

**Maryland Health Quality and Cost Council**  
**Primary Care/Medical Home Workgroup**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**March 9, 2009**  
**10:00-11:00 a.m.**

**Purpose**

Establish the direction and processes for identifying priorities for the Primary Care Medical Home Workgroup through data sharing and discussion. The workgroup will be provided with a review the state of primary care and current Medical Home Demonstration Efforts as well as the NCQA-PCMH Accreditation program.

**Discussion Summary Primary**

Secretary Colmers presented the Primary Care Medical Home Workgroup's charge which is focused on supporting initiatives to strengthen primary care and explore wider adoption of the medical home model. Specifically this workgroup shall build upon the recommendations of the Task Force on Health Care Access and Reimbursement and the experience in other states to ensure the development of consistent approaches to the development of PCMH in Maryland. The Secretary acknowledged that there are multiple approaches to a PCMH, ranging from a process-oriented approach to those that are more oriented to financial reimbursement. The goal of the group should be to identify these approaches along with appropriate funding mechanisms to encourage the growth and dissemination of PCMHs in the State.

Dr. Kathi White, Chair of the workgroup reminded the participants that the workgroup would be working towards a comprehensive plan that is due by December 1, 2009 and that the workgroup would meet monthly via teleconference moving forward, although there may be some interest in a face-to-face meeting in early April.

The workgroup then heard a presentation by Ben Steffen, Director of the Center for Information Services and Analysis at the Maryland Health Care Commission, and staff to the workgroup, entitled, *Background on Enhanced Primary Care and the Medical Home Model* (available on <http://dhmh.state.md.us/mhqcc/primarycare.html>). This presentation focused primarily on a (1) review of primary care practice in Maryland, (2) the recommendations from the Task Force on Health Care Access and Reimbursement related to the establishment of a medical home, (3) an overview of the demonstrations in the State and (4) a review of challenges and summaries. This presentation was followed by a review of medical home recognition programs, specifically the NCQA-PCMH Accreditation. This presentation, *Update, Patient-Center Medical Home*, was provided by Johann Chanin, Director of Product Development at NCQA (available on <http://dhmh.state.md.us/mhqcc/primarycare.html>). This presentation focused on the Physician

Practice Connections – Patient Centered Medical Home (PPC-PCMH) survey tool as well as the medical home initiatives in which the survey tool is being used. These initiatives range from multi-payer demonstrations to statewide initiatives to single payer and government demonstrations using Medicaid or Medicare.

The group discussed the CMS Medical Home Demonstration, and it was conveyed that Maryland may be precluded from participating due to our participation in CMS's EHR Demonstration Project. Staff agreed to inform the workgroup members once a determination had been made. The group also discussed reimbursement levels and the degree of work primary care physicians would be required to undertake to participate in a PCMH. There was discussion regarding the ways in which the PCMH initiative mirrors many of the requirements of the Federally Qualified Health Centers. It was suggested that the group consider the possibility of focusing Maryland's efforts around PCMH in those centers.

Dr. White concluded the meeting by saying that the group would attempt to meet again prior to the Council meeting on March 20 to further discuss these issues. Secretary Colmers suggested that workgroup participants continue to share their feedback and ideas through email to staff as a means to structure the discussion of the next meeting.

### **Teleconference Participants**

*Council members:* Kathi White, Chair, Secretary Colmers, Roger Merrill,

*Other Participants:* Jon Shematek (CareFirst BCBS), Dawn Johnson (ACS), Glenn Robbins (UMMS), Carol Reynolds (Potomac Physicians), Richard Fornadel (Aetna), Kathie Baldwin (Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers), Salliann Alborn (MD Community Health System), Robb Cohen, (Excel Health) Hal Cohen (consultant on behalf of CareFirst BCBS), Pegeen Townsend (Maryland Hospital Association), Johann Chanin (presenter, NCQA), and Bob Murray (HSCRC)

*Staff:* Orion Courtin, Susan Milner, Maria Prince, Ben Steffen, and Nicole Stallings.

**Next meeting:** Teleconference on Tuesday, March 17, 2009 from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.