

Maine Patient Centered Medical Home Pilot - Phase 2 Expansion & MaineCare Health Homes Initiative

SUMMARY

Introduction

There is growing agreement that transforming the health care system requires strong systems for providing patient-centered, relationship-based primary care. The Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model offers an exciting and promising approach to this change as it supports both the practice transformation and payment reform needed to improve primary care services. Maine is fortunate to have two major efforts underway to support this transformation: the Maine PCMH Pilot and the soon-to-be launched MaineCare Health Homes initiative.

Maine PCMH Pilot – Phase 2 Expansion

The Dirigo Health Agency’s Maine Quality Forum, Maine Quality Counts, and the Maine Health Management Coalition convened the multi-payer Maine Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Pilot in 2008 as the first step in achieving statewide implementation of the PCMH model in primary care practices in Maine.

The Maine PCMH Pilot was initially developed as a 3-year effort, and was launched in January 2010 with 26 primary care practices from across the state. Pilot practices commit to transforming to a PCMH model of care by implementing a set of ten “Core Expectations” and receive medical home payments from the major payers in the state (Medicaid, Medicare, Anthem BCBS, Aetna, and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care). Pilot practices partner with one of eight “Community Care Teams” that also receive payment from the major payers to provide community-based, practice-integrated, multi-disciplinary care management to their most high-needs patients. The Pilot will be expanding to add 20 new adult practices in January 2013. Practices interested in applying for participation are advised to review the eligibility requirements listed below, and to read the full “Notice of Plan for Phase 2 Expansion” posted on the Maine Quality Counts website (www.mainequalitycounts.org/major-programs/patient-centered-medical-home.html).

MaineCare Health Homes Initiative

MaineCare, Maine’s Medicaid program, has been an active supporter of the Maine PCMH Pilot from the outset and currently participates as a payer in the Pilot, providing medical home payments to both Pilot practices and Community Care Teams. MaineCare is now broadening its support for practices that agree to meet medical home criteria and commit to the PCMH Pilot Core Expectations through its new “Health Homes” initiative, an effort authorized by Section

2703 of the Affordable Care Act and a key component of the Maine Department of Health & Human Services' "Value Based-Purchasing Strategy".

Consistent with federal regulations, the MaineCare Health Homes initiative requires Health Homes to deliver the following key services:

- Comprehensive care management
- Care coordination and health promotion
- Comprehensive transitional care from inpatient to other settings
- Individual and family support
- Referral to community and social support services
- Use of health information technology (HIT)
- Prevention and treatment of mental illness and substance abuse disorders
- Coordination of and access to preventive services, chronic disease management, and long-term care supports

In the first stage of the MaineCare Health Homes initiative (Stage A), qualified primary care practices will partner with a Community Care Team (CCT) to form a "Health Home" to serve MaineCare members with specified chronic conditions. MaineCare will provide Health Homes payments to qualified practices and CCTs to provide comprehensive, coordinated care. The MaineCare Health Homes Initiative is open to both adult and pediatric practices.

In the second stage of the Health Homes initiative (Stage B), MaineCare will provide Health Home payments to qualified Community Mental Health Center-based Community Care Teams that partner with qualified primary care practices to serve adults with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI) and/or children with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED). In this stage of work, Community Mental Health Centers and other behavioral health providers will work in partnership with primary care practices to ensure that comprehensive, coordinated care is provided for individuals with SPMI or SED.

More information on the MaineCare Health Homes initiative will be available soon on the MaineCare Value-Based Purchasing website, <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/vbp>.

Application for Participation

The Maine PCMH Pilot and the MaineCare Health Homes initiative are offering a single online application for practices interested in applying for participation in one or both of these programs. The application is available at

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ME_PCMH_Pilot_Phase2_Expansion_Applic and must be completed by March 31, 2012. More information and a reference copy of the application are

available at www.mainequalitycounts.org/major-programs/patient-centered-medical-home.html.

More Information & Questions

For questions or more information, please visit the Maine PCMH Pilot page on the Maine Quality Counts website: <http://www.mainequalitycounts.org/major-programs/patient-centered-medical-home.html>

You may also contact the following individuals:

- For questions on the Maine PCMH Pilot, contact Nancy Grenier at tel. 240-8767 or ngrenier@mainequalitycounts.org
- For questions on the Maine PCMH Pilot Community Care Teams (CCTs), contact Helena Peterson at tel. 266-7211, or hpeterson@mainequalitycounts.org
- For general questions or clinical concerns, contact Dr. Lisa Letourneau at tel. 415.4043 or lletourneau@mainequalitycounts.org
- For questions about the MaineCare Health Homes program, contact Michelle Probert at tel. 287.2641, or michelle.probert@maine.gov.