

See Us In Action!

Upcoming Presentations

Jan 29: [California Hospital Association PAC Annual Meeting](#)

Feb 10: [NASL Winter Legislative & Regulatory Conference](#)

Feb 24: [Health Dimensions Group, The National Summit: The Pursuit of Value](#)

Mar 26: [ASA Aging in America Conference, Potential and Strategies for Care Coordination in a "Post-Acute Care" World Symposium](#)

Previous Engagements

Jan 13: [AHHQI's Future of Home Health Symposium: Tackling Critical Issues for the Future of Home and Community Based Care](#)

Jan 14: [PACCR webinar series: INTERACT Program: Tools to Manage your PAC Population](#)

Happenings at [pacrr](#)

Happy New Year- we hope 2015 is off to a great start! As mentioned in our December Circular, we are releasing a series of maps on PAC resources- SNFs, IRFs, LTCHs, as outlined below. And, another mapping series highlighting participation in Bundled Payments is under development. While we are busy at PACCR, there is a lot of activity going on around us. With a new Congress, there is ample opportunity for new policies to take hold. And, healthcare remains central to many conversations, including mention in the President's State of the Union. CMS is also experiencing change, as three key leaders leave the agency. All of this change and conversation continues to confirm the need for thoughtful, data-driven dialogue as PAC providers, payers and beneficiaries are experiencing this rapid evolution to a value based system. If you need more confirmation that PAC reform will be central to many conversations, check out these two facts below:

- "Roughly 10,000 Baby Boomers will turn 65 today, and about 10,000 more will cross that threshold every day for the next 19 years." -Pew Research Center
- "88.5 million: the projected population of people 65 and older in 2050. People in this age group will comprise 20 percent of the total population at that time." - United States Census Bureau

Faculty Spotlight

This month we are thrilled to highlight Dr. D. Clay Ackerly II, who has recently been appointed as Chief Clinical Officer of naviHealth, Inc. He previously served as a geriatric primary care physician, Associate Medical Director for Population Health and Continuing Care at Partners HealthCare, and Assistant Chief Medical Officer for Non-Acute Services at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). As a leader in improving quality and efficiency of post-acute care, Dr. Ackerly's initiatives have included reducing readmission rates and improving care transitions. He is well-recognized in the post-acute care arena where he was co-leader of the Pioneer ACO Post-Acute Care action group, as well as the co-founder of the Eastern Massachusetts Pioneer ACO quality collaborative. Prior to pursuing his medical training, Dr. Ackerly served in the private sector and the Federal Government. More recently he has served as a CMMI advisor and was named a Practice Change Leader by the John A. Hartford Foundation and the Atlantic Philanthropies.

Recap of January Webinar

The [INTERACT Program: Tools to Manage your PAC Population](#) webinar was held on January 14, 2015 and hosted Dr. Joseph G. Ouslander of Florida Atlantic University. Dr. Ouslander, a leader in the development of the INTERACT (Interventions to Reduce Acute Care Transfers) Program, touched upon the billions of dollars spent by our federal government on hospital admissions and readmissions and noted that a number of these admissions could be prevented via improved management of patient conditions. Additionally, by providing healthcare professionals with tools to address these issues, we may witness a decline in hospitalization – with a simultaneous drop in illness and healthcare spending. The INTERACT

New Analysis Released: PAC Provider Availability

Skilled Nursing Facilities- Northeast



The Northeast United States has a large supply of skilled nursing facilities, although bed availability varies by area. This is one of several maps highlighting variations in the regional availability of SNFs, IRFs, and LTCHs. You can view the additional maps on our website and request community specific analysis through our "contact us" page.

Program provides the tools to manage acute changes in health conditions, with a goal of averting serious adverse events through early identification. The program is comprised of several different tools, including a quality improvement or hospitalization rate tracking tool, a set of communication tools (i.e., stop and watch early warning tool and the hospital to post-acute care data list), decision support or care paths tool, and an advance care planning tracking form. These tools can be used to advance overall patient care, thus reducing the rate of transfers to hospitals and producing savings. The INTERACT Program is designed to be incorporated and utilized in everyday practice by physicians and other clinicians. Currently, work is being completed to integrate these tools in electronic health records.

To view the webinar recording and slides, please visit our Publications/Presentations page at <http://www.pacccr.org/publications/>.

CMS Study on Population Health Measures

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has contracted with *Arbor Research Collaborative for Health* to develop a strategic framework and measure development plan for assessing the implementation of population health strategies in CMS programs. The work will involve understanding the measures that currently exist, identifying gaps in existing measures and evaluating potential measure application to CMS quality programs, payment policies, and innovative models of healthcare delivery. A Technical Expert Panel (TEP) has been formed to review the results of an environmental scan and gap analysis and to make recommendations related to potential CMS program use.

Dr. Barbara Gage, Senior VP of Scientific Research and Evaluation at PACCR, has been selected to serve on this panel.

CMMI Models Impacting Post-Acute Care

While there is frustration amongst a few PAC providers about limited opportunities to engage with CMMI on the innovative payment and delivery models being tested, PAC providers actually have a wide array of opportunities to engage with the reform efforts underway. We have outlined, by type of "innovation models" stemming from CMMI, a wide variety of models in which you could become more strategically integrated. While not all models are open for PAC providers to be the primary recipient of direct responsibility or monetary incentives, partnering with awardee organizations is key to improving coordination across the continuum.

1. Accountable Care Models

- ✦ Medicare Health Care Quality Demonstration
- ✦ Nursing Home Value-Based Purchasing Demonstration
- ✦ Private, For-Profit Demo Project for the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
- ✦ ACO Investment Model
- ✦ Advance Payment ACO Model

2. Bundled Payments for Care Improvement Initiatives

- ✦ BPCI Model 2: Retrospective Acute and Post-Acute Care Episode
- ✦ BPCI Model 3: Retrospective Post-Acute Care Only

3. Primary Care Transformation Models

- ✦ Independence at Home Demonstration
- ✦ Transforming Clinical Practices Initiative

4. Initiatives Focused on the Medicaid and CHIP Population

- ✦ Medicaid Incentives for the Prevention of Chronic Diseases Model

5. Initiatives Focused on the Medicare-Medicaid Enrollees

- ✦ Financial Alignment Initiative for Medicare-Medicaid Enrollees
- ✦ Initiative to Reduce Avoidable Hospitalizations Among Nursing Facility Residents

6. Initiatives to Speed the Adoption of Best Practices

- ✦ Community-based Care Transitions Program
- ✦ Partnership for Patients

7. Initiatives to Accelerate the Development and Testing of New Payment and Service Delivery

- ✦ Frontier Community Health Integration Project Demonstration
- ✦ Health Care Innovation Awards
- ✦ Health Care Innovation Awards Round Two
- ✦ Medicare Care Choices Model
- ✦ State Innovation Models Initiative: Model Design Awards Round One
- ✦ State Innovation Models Initiative: Model Testing Awards Round Two

Still interested in learning more about how you, as a PAC provider can participate with Awardee organizations? We can help you navigate the large menu of models available.

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