 2020 due to COVID, it is being reopened this summer. If you would like to be added reach out to MedChi today and we can help you sign up.

7. The Maryland Primary Care program is considering expanding to Medicaid

MedChi has been working with State and Federal officials to create an MDPC like program in Medicaid. Nothing formal has been offered to date by Medicaid.

8. The Episode Quality Improvement program (EQIP) was launched in 2022 for specialists

The Episode Quality Improvement program (EQIP) was launch in 2022 for several bundles for several specialties including GI, Cardo and Orthopedics. You can [learn more about EQIP here](#).

9. EQIP is currently considering expanding to other specialties in 2023

Discussions with HSCRC, CMS and MedChi are underway to add bundles around additional specialties including Urology, ER and Ophthalmology in 2023.

10. If you have an idea for a new advanced payment model, please reach out to MedChi

MedChi has been a leader in this space, but we're eager to continue our work. If you have an idea or an opportunity, please reach out so we can help develop payment models that benefit physicians and patients.

Value based care has been a buzz word in health care for years. MedChi and the state of Maryland are on the cutting edge of this issue. The key is making sure physicians and patients aren't forced to take undue risk and ensuring that programs are voluntary and physician driven. We need your help to stay in front of this important issue, as we remain your advocate and resource on this and so many other issues.

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