

VALUE CONNECTION

A Quarterly Newsletter of Arkansas Health Network, LLC

Sept 2016

Let's catch up!

It may have been a while since you've heard from us, but rest assured Arkansas Health Network (AHN) has been hard at work. Since its beginning in 2013, Arkansas Health Network has proven to be a market leader in population health management and a critical resource for Arkansas providers to achieve success in a fee-for-value world. That expertise has become more important than ever with the start of MACRA on the horizon. Please enjoy our updates and news. We thank you for your membership and engagement.



*Daniel Felton, MD
AHN Board Chair*

AHN By the Numbers

1320

Providers in the network. 2/3 are independent

53,934

Value-based patient "lives" managed by AHN

3

Physician-led chapters

\$1.1M

Incentive funds distributed to ACO members

MACRA to the Future

MACRA (Medicare Access & CHIP Reauthorization Act) — no doubt the healthcare buzzword of the year. This piece of legislation marks a strong-handed action from CMS to further tie providers' reimbursement directly to quality and financial performance beginning on January 1st, 2017. The time do learn and act is now. Here are some key facts to get you started:

Top 5 Facts to Know about MACRA

- I. MACRA was passed with bi-partisan support and thus is unlikely to be repealed after the November election.
- II. Your Medicare professional fees are at risk, dependent on your performance on cost, quality, and practice metrics. 2017 performance will count for 2019 payment adjustments.
- III. Part B Quality programs such as PQRS and Value-Based Modifier have been replaced by two quality reporting pathways — **MIPS** (Merit-based Incentive Payment System) and **AAPM** (Advanced Alternative Payment Method). Providers are defaulted to MIPS.
- IV. Practices must report on at least one metric in 2017 to avoid negative payment adjustments in 2019.
- V. CMS has stated that small practices of 9 or fewer physicians are disadvantaged under MACRA and are more likely to be penalized due to the infrastructure required to succeed.

What should I do to get ready for MACRA?

Visit AHN's MACRA Resource Center on our website:

www.arkansashealthnetwork.com/macra. These resources have been specially curated by AHN's MACRA Task Force to give you resource to research MACRA and assess your practice's readiness.



Did you Know? - Three Approaches to Care Delivery

Improving the health of chronic patients takes time, a resource providers have little of in their clinics. That is why Arkansas Health Network has a staff of six RN Population Health Coaches and two Social Workers. Along with the physician, these capable individuals become a part of the patient's care team. As demonstrated in the chart below, their role is distinct from a traditional Case Management department in an acute hospital. Rather than reactive, episodic care in high acuity settings, true population health management is proactive, community and ambulatory-based, and aims to reach patients before they even become "high-cost or "high-risk".

	Case Management	Care Coordination	Pop Health Management
Objective:	Contain costs	Facilitate access/deliver value	Maintain health; minimize illness
Target	High-cost/high-use patients	High-risk populations	At-risk populations
Tactical Approach:	Prior authorization	Problem-solving and process	Prevention of acute illness
Mindset:	Episodic	Longitudinal	Predictive
Setting:	Within a single organization providing medical care	Across various organizations/providers providing care	In the community/home

Source: Kaufman, Hall, & Associates LLC

Meet the Leadership Team



Bob Sarkar, MBA, FACHE — President

Mr. Sarkar joined AHN as President in December 2015. He is an industry expert in population health and brings over 20 years of population health with high performing organizations like Kaiser Permanente and Advocate Physician Partners.



Randy Hill, MD — Chief Medical Officer

Dr. Hill assumed the role of AHN's Chief Medical Officer in September 2016. A Hot Springs native, Dr. Hill has practiced family medicine in Arkansas for 20 years. Throughout his career, he has held numerous physician leadership roles.



Rachel Kahn, MHA — Director of Operations

Ms. Kahn has been a part of the development of AHN since 2013. After spending two years as a member of CHI St. Vincent's Strategy team, she was thrilled to begin focusing full time on population health as AHN's Director of Operations in May 2016.

Board of Managers

Keith Cooper, MD
 David Coussens, MD
 Daniel Felton, MD
 David Foster, MD
 Harold Hedges, MD
 Tony Johnson, MD
 Drew Kumpuris, MD
 John Meadors, MD
 Michael Pollock, MD
 Kyle Roper, MD
 Lisa Sajovitz, MD
 Bob Sarkar