

Value Connection

Arkansas Health Network's Newsletter

AHN is Officially Accredited in Clinical Integration and Employer Based Population Health!

As you all know, we have been busy for the last several months working to elevate our performance to the next level. In order to receive an objective validation of our excellence in utilization of evidence-based solutions, commitment to continuous quality and process improvement, and last but not the least, provide ourselves with a competitive advantage in the market/state, we ventured into a dual accreditation journey with URAC.

We are excited to announce that we have received formal notices that the URAC Accreditation Committee voted to grant AHN **full accreditation for both Clinical Integration version 1.0 and Employer Based Population Health version 1.0**. Our accreditation in both programs is effective from March 1, 2023 to March 1, 2026.

AHN is the **first Clinically Integrated Network (CIN) in the industry** to attain **dual accreditation** in Clinical Integration and Employer Based Population Health. This unique accomplishment directly aligns with our mission to build healthy communities in Arkansas.

Brooks Lawrence, MD, Board Chairperson
Bob Sarkar, MBA, FACHE, President & CEO

Our Journey

It's been quite a long journey, starting in July 2021 when we first executed our URAC agreement. After more than a year of developing policies and procedures to align with URAC standards, we submitted our URAC Desktop Review in August 2022. One month later, in October 2022, we received 100% Completion from URAC — a huge reward for our work so far — and moved on to preparing for our URAC Validation on-site review.

URAC surveyors, CHI St. Vincent and CommonSpirit leadership, several physicians from our network and their administrative staff, and our AHN employees, gathered on January 31st for the formal review. In our closing discussion, the URAC surveyors shared how impressed they were by our organization and that they would be recommending us for full accreditation in both Clinical Integration and Employer Based Population Health. The URAC Accreditation Committee formally voted on our application in late February, and we are now officially dually accredited with URAC.

Although this is a massive achievement, the real work begins now to ensure that we continue to comply with URAC's exacting standards throughout the next 3 years. We are confident our practices and procedures will carry us on into the future.



AHN staff members celebrating the completion of our URAC on-site visit at Fassler Hall

Our URAC Accreditations

Clinical Integration



As the only program of its kind, URAC's Clinically Integrated Network Accreditation provides immediate confirmation that an independent third-party has validated our organization's best-in-class standards.

This accreditation affords us the credibility to be on equal footing as you navigate solutions with payers, providers and other stakeholders.*

**Description sourced directly from URAC website, [linked here](#)*

Employer Based Population Health



The URAC Employer Based Population Health accreditation program was created to be an opportunity for distinction among employer- and/or union-sponsored care delivery models that focus on improving outcomes via their sponsored benefit programs.

This accreditation demonstrates your commitment to quality total health for employees and their dependents.*

What This Means for Providers

As a member of the AHN Provider network, you are a part of our mission to build healthy communities in Arkansas and a key element of our comprehensive model of care built upon three foundational pillars:

Multidisciplinary Care Management | Robust Provider Network | Proactive Data and Analytics

With your help, we are currently managing over 134,000 value based patient lives. Receiving this dual accreditation from URAC showcases our collective commitment to continuous quality improvement for these patients we serve.

Specifically for you as a provider, this translates into the following areas:

Clinical

Ensures that you and your colleagues are using evidenced-based guidelines and are being recognized for doing so

Quality

Demonstrates your commitment to continuous providing the highest quality of care for our patients

Strategic Advantage

Provides you with a competitive edge over others outside of our robust AHN provider network

Both accreditations are effective for the next 3 years. To maintain compliance with our accreditation status, AHN affiliated providers must have access to consistent communication and complete annual training through our AHN Connect app.

This achievement serves as validation for your years of consistent support and work to improve our comprehensive model of care.

***Thank you for helping us provide the best care possible for our patients!
We look forward to our continued success together.***