

# **BCBSM Physician Group Incentive Program**

## **Patient-Centered Medical Home and Patient-Centered Medical Home-Neighbor**

### **Interpretive Guidelines**

**2018-2019**

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# Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Physician Group Incentive Program

## Patient-Centered Medical Home And Patient-Centered Medical Home-Neighbor Interpretive Guidelines

### READ ME FIRST: THE ESSENTIAL FAQs ABOUT THE PATIENT-CENTERED MEDICAL HOME AND PATIENT-CENTERED MEDICAL HOME-NEIGHBOR PROGRAM

#### **1. *What is the Patient-Centered Medical Home and Patient-Centered Medical Home-Neighbor?***

The Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) is a care delivery model in which patient treatment is coordinated through primary care physicians to ensure patients receive the necessary care when and where they need it, in a manner they can understand. The PCMH-Neighbor model enables specialists and sub-specialists, including behavioral health providers, to collaborate and coordinate with primary care physicians to create highly functioning systems of care.

The goals of the PCMH/PCMH-N model are to:

- Strengthen the role of the PCP in the delivery and coordination of health care
- Support population health management, which uses a variety of individual, organizational and cultural interventions to help improve the illness and injury burden and the health care use of defined populations.
- Ensure effective communication, coordination and integration among all PCP and specialist practices, including appropriate flow of patient care information, and clear definitions of roles and responsibilities

#### **2. *Why are there all these “capabilities?”***

When BCBSM began developing its PCMH program in 2008 in collaboration with PGIP Physician Organizations (POs), it became clear that practices could not wave a wand and turn into a fully realized PCMH overnight. In early demonstration projects, practices began suffering from transformation fatigue, in some cases leading to disillusionment with the PCMH model.

In partnership with the PGIP community, BCBSM decided to develop 12 initiatives to support incremental implementation of PCMH infrastructure and care processes. Each initiative focuses on a

PCMH domain of function and defines the set of capabilities that will enable practices to achieve the PCMH vision for that domain of function.

Initially, a 13<sup>th</sup> initiative was developed for electronic prescribing (domain 8), but then a separate e-prescribing incentive program was implemented, and e-prescribing was removed from the list of PCMH/PCMH-N domains. In the 2016-2017 version of the Interpretive Guidelines, domain 8 was resurrected to add capabilities related to electronic prescribing and management of controlled substance prescriptions.

### **3. *Why do we need “Interpretive Guidelines?”***

During the first round of site visits in 2009, we rapidly discovered that there were widely varying interpretations of nearly every term and concept in the PCMH model. We created the Interpretive Guidelines to provide definitions, examples, links to helpful resources, and to address questions regarding extenuating circumstances.

The Interpretive Guidelines continue to evolve, and now include “PCMH Validation Notes,” which are examples of the ways in which a practice may be asked to demonstrate that capabilities are in place during the site visit validation process. Please note that these are just illustrative examples; during the actual site visit a practice may be asked different or additional questions.

### **4. *Why have new capabilities been added over time, and why are some capabilities being retired?***

Although the PCMH/PCMH-N model was designed to be highly aspirational, it also continues to evolve based on new research and insights about the delivery of optimal health care. Each year, BCBSM conducts a comprehensive review of the Interpretive Guidelines, incorporating input gathered from the PGIP community throughout the year, and new capabilities are added as needed based on new findings.

Starting in 2017, capabilities are retired when they no longer require substantive time and or resources to implement, due to the evolution of practice transformation.

### **5. *Who is responsible for reporting PCMH/PCMH-N capabilities to BCBSM?***

Physician Organizations are responsible for reporting PCMH/PCMH-N capabilities to BCBSM. Capabilities can be reported online at any time, using the Self-Assessment Database. Twice a year, in January and July, BCBSM takes a “snapshot” of the self-reported data.

It is not acceptable for a PO to request that practices simply self-report their capabilities. POs must be actively engaging and educating their practices about the PCMH/PCMH-N model and must validate all capabilities before reporting them in place.

### **6. *Can we report a capability in place as soon as the practice has the ability to use it? Or what about when one physician or member starts using it?***

No and no. Any capability reported to BCBSM as “in place” must be fully in place and in use by all appropriate members of the practice unit team on a routine and systematic basis, and, where

applicable, patients must be actively using the capability. Some examples the field team has seen of capabilities that should not have been marked in place are:

- Patient portal capabilities reported as in place: Practice has patient portal implemented, but no providers or patients are using it.
- After hours/urgent care capabilities reported as in place for specialty practice: urgent care centers are identified in the PO's PCMH brochure the practice is giving to patients, but specialty practice says they don't use urgent care and do not counsel patients about how to receive after hours/urgent care, but instead direct patients to the ED.

**7. *The PCPs in my PO are very familiar with the PCMH model, but our specialists hardly know what we're talking about. Some of them think they should be their patient's medical home, not the PCP. What should we do about this?***

It is critical that prior to reporting PCMH-N capabilities in place, POs ensure that both allopathic and non-allopathic specialists are aware of and in agreement with the PO's documented guidelines outlining basic expectations regarding the role of specialists in the PO and within the PCMH/PCMH-N model, including:

- Commitment to support the PCMH/PCMH-N model and the central role of the PCP in managing patient care and providing preventive and treatment services, including immunizations
- Willingness to actively engage with the PO to optimize cost/use of services
- Collaboration with PCPs and other specialists to coordinate care

In addition, POs should:

- Visit specialist practices to determine which capabilities are in place and actively in use. (The only exceptions would be those capabilities that are centrally deployed by the PO, such as generation of patient alerts and reminders.) POs should also ensure that specialist practices are aware of, and in agreement regarding, which PCMH-N capabilities are reported as in place for their practice.
- Hold forums and visit practices to educate the specialists and their teams about the PCMH-N model, and, importantly, emphasize the need for specialists to actively engage with the PO and their PCP colleagues to optimize individual patient care management and population level cost and quality performance.

Please remember that the point of the PCMH-N program is not to reward specialists for capabilities that just happen to be in place; the purpose is to enable POs to engage specialists in the PCMH-N model, with the goal of building an integrated, well-coordinated medical neighborhood.

As of 2017, if the field team finds during the course of a site visit that any of these elements are missing (e.g., the practice does not understand or support the PCMH/PCMH-N model, has not been visited/educated by the PO, is not aware of which capabilities have been reported in place, etc.), the field team reserves the right to suspend the site visit and take other remedial steps as deemed appropriate.

## **8. Why is it so important that the capabilities be reported accurately?**

Accurate reporting of PCMH-N capabilities is vital, for many reasons:

- The overall integrity of PGIP and the PCMH Designation Program depends upon POs accurately reporting on their transformation efforts. Currently, a minimum of 50 PCMH capabilities must be in place for a practice to be designated. The continued success of the program requires that BCBSM and PGIP POs are fully aligned in support of PGIP's goals, and that POs are committed to ensuring the accuracy of their self-reported data.
- Our PCMH/PCMH-N database is the source for extensive analytics and articles published in national peer-reviewed journals regarding the effectiveness of the PCMH and PCMH-N models.
- Inaccurate data will lead to misleading results, which could negatively affect the programmatic and financial viability of the PCMH/PCMH-N model.
- Inaccurate reporting of PCMH-N capabilities leads to inappropriate allocation of PGIP rewards, reducing the amount available to reward other key PGIP activities

## **9. Do we have to implement the capabilities in order?**

Capabilities are not necessarily listed in sequential order (except for patient-provider partnership capabilities) and may be implemented in any sequence the PO and/or practice unit feels is most suitable to their practice transformation strategy.

## **10. Don't you people know how to count? What happened to domain 7 and why does domain 8 start at 8.7?**

Sort of. Because we have amassed years of self-reported data based on numbered capabilities, we cannot reassign capability numbers. Domain 7 was previously used to collect evidence-based care data and has been retired. In domain 8, capabilities 8.1 through 8.6 were related to incremental implementation of e-prescribing and have been retired.

## **11. What does PCMH/PCMH-N have to do with Organized Systems of Care?**

In a word, everything. BCBSM's PCMH/PCMH-N program provides the foundation to build Organized Systems of Care (OSCs).

## **12. Why does BCBSM do all those site visits and how should Physician Organizations prepare practices?**

Site visits are a vital component of BCBSM's PCMH/PCMH-N program, and serve to:

- Educate POs and practice staff about the PCMH/PCMH-N Interpretive Guidelines and BCBSM expectations
- Enable the field team to gather questions and input to refine, clarify, and enhance the PCMH/PCMH-N Interpretive Guidelines
- Ensure that the PCMH/PCMH-N database is an accurate source for research as well as the PCMH Designation process

POs should inform practices that demonstration will be required for certain capabilities. For example, if the practice is asked to show the field team how patient contacts were tracked in the practice system for abnormal test results, the practice should have patient examples identified ahead of time and be prepared to discuss them with the field team during the site visit.

All requested documentation must be available and provided **during** the site visit.

**13. What do you mean by “co-management?”**

There are several types of co-management between PCPs and specialists, as well as other interactions, as defined in the table below.

<b>Types of PCP/Specialist Clinical Interactions</b>
<b>Pre-consultation exchange</b> - Expedite/prioritize care, clarify need for a referral, answer a clinical question and facilitate the diagnostic evaluation of the patient prior to specialty assessment
<b>Formal consultation</b> - Deal with a discrete question regarding a patient’s diagnosis, diagnostic results, procedure, treatment or prognosis with the intention that the care of the patient will be transferred back to the PCMH/PCP after one or two visits.
<p><b>Co-management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Co-management with shared management for the disease</i> – specialist shares long-term management with the PCP for a patient’s referred condition and provides advice, guidance and periodic follow-up for one specific condition.</li> <li>• <i>Co-management with principal care for the disease</i> – (referral) the specialist assumes responsibility for long-term, comprehensive management of a patient’s referred medical/surgical condition; PCP receives consultation reports and provides input on secondary referrals and quality of life/treatment decisions; PCP continues to care for all other aspects of patient care and new or other unrelated health problems and remains first contact for patient.</li> <li>• <i>Co-management with principal care of the patient for a consuming illness for a limited period</i> – when, for a limited time due to the nature and impact of the disease, the specialist becomes first contact for care until the crisis or treatment has stabilized or completed. PCP remains active in bi-directional information and provides input on secondary referrals and other defined areas of care.</li> </ul>
<b>Transfer of patient to specialist</b> - Transfer of patient to specialist for the entirety of care.

**14. You use the term “clinical practice unit teams” a lot. What does that mean?**

“Clinical Practice Unit teams” should be composed of “clinicians,” defined as physicians, nurse practitioners, or physician assistants (unless otherwise specified in the guidelines).

**15. Why aren't there any capabilities related to health literacy?**

Health literacy should be considered across all relevant domains. All verbal and written communications with patients must be appropriate to the specific level of understanding and needs of the individual patient.

**Capabilities Overview**

		<b>Required Capabilities</b>	<b>Retired Capabilities</b>	<b>Total Active Caps Applicable for Adult Patients</b>	<b>Total Active Caps Applicable for Pediatric Patients</b>	<b>Total Number of Capabilities</b>	<b>Total # Active Capabilities</b>
1.0	PPP	1.1	1.9	11	11	12	11
2.0	Patient Registry		2.5	18	20	23	22
3.0	Performance Reporting			15	17	18	18
4.0	Individual Care Management	4.6		28	28	28	28
5.0	Extended Access	5.1		10	10	10	10
6.0	Test Tracking	6.2 6.5	6.3	8	8	9	8
8.0	Electronic Prescribing			5	5	5	5
9.0	Preventive Services			9	9	9	9
10.0	Linkage to Community Services	10.2		8	8	8	8
11.0	Self-Management Support			8	8	8	8
12.0	Patient Web Portal		12.1, 12.2, 12.8	11	11	14	11
13.0	Coordination of Care			12	12	12	12
14.0	Specialist Referral Process		14.3, 14.5, 14.10	8	8	11	8
	<b>TOTAL NUMBER</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>158</b>

**PCMH/PCMH-N INTERPRETIVE GUIDELINES**

**1.0 Patient-Provider Partnership**

Goal: Build provider care team and patient awareness of, and active engagement with, the PCMH model, clearly define provider and patient responsibilities, and strengthen the provider-patient relationship.

12 total capabilities; 1 retired; 1 required.  
All capabilities applicable to: Adult and Peds Patients

*All capabilities and guidelines are applicable to PCPs for all current patients (regardless of insurance coverage). "Current" patients for PCPs are defined as patients who the practice unit considers to be active in the practice (e.g., practices may define "current" as seen within the past 12 months or 24 months)*

*Capabilities 1.1-1.3 and 1.9 are applicable to specialists. For specialists, there are two ways to implement the patient-provider partnership capabilities: 1) specialist has patient-provider partnership discussion with "current" patients with whom the specialist has an ongoing treating relationship, which is defined as "having primary responsibility or co-management responsibility with PCP for patients with an established chronic condition"; 2) specialist has patient-provider partnership discussion with all patients at the onset of treatment.*

### **1.1 - Required**

***Practice unit has developed PCMH-related patient communication tools, has trained staff, and is prepared to implement patient-provider partnership with each current patient, which may consist of a signed agreement or other documented patient communication process to establish patient-provider partnership***

#### PCP Guidelines:

- a. Patient communication process must include a conversation between the patient and a member of the clinical practice unit team. In extenuating circumstances, well-trained Medical Assistants who are highly engaged with patient care may be considered a member of the clinical practice unit team.
- b. Documentation does not need to be on paper. It may consist of note in medical record, sticker placed on front of the chart, indicator in patient registry, patient log, or similar system that can be used to identify the percent of patients with whom the partnership has been discussed.
- c. Documents and patient education tools are developed that explain PCMH concepts and outline patient and provider roles and responsibilities.
- d. Practice unit team members and all appropriate staff are educated/trained on patient-provider partnership concepts and patient communication processes
- e. Process has been established for patients to receive PCMH information, and for practitioner to have conversation with patients about PCMH patient-provider partnership.
- f. Mechanism and process has been developed to document establishment of patient-provider partnership in medical record or patient registry.

#### Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Patient communication process must include a conversation between the patient and a member of the clinical practice unit team. In extenuating circumstances, well-trained Medical Assistants who are highly engaged with patient care may be considered a member of the clinical practice unit team.
- b. Conversation must include clear delineation of the specialist's role in caring for the patient, and the planned frequency and type of communication with the PCP

- c. Documentation does not need to be on paper. It may consist of note in medical record, sticker placed on front of the chart, indicator in patient registry, patient log, or similar system that can be used to identify the percent of patients with whom the partnership has been discussed.
- d. Documents and patient education tools are developed that explain PCMH concepts and outline patient’s and specialist’s roles and responsibilities.
- e. Practice unit team members and all appropriate staff are educated/trained on patient-provider partnership concepts and patient communication processes
- f. Process has been established for patients to receive PCMH information, and for practitioner to have conversation with patients about PCMH patient-provider partnership.
- g. Mechanism and process has been developed to document establishment of patient-provider partnership in medical record or patient registry.

Required for PCMH Designation: YES	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current documentation required (examples include flyer, tablet, patient brochure, etc.)</li> <li>• Demo of communication process includes conversation with patients and member of PU team using available tools to educate on PCMH</li> <li>• Demo of the documentation of partnership within the EMR or registry</li> <li>• All staff trained on PCMH model</li> </ul>	

**1.2**

***Process of reaching out to current patients is underway, and practice unit is using a systematic approach to inform patients about PCMH***

*PCP Guidelines:*

- a. Outreach process must include patients who do not visit the practice regularly
- b. Examples of outreach include discussion at the time of visit, mailings, emails, telephone outreach, or other electronic means
  - i. Mass mailings do not meet the requirements for 1.2 through 1.8
  - ii. Outreach materials should explain the PCMH concept and patient-provider partnership
  - iii. For any reference to a practice having “BCBSM Designation status” please reference BCBSM’s recommended language for communications to patients from PCMH-Designated practices
- c. For those patients who do not come into the practice regularly, outreach must consist of distribution of targeted material that the patient receives personally, either via mail, email, telephone, or patient portal.
  - i. Postings on websites do not meet the intent of this capability

*Specialist Guidelines:*

- i. Examples of outreach include discussion at the time of visit, mailings, emails, telephone outreach, or other electronic means. Mass mailings do not meet the requirements for 1.2. Outreach materials should explain the PCMH/PCMH-N concept and patient-provider partnership, and the roles and responsibilities of the specialist provider, the PCP, and the patient.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo example of outreach that contains language regarding PCMH</li> <li>• From list, what communication does practice have with patients not on defined active patient list? Need outreach containing PCMH info</li> </ul>	

### **1.3**

#### ***Patient-provider agreement or other documented patient communication process is implemented and documented for at least 10% of current patients***

**PCP Guidelines:**

- a. Establishment of patient-provider partnership must include conversation between patient and a member of the practice unit clinical team
  - ii. In extenuating circumstances, well-trained Medical Assistants who are highly engaged with patient care may be considered a member of the clinical practice unit team.  
Conversation should preferably take place in person, but may take place over phone in extenuating circumstances, for a limited number of patients
  - iii. Other team members may begin the conversation, or follow-up after physician conversation with more detailed discussion/information, but a clinical team member must participate in at least part of the patient-provider partnership conversation
- b. Conversation may be documented in medical record, patient registry, or other type of list.
- c. Practice must also have mechanism to track percent of patients that have established partnership and be able to provide data during site visit showing denominator (total number of “current” patients in the practice) and numerator (total number of patients in the denominator with whom conversations have been held and partnerships established at any point in the past).

**Specialist Guidelines:**

- a. Evidence must be provided that patient-provider partnership conversations are occurring with, at a minimum, those patients for whom the specialist has primary responsibility or co-management responsibility with PCP
  - i. It is not necessary to maintain a list for purposes of quantifying the percentage of patients engaged in patient-provider partnership conversations
- b. Establishment of patient-provider partnership must include conversation between patient and a member of the practice unit clinical team
  - i. In extenuating circumstances, well-trained Medical Assistants who are highly engaged with patient care may be considered a member of the clinical practice unit team.
  - ii. Conversation should preferably take place in person, but may take place over phone in extenuating circumstances, for a limited number of patients
  - iii. Other team members may begin the conversation, or follow-up after physician conversation with more detailed discussion/information, but a clinical team member must participate in at least part of the patient-provider partnership conversation

c. Conversation may be documented in medical record, patient registry, or other type of list

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 1.1</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most recent report that details the numerator, denominator and the percentage of active patients that have the PCMH agreement</li> </ul>	

**1.4**

***Patient-provider agreement or other documented patient communication process is implemented and documented for at least 30% of current patients***

PCP Guidelines:

a. Reference 1.3

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 1.1, 1.3</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most recent report that details the numerator, denominator and the percentage of active patients that have the PCMH agreement</li> </ul>	

**1.5**

***Patient-provider agreement or other documented patient communication process is implemented and documented for at least 50% of current patients***

PCP Guidelines:

a. Reference 1.3

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 1.1, 1.3, 1.4</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most recent report that details the numerator, denominator and the percentage of active patients that have the PCMH agreement</li> </ul>	

**1.6**

***Patient-provider agreement or other documented patient communication process is implemented and documented for at least 60% of current patients***

PCP Guidelines:

a. Reference 1.3

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 1.1, 1.3-1.5</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most recent report that details the numerator, denominator and the percentage of active patients that have the PCMH agreement</li> </ul>	

**1.7**

***Patient-provider agreement or other documented patient communication process is implemented and documented for at least 80% of current patients***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Reference 1.3

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 1.1, 1.3-1.6</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most recent report that details the numerator, denominator and the percentage of active patients that have the PCMH agreement</li> </ul>	

**1.8**

***Patient-provider agreement or other documented patient communication process is implemented and documented for at least 90% of current patients***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Reference 1.3

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 1.1, 1.3-1.7</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most recent report that details the numerator, denominator and the percentage of active patients that have the PCMH agreement</li> </ul>	

**1.9**

***Providers ensure that patients are aware that as part of comprehensive, quality care and to support population management, health care information is shared among care partners as necessary***

**RETIRED**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Providers ensure that patients are aware and clearly understand that in the course of providing care, providers will share patient information with other providers who are involved in the patient's care, as appropriate. The data-sharing may be through provision of written medical information or through electronic sharing of information (for example, electronic transmission of information about admits, discharges and transfers from/to hospital-based care settings).
- b. Language regarding the sharing of health information with other providers can be added to the patient-provider partnership documentation, or it may be incorporated into the practice's existing HIPAA documentation, such as a "notice of privacy practices", to fulfill the requirement to inform patients.

**1.10**

***Providers have an established process for repeating Patient-Provider Partnership discussion***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Providers have an established process for repeating Patient-Provider Partnership discussion, particularly with non-adherent patients and patients with significant change in health status
- b. Providers track date of Patient-Provider Partnership discussion and repeat discussion at least every 2-3 years

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
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**1.11**

***Practice has a regularly scheduled in-person new patient orientation that is distinct from a regularly scheduled visit, to set expectations about being a patient within that practice, and provide education about the value of a patient-centered medical home model.***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Orientation can be in a group setting and led by a mid-level provider or nurse

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show agendas, patient handouts, meeting schedules for new patient orientation</li> </ul>	

**1.12**

***Practice establishes a Patient and Family Advisory Council to better understand patient and caregiver perspectives, and how those perspectives can be used to optimize patient care.***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. For more information on creating a Patient and Family Advisory Council, review this module from the American Medical Association: <https://www.stepsforward.org/modules/pfac>
- b. Cannot be solely hospital-based
- c. Patients on committee must be current patients of the practice or their family members

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show agendas, meeting schedules, attendee list for PFAC</li> <li>• Show examples of patient feedback collected from PFAC and demonstrate how change was enacted based on feedback</li> </ul>	

**2.0 Patient Registry**

Goal: Enable providers to manage their patients both at the population level and at point of care through use of a comprehensive patient registry.

23 total capabilities; 1 retired.  
Capabilities 2.11, 2.12 and 2.16 applicable to: Adult Patients only

Capabilities 2.17, 2.18, 2.22, and 2.23 applicable to: Peds Patients only

*Applicable to PCPs; and to specialists for the patients for whom they have primary or co-management responsibility (regardless of insurance coverage and including Medicare patients).*

*For all Patient Registry capabilities except 2.9, registry may be paper or electronic. A fully electronic registry may be the last capability to be implemented; however, to report capabilities as in place within this domain, the registry must be fully in place and routinely utilized.*

*Eleven of the Patient Registry capabilities identify the population of patients included in the registry (2.1, 2.10, 2.11, 2.12, 2.13, 2.15, 2.16, 2.17, 2.18, 2.22, and 2.23). The other twelve Patient Registry capabilities pertain to registry functionality (2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6., 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 2.14, 2.19, 2.20, and 2.21). All capabilities pertaining to functionality that are marked as in place must be in place for each population of patients marked as “included” in the registry.*

## **2.1**

***A paper or electronic all-payer registry is being used to manage all established patients in the Practice Unit with: Diabetes  
(For specialists, relevant patient population selected for initial focus and not addressed in other 2.0 capabilities)***

### PCP Guidelines:

- a. “Active use” is defined as using the key content of the registry to conduct outreach and proactively manage the patient population
  - i. Generating patient lists that are not being actively used to manage the patient population does not meet the intent of this capability
- b. A patient registry is a database that enables population-level management in addition to generating point of care information, and allows providers to view patterns of care and gaps in care across their patient population. A registry contains several dimensions of clinical data on patients to enable providers to manage their population of patients.
- c. Relevant clinical information that is the focus of attention in generally accepted guidelines, and is incorporated in common quality measures pertinent to the chronic illness, must be incorporated in the registry (i.e., physiologic parameters, lab results, medication use, physical findings, and patient behaviors such as peak flow meter use or daily salt intake).
- d. Registry data must be in the form of data fields that are accessible for tabulation and population management.
- e. Registry must include all established patients with the disease referenced in the capability, regardless of insurance coverage (including Medicare patients)
- f. Patients assigned by managed care organizations do not have to be included in registry if they are not established patients (reference 2.15); however, outreach to those patients may be appropriate (reference 1.2 and 2.15)
- g. Patient information may be entered by the practice, populated from EHR or other electronic or manual sources, or populated with payer-provided data
  - i. Registry must include data pertinent to the clinical performance measures contained in the Clinical Quality Initiative (e.g., BCBSM-provided data or similar data from other sources)

- h. Registry may initially be a component of EHR for basic-level functioning, as long as the practice or the PO has the capability to use the EHR to generate routine population-level performance reports and reports on subsets of patients requiring active management.
  - i. Subsets of patients requiring active management refers to those patients with particular chronic illness management needs including but not limited to those who have physiologic parameters out of control, or who have not received specified, essential services
- i. Reference AAFP article for additional information on creating a registry:  
<http://www.aafp.org/fpm/2011/0500/p11.html>

*Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Active use is defined as using the key content of the registry to conduct outreach and proactively manage the patient population
  - i. Generating patient lists that are not being actively used to manage the patient population does not meet the intent of this capability
- b. A patient registry is a database that enables population-level management in addition to generating point of care information, and allows providers to view patterns of care and gaps in care across their patient population. A registry contains several dimensions of clinical data on patients to enable providers to manage and improve the health of their population of patients.
- c. Relevant clinical information that is the focus of attention in generally accepted guidelines and is incorporated in common quality measures pertinent to the patient population must be incorporated in the registry (e.g., physiologic parameters, lab results, medication use, physical findings, and patient behaviors such as peak flow meter use or daily salt intake).
- d. Registry data must be in the form of data fields that are accessible for tabulation and population management.
- e. Registry must include all established patients for which the specialist has ongoing primary or co-management responsibility with the condition referenced in the capability, regardless of insurance coverage (including Medicare patients)
  - i. For ER physicians, a registry that tracks frequent ER users, or patients with drug-seeking behavior, may qualify
- f. Patients assigned by managed care organizations do not have to be included in registry if they are not established patients (reference 2.15).
- g. Patient information may be entered by the practice, populated from EHR or other electronic or manual sources, or populated with payer-provided data
  - i. Registry must include data pertinent to key clinical performance measures (e.g., BCBSM-provided data or similar data from other sources)
- h. Registry may initially be a component of EHR for basic-level functioning, as long as the practice or the PO has the capability to use the EHR to generate routine population-level performance reports and reports on subsets of patients requiring active management.
  - i. Subsets of patients requiring active management refers to those patients with particular management needs including but not limited to those who have physiologic parameters out of control or who have not received specified, essential services
  - ii. For example, for behavioral health providers, i.e., psychologists and psychiatrists, common relevant conditions would be depression and anxiety
- i. Reference article on creating a simple disease registry:  
<http://www.aafp.org/fpm/20060400/47usin.html>

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo the process of using the registry tool to identify the patient population</li> <li>• Registry should contain relevant clinical info</li> <li>• How is the info entered in the registry?</li> <li>• What do you do with it when you receive it, how do you address gaps in care?</li> </ul>	

## 2.2

***Registry incorporates patient clinical information, for all established patients in the registry, for a substantial majority of health care services received at other sites that are necessary to manage the population***

### PCP Guidelines:

- a. Registry may be paper or electronic
- b. "All patients in the registry" may consist, for example, of diabetes patients only, if practice unit has only implemented capability 2.1.
- c. The registry is not expected to contain clinical information on all health care services received at any site for 100% of patients in the registry, but is expected to contain a critical mass of information from various sources, including the PO's or practice unit's own practice management system, and electronic or other records from facilities with which the PO or practice unit is affiliated
- d. **Other sites and service types are defined as labs, inpatient admissions, ER, UCC, and pharmaceuticals** (with dates and diagnoses where applicable).
- e. The definition of "substantial majority of health care services" is three-quarters of **preventive and chronic** condition management services rendered to patients.
- f. If registry is paper, information may be extracted from records and recorded in registry manually, and must be in the form of an accessible data field for population level management of patients

### Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Registry may be paper or electronic
- b. "All patients in the registry" may consist of patients relevant to the specialty type, if practice unit has only implemented capability 2.1.
- c. The registry is not expected to contain clinical information on all health care services received at any site for 100% of patients in the registry, but is expected to contain a critical mass of information from various relevant sources, including the PO's or practice unit's own practice management system, and electronic or other records from facilities with which the PO or practice unit is affiliated
- d. Other sites and service types are defined as labs, inpatient admissions, ER, urgent care and pharmaceuticals (with dates and diagnoses where applicable), when relevant to the condition being managed by the specialist,
- e. The definition of "substantial majority of health care services" is three-quarters of relevant services rendered to patients.

- f. If registry is paper, information may be extracted from records and recorded in registry manually, and must be in the form of an accessible data field for population level management of patients

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What data elements are included in population registry?</li> <li>• At least 4 out of the 5 data elements from other sites (Lab, ED, IP, UC, Meds) must be in registry and/or patient record</li> </ul>	

### **2.3**

#### ***Registry incorporates evidence-based care guidelines***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Registry functionality may be paper or electronic.
- b. Guidelines should be drawn from recognized, validated sources at the state or national level (e.g., MQIC Guidelines, USPSTF).
- c. Determination of which evidence-based care guidelines to use should be based on judgment of practice leaders.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporates evidence-based care guidelines (MQIC, HEDIS)</li> <li>• Review data elements in registry to ensure evidence-based care guidelines are incorporated</li> </ul>	

### **2.4**

#### ***Registry information is available and in use by the Practice Unit team at the point of care***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Registry functionality may be paper or electronic.
- b. Practice unit has and is fully using the capability to generate up-to-date, integrated individual patient reports at the point of care to be used during the visit.
- c. EHR would meet the requirements of this capability provided it contains evidence-based guidelines, and relevant information is identified and imported into screens or reports that facilitate easy access to all relevant data elements particular to the conditions under management, for the purpose of guiding point of care services.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actively using at point of care</li> <li>• Ask about use of registry pre/during/post patient interaction in EMR or chart</li> </ul>	

**2.5**

***Registry contains information on the individual practitioner for every patient currently in the registry who is an established patient in the practice unit***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Registry may be paper or electronic
- b. The individual practitioner responsible for the care of each patient is identified in the registry
  - i. Occasional gaps in information about some patients' individual attributed practitioner due to changes in medical personnel are acceptable

Specialist Guidelines:

- c. Registry may be paper or electronic
- d. The individual practitioner responsible for the care of each patient is identified in the registry

**RETIRED**

**2.6**

***Registry is being used to generate routine, systematic communication to patients regarding gaps in care***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Registry may be paper or electronic.
- b. Communications may be manual, provided there is a systematic process in place and in use for generation of regular and timely communications to patients.
- c. Communications may be sent to patients via email, fax, regular mail, text messaging, or phone messaging.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used to identify gaps in care, communicated (mail, phone, email, portal) to patient</li> <li>• Demo use of registry to reach out to patients</li> </ul>	

**2.7**

***Registry is being used to flag gaps in care for every patient currently in the registry***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Registry may be paper or electronic.
- b. Registry must have capability to identify all patients with gaps in care based on evidence-based guidelines incorporated in the registry.
- c. EHR would meet the requirements of this capability if it can be used to produce population level information on gaps in care for chronic condition patients.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used to flag gaps in care for all patients in registry</li> </ul>	

- How are patients identified, missing tests, missed data elements

## 2.8

### ***Registry incorporates information on patient demographics for all patients currently in the registry***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- Registry may be paper or electronic.
- Registry contains basic patient demographics, including name, gender, date of birth.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contains all relevant patient demographics (name, gender, age, etc.)</li> <li>• Demonstrate evidence in registry</li> </ul>	

## 2.9

### ***Registry is fully electronic, comprehensive and integrated, with analytic capabilities***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- Practice unit must have capability 2.2 in place in order to receive credit for 2.9
- All data entities must flow electronically into the registry
- Data is housed electronically
- Linkages to other sources of information (as defined in 2.2) are electronic for all facilities and other health care providers with whom the practice unit regularly shares responsibility for health care.
- Registry has population-level database and capability to electronically produce comprehensive analytic integrated reports that facilitate management of the entire population of the Practice Unit's patients.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 2.2</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully electronic - direct feed of labs, admits, ED</li> <li>• Demonstrate evidence in registry</li> </ul>	

## 2.10

### ***Registry is being used to manage all patients with: Persistent Asthma***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- Reference 2.1(a)-(g).

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo the process of using the registry tool to identify the patient population</li> <li>• Registry should contain relevant clinical info</li> <li>• How is the info entered in the registry?</li> </ul>	

- What do you do with it when you receive it, how do you address gaps in care?

### 2.11

#### **Registry is being used to manage all patients with Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- b. Reference 2.1(a)-(g).

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo the process of using the registry tool to identify the patient population</li> <li>• Registry should contain relevant clinical info</li> <li>• How is the info entered in the registry?</li> <li>• What do you do with it when you receive it, how do you address gaps in care?</li> </ul>	

### 2.12

#### **Registry is being used to manage all patients with: Congestive Heart Failure (CHF)**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 2.1(a)-(g).

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo the process of using the registry tool to identify the patient population</li> <li>• Registry should contain relevant clinical info</li> <li>• How is the info entered in the registry?</li> <li>• What do you do with it when you receive it, how do you address gaps in care?</li> </ul>	

### 2.13

#### **Registry includes at least 2 other conditions**

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Reference 2.1(a)-(g).
- b. Registry includes at least 2 other **chronic conditions not addressed in other 2.0 capabilities** for which there are evidence-based guidelines and the need for ongoing population and patient management, and which are sufficiently prevalent in the practice to warrant inclusion in the registry based on the judgment of the practice leaders
  - i. Examples of other chronic conditions include (but are not limited to) depression in adults, sickle cell anemia, hypertension, anxiety

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 2.1(a)-(g).
- b. Registry is being used to manage all patients with at least 2 other conditions relevant to the specialist’s practice for which there are evidence-based guidelines and the need for ongoing

population and patient management, and which are sufficiently prevalent in the practice to warrant inclusion in the registry based on the judgment of the practice leaders

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo the process of using the registry tool to identify the patient population</li> <li>• Registry should contain relevant clinical info</li> <li>• How is the info entered in the registry?</li> <li>• What do you do with it when you receive it, how do you address gaps in care?</li> <li>• Note: Remember the two conditions must be different than those listed in previous capabilities</li> </ul>	

**2.14**

***Registry incorporates preventive services guidelines and is being used to generate routine, systematic communication to all patients in the practice regarding needed preventive services***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Reference 2.1(a)-(g).
- b. Registry must include all current patients in the practice, including well patients, regardless of insurance coverage and including Medicare patients
- c. Preventive services guidelines must be drawn from a recognized state or national source, such as USPSTF, CDC, or national guidelines that address standard primary and secondary preventive services (i.e., mammograms, cervical cancer screenings, colorectal screening, immunizations, well-child visits, well-adolescent visits, and well-adult visits).

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporates preventive services (mammograms, pap smears, immunizations, well visits) &amp; outreach to engage them in practice.</li> </ul>	

**2.15**

***Registry incorporates patients who are assigned by managed care plans once they are established patients in the practice***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Active outreach should be conducted to engage patients assigned by managed care plans
- b. Patients assigned by managed care plans should be included in the registry once they are established in the practice

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients do not need to be added to registry until they are established with practice; if practice can demonstrate active outreach to the assigned-but-not-established patients, this capability can be marked as in place.</li> </ul>	

**2.16**

**Registry is being used to manage all patients with: Chronic Kidney Disease**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 2.1(a)-(g).

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo the process of using the registry tool to identify the patient population</li> <li>• Registry should contain relevant clinical info</li> <li>• How is the info entered in the registry?</li> <li>• What do you do with it when you receive it, how do you address gaps in care?</li> </ul>	

**2.17**

**Registry is being used to manage all patients with: Pediatric Obesity**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 2.1(a)-(g).

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo the process of using the registry tool to identify the patient population</li> <li>• Registry should contain relevant clinical info</li> <li>• How is the info entered in the registry?</li> <li>• What do you do with it when you receive it, how do you address gaps in care?</li> </ul>	

**2.18**

**Registry is being used to manage all patients with: Pediatric ADD/ADHD**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 2.1(a)-(g).

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo the process of using the registry tool to identify the patient population</li> <li>• Registry should contain relevant clinical info</li> <li>• How is the info entered in the registry?</li> <li>• What do you do with it when you receive it, how do you address gaps in care?</li> </ul>	

**2.19**

**Registry contains information identifying the individual care manager for every patient currently in the registry who has an assigned care manager**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Registry may be paper or electronic

- b. Registry includes name of the care manager for each patient with an assigned care manager
- c. Where a patient has more than one care manager, registry must identify which care manager is the lead care manager

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registry includes name of care manager for each patient with an assigned care manager</li> </ul>	

**2.20**

***Registry contains advanced patient information that will allow the practice to identify and address disparities in care***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Registry may be paper or electronic.
  - i. Registry contains advanced patient demographics to enable practices to identify vulnerable patient populations, including race and ethnicity, and including data elements such as:
    1. primary/preferred language
    2. measures of social support (e.g., caretaker for disability, family network)
    3. disability status
    4. health literacy limitations
    5. type of payer (e.g., uninsured, Medicaid)
    6. relevant behavioral health information (e.g., date of depression screening and result)
    7. social determinants of health such as housing instability, transportation limitations, food insufficiency, risk of exposure to violence

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registry contains relevant advanced patient demographics, as listed in the guidelines (at least four of the seven elements).</li> </ul>	

**2.21**

***Registry contains additional advanced patient information that will allow the practice to identify and address disparities in care***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- b. Registry may be paper or electronic.
  - ii. Registry contains advanced patient demographics to enable them to identify vulnerable patient populations, including both:
    1. gender identity
    2. sexual orientation

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registry contains advanced patient demographics, as listed in the guidelines</li> </ul>	

**2.22**

***Registry is being used to manage all patients with: Pediatric autism***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Reference 2.1(a)-(g).
- b. Information about screening tools for autism is available here:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/hcp-screening.html>

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demo the process of using the registry tool to identify the patient population</li> <li>Registry should contain relevant clinical info such as which screening tool was used to identify condition and related results from screening, along with next steps/treatment plan which may include, but is not limited to, speech therapy, occupational therapy, etc.</li> <li>How is the info entered in the registry?</li> <li>What do you do with it when you receive it, how do you address gaps in care?</li> </ul>	

**2.23**

***Registry is being used to manage pediatric behavioral health disorders, which may include depression, anxiety, and/or eating disorders***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Reference 2.1(a)-(g).
- b. If currently using depression for capability 2.13, a different condition other than depression must be used for this capability
- c. Examples of behavioral health screening tools include the PHQ2/9, Postpartum Depression Screening and GAD (Generalized Anxiety Disorder) scale

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demo the process of using the registry tool to identify the patient population</li> <li>Registry should contain relevant clinical info such as which screening tool was used to identify condition and related results from screening, along with next steps/treatment plan</li> <li>How is the info entered in the registry?</li> <li>What do you do with it when you receive it, how do you address gaps in care?</li> </ul>	

## **3.0 Performance Reporting**

Goal: Generate all-patient/payer reports enabling POs and providers to monitor their population level performance over time, close gaps in care, and improve patient outcomes.

18 total capabilities

Capabilities 3.11 and 3.12 applicable to: Adult patients only

Capabilities 3.6, 3.13, 3.17, and 3.18 applicable to: Peds patients only

*Applicable to PCPs; and to specialists for the patients for whom they have primary or co-management responsibility regardless of insurance coverage and including Medicare patients.*

*Seven of the Performance Reporting capabilities identify the population(s) of patients included in the reports (3.1, 3.3, 3.6, 3.10, 3.11, 3.12, and 3.13). The other Performance Reporting capabilities pertain to report attributes (3.2, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.14, 3.15, and 3.16). All capabilities pertaining to report attributes that are marked as in place must be in place for each population of patients marked as included in the reports.*

### **3.1**

***Performance reports that allow tracking and comparison of results at a specific point in time across the population of patients are generated for: Diabetes (or, for specialists, relevant patient population selected for initial focus and not addressed in other 3.0 capabilities)***

#### **PCP Guidelines:**

- a. Performance reports are systematic, routine, aggregate-level reports that provide current, clinically meaningful health care information on the entire population of patients of all ages that are included in the registry (e.g., all diabetics, regardless of payor and including Medicare patients), allowing comparison across the population of patients, at a single point in time.
- b. The performance reports must be actively analyzed and used in self-assessment of provider performance
- c. The reports must contain several dimensions of clinical data on patients to enable providers to manage their population of patients. Relevant clinical information that is the focus of attention in established, generally accepted guidelines, and is incorporated in common quality measures pertinent to the chronic illness, must be incorporated in the reports (i.e., physiologic parameters, lab results, medication use, physical findings, and patient behaviors such as peak flow meter use or daily salt intake)
- d. It is acceptable for the performance reports to be produced and distributed on a regular basis by the PO or sub-PO, as long as the practice units have the capability to request and receive reports on a timely basis.

#### **Specialist Guidelines:**

- a. Performance reports are systematic, routine, aggregate-level reports that provide current, clinically meaningful health care information on the population of patients that are included in the relevant registry, allowing comparison of a population of patients at a single point in time

- i The registry may be a population registry, or a clinical registry, such as the ones surgical specialties use to track and address complications
- b. The performance reports must be actively analyzed and used in self-assessment of provider performance
- c. The reports must contain several dimensions of clinical data on patients to enable providers to manage their population of patients. Relevant clinical information that is the focus of attention in established, generally accepted guidelines, and is incorporated in common quality measures pertinent to the chronic illness, must be incorporated in the reports (i.e., physiologic parameters, lab results, medication use, physical findings, and patient behaviors such as peak flow meter use or daily salt intake)
- d. It is acceptable for the performance reports to be produced and distributed on a regular basis by the PO or sub-PO, as long as the practice units have the capability to request and receive reports on a timely basis.

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The practice must demo how they are using these performance reports to improve population management.</li> <li>• Steps:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) For each chronic condition, are the relevant measures included in the performance reports?</li> <li>2) What sort of review is being done with these reports?</li> <li>3) What actions are taken?</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

**3.2**

***Performance reports are generated at the population level, Practice Unit, and individual provider level***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Population level optimally consists of PO and/or sub-PO population, but alternatively, as the PO works toward implementing registry capabilities across all practice units, the population level report may be based on a meaningful subset of relevant aggregated practice unit performance
- b. Performance reports provide information and allow comparison at the population, practice unit, and individual provider level for all patients currently in the registry, regardless of insurance coverage and including Medicare patients

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Population level optimally consists of PO and/or sub-PO population, but alternatively, as the PO works toward implementing registry capabilities across all practice units, the population level report may be based on a meaningful subset of relevant aggregated practice unit performance
- b. Performance reports provide information and allow comparison at the population, practice unit, and individual provider level where feasible (i.e., PO has multiple specialist practices of same type) for all patients currently in the registry, regardless of insurance coverage and including Medicare patients

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How has the practice used these reports to identify an opportunity for improvement?</li> </ul>	

### 3.3

#### ***Performance reports include at least 2 other conditions***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 2.13
- b. Performance reports are being generated for at least 2 other **chronic conditions** (or for specialists, 2 other conditions relevant to the specialist’s practice) not addressed in other 3.0 capabilities for which there are evidence-based guidelines and the need for ongoing population and patient management, and which are sufficiently prevalent in the practice to warrant inclusion in the registry based on the judgment of the practice leaders (regardless of insurance coverage and including Medicare patients).

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance reports are generated for 2 other conditions that are relevant to the office, there are evidence-based guidelines in place, and there is a need for ongoing population management.</li> </ul>	

### 3.4

#### ***Data contained in performance reports has been fully validated and reconciled to ensure accuracy***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. The practice and PO have process to ensure that data in the registry are representative of the data in the patient’s medical record
  - i For example, where a test result is needed for management, evidence of the test being ordered should not be used as evidence that test was conducted, absent a test result report being received and entered in the record.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The practice and PO have process to ensure that data in the registry are representative of the data in the patient’s medical record</li> </ul>	

### 3.5

***Trend reports are generated, enabling physicians and their POs/sub-POs to track, compare and manage performance results for their population of patients over time***

PCP Guidelines:

- b. Performance reports include both current and past health care information for the population of patients currently in the registry (regardless of insurance coverage and including Medicare patients), allowing analysis and comparison of results across time (e.g., quarter to quarter, year to year).
- c. Trend reports must be generated by the PO/sub-PO at the individual provider, practice unit, and population level
- d. Population level optimally consists of PO and/or sub-PO population, but alternatively, as the PO works towards implementing registry capabilities across all practice units, the population level report may be based on a meaningful subset of relevant aggregated practice unit performance

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Performance reports include both current and past health care information for the population of patients currently in the registry (regardless of insurance coverage and including Medicare patients), allowing analysis and comparison of results across time (e.g., quarter to quarter, year to year).
- e. Population level optimally consists of PO and/or sub-PO population where feasible (i.e., PO has multiple specialist practices of same type) but alternatively, as the PO works towards implementing registry capabilities across all practice units, the population level report may be based on a meaningful subset of relevant aggregated practice unit performance

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trend reports - PO aggregate data (quarterly, annually)</li> <li>• How has the practice used these reports to identify an opportunity for improvement?</li> </ul>	

### 3.6

***Performance reports are generated for the population of patients with: Pediatric Obesity***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 3.1

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The practice must demo how they are using these performance reports to improve population management               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) For each chronic condition, are the relevant measures included in the performance reports?</li> <li>2) What sort of review is being done with these reports?</li> <li>3) What actions are taken?</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

### 3.7

**Performance reports include all current patients in the practice, including well patients, and include data on preventive services**

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Performance reports include all current patients in the practice, including well patients, as defined in 2.14 and 3.1
- b. Reports include preventive services information

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reports include ALL patients &amp; preventive services</li><li>• Reference 2.14 and 3.1</li></ul>	

### 3.8

**Performance reports include patient clinical information for a substantial majority of health care services received at other sites that are necessary to manage the patient population**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. For all established patients in the registry, the performance reports are expected to include treatment information pertinent to standard quality metrics (e.g., use of beta blockers following AMI), but are not expected to contain comprehensive treatment information as this level of information is often contained in detailed narrative text in clinical notes.
- b. Reportable items could include information about encounters (including observation bed stays, frequent ED visits), diagnosis and associated labs, physiologic parameters such as blood pressure, medications, or diagnostic services provided during the encounter.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reports include clinical info from other sources (labs, IP, ED, UC, Meds) to manage chronic care &amp; preventive services</li></ul>	

### 3.9

**Performance reports include information on services provided by specialists or sub-specialists**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 3.1
- b. Information on key preventive or disease specific services provided by specialists or sub-specialists is incorporated into performance reports.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	

- The practice must demo how they are using these performance reports to improve population management.
- Steps:
  - 1) For each chronic condition, are the relevant measures included in the performance reports?
  - 2) What sort of review is being done with these reports?
  - 3) What actions are taken?

### **3.10**

#### ***Performance reports are generated for the population of patients with: Persistent Asthma***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 3.1

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The practice must demo how they are using these performance reports to improve population management.</li> <li>• Steps:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) For each chronic condition, are the relevant measures included in the performance reports?</li> <li>2) What sort of review is being done with these reports?</li> <li>3) What actions are taken?</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

### **3.11**

#### ***Performance reports are generated for the population of patients with: Coronary Artery Disease***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 3.1

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The practice must demo how they are using these performance reports to improve population management.</li> <li>• Steps:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) For each chronic condition, are the relevant measures included in the performance reports?</li> <li>2) What sort of review is being done with these reports?</li> <li>3) What actions are taken?</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

### **3.12**

#### ***Performance reports are generated for the population of patients with: Congestive Heart Failure***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 3.1

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The practice must demo how they are using these performance reports to improve population management.</li> <li>• Steps:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) For each chronic condition, are the relevant measures included in the performance reports?</li> <li>2) What sort of review is being done with these reports?</li> <li>3) What actions are taken?</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

**3.13**

***Performance reports are generated for the population of patients with: Pediatric ADD/ADHD***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 3.1

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The practice must demo how they are using these performance reports to improve population management.</li> <li>• Steps:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) For each chronic condition, are the relevant measures included in the performance reports?</li> <li>2) What sort of review is being done with these reports?</li> <li>3) What actions are taken?</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

**3.14**

***Performance reports include care management activity***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Care management activity should include the following information for each member of the care management team:
- i Patient caseload (number of unique patients)
  - ii Number of in-person encounters
  - iii Number of telephonic encounters

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
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**3.15**

***Key clinical indicators are tracked and reported to external entities to which practices are accountable for quality measurement***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Practices or POs are tracking and reporting on key clinical indicators, such as rates of patients with HTN who are well controlled, and patients with DM who have an A1C showing reasonable control, in a manner consistent with standardized, generally accepted specifications for such measures

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Practices or POs are tracking and reporting on key clinical indicators relevant to their practices, such as those outlined in HEDIS, PQRS and Meaningful Use standards

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
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**3.16**

***Performance reports are generated to track one or more Choosing Wisely recommendations relevant to scope of practice***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Practices or POs are tracking and reporting on one or more Choosing Wisely recommendations relevant to scope of practice for all patients, regardless of payer

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
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**3.17**

***Performance reports are generated for the population of patients with: Pediatric autism***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- b. Reference 3.1

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The practice must demo how they are using these performance reports to improve population management.</li> <li>• Steps:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) For each chronic condition, are the relevant measures included in the performance reports?</li> <li>2) What sort of review is being done with these reports?</li> <li>3) What actions are taken?</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

**3.18**

Performance reports are generated for the population of patients with: ***pediatric behavioral health disorders, which may include depression, anxiety, and/or eating disorders***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

c. Reference 3.1

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The practice must demo how they are using these performance reports to improve population management.</li><li>• Steps:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) For each chronic condition, are the relevant measures included in the performance reports?</li><li>2) What sort of review is being done with these reports?</li><li>3) What actions are taken?</li></ol></li></ul>	

## **4.0 Individual Care Management**

Goal: Patients receive organized, planned care that empowers them to take greater responsibility for their health

28 total capabilities; 1 required  
All capabilities applicable to: Adult and Peds patients

*Applicable to PCPs and specialists (specialist practice must have lead responsibility for care management for at least a subset of patients for a period of time; e.g., oncology care manager has lead responsibility for patients when they are in active chemotherapy). For patients with an ongoing care relationship with a specialist, PCP and specialist must establish agreement regarding who will have lead responsibility for care management.*

*To receive credit for an individual care management capability, basic care management delivered in the context of office visits must be available to all patients. Advanced care management, delivered by trained care managers in the context of provider-delivered care management services, is expected to be available only to those members who have the provider-delivered care management benefit.*

*To facilitate phased implementation of capabilities, providers may select a subset of their patient population for initial focus for capabilities 4.2, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, and 4.9*

### **4.1**

***Practice Unit leaders and staff have been trained/educated and have comprehensive knowledge of the Patient-Centered Medical Home and Patient Centered Medical Home-Neighbor models, the Chronic Care model, and practice transformation concepts***

**PCP Guidelines:**

- a. Training content should include comprehensive information about the Chronic Care Model
  - i. Reference information provided at the Improving Chronic Illness Care website:  
<http://www.improvingchroniccare.org>
- b. Training/educational activity is documented in personnel or training records, and content material used for training is available for review.

- a. Training occurs at time of hire for new staff, and is repeated at least annually for all staff.
- c. Process is in place to ensure all staff are apprised of changes in the PCMH/PCMH-N Interpretive Guidelines, and of the capabilities that have been implemented by the practice.

**Specialist Guidelines:**

- a. Training content should include comprehensive information about the Chronic Care Model and population management, and its relevance to specialists.
  - i. Reference information provided at the Improving Chronic Illness Care website: <http://www.improvingchroniccare.org>
- b. Training/educational activity is documented in personnel or training records, and content material used for training is available for review.
- c. Process is in place to ensure new staff receive training.
- d. Process is in place to ensure all staff are kept apprised of changes in the PCMH/PCMH-N Interpretive Guidelines, and of the capabilities that have been implemented by the practice.

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current Documentation Required</li> <li>• All staff trained on PCMH, chronic care model and practice transformation (sign-in staff sheet)</li> <li>• Discuss process of training, review educational materials used &amp; documentation of training</li> <li>• Training related material in manual acceptable as demo, review dates of training</li> </ul>	

**4.2**

***Practice Unit has developed an integrated team of multi-disciplinary providers and a systematic approach is in place to deliver coordinated care management services that address patients' full range of health care needs for the patient population selected for initial focus***

**PCP and Specialist Guidelines:**

- a. The integrated team of multi-disciplinary providers must consist of at least 3 non-physician members, including at least 3 of the following (composition of team may vary depending on the needs of individual patients): Registered nurse, Certified diabetes educator, nutritionist (RD or Masters-trained nutritionist), respiratory therapist, PharmD or RPH, MSW, certified asthma health educator or other certified health educator specialist (Bachelor's degree or higher in Health Education), licensed professional counselor, licensed mental health counselor, or an NP and/or PA with training/experience in health education who is actively engaged in care coordination/self-management training separate from their office visit E&M duties
  - i. When they are unable to include RNs or PharmDs in the multi-disciplinary care management team, individual practices may use LPNs or PharmD students, in which case these ancillary providers with lesser training must be actively supervised by the physician and/or by a supervising RN or PharmD, with regard to the educational and care management interventions provided to each individual patient. This

supervision must be provided either directly in the practice (e.g., by the primary care physician) or by staff employed by the Physician Organization.

- b. Practice unit team members hold regular team meetings and/or other structured communications about patients whose conditions are being actively managed.
- c. All members of the team do not have to be at the same location or at the practice site, but care delivered by the team must be coordinated and integrated with the practice.
  - i. When care is delivered by travel teams or at sites other than the practice:
    - The care must be fully coordinated by a practice team member or a health navigator who has ongoing communication with the practice
    - The PCMH/PCMH-N practice must be involved in ongoing monitoring, follow-up and reinforcement of health education/training received by patients at other sites
      - Monitoring includes proactive outreach to engage the patient in actively addressing ongoing health needs and health care goals on a longitudinal basis
  - ii. The multi-disciplinary providers are not required to be employees of the PCMH/PCMH-N practice, but must have an ongoing relationship with, and communication with, the practice team members
    - Communication can be a combination of verbal, written, and electronic methods, preferably including some direct verbal communication and participation in in-person team meetings, although individual team members who are not on-site at a practice can make their information and perspective known to specific team members so that their information about individual patients is actively considered by the team as a routine part of case review and planning
  - iii. The care management services must be coordinated and integrated with the patient’s overall care plan
    - The requirements for capability 4.2 can be met through referrals to hospital-based diabetes educators that take place in the context of an overall coordinated, integrated care plan and include bi-lateral communication between the diabetes educator and care management team, with individualized feedback provided to the care team following the diabetes education sessions. Diabetes educator and care team collaborate to ensure that referred patients receive needed services, and that patients understand that they should follow-up with PCMH practice regarding questions and concerns.
    - Standard referrals to hospital-based diabetes educators with summary reports sent back to the PCP do not constitute care that is coordinated and integrated, and would not meet the requirements for capability 4.2

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multidisciplinary team (include RN, DM educators, etc.), regular team meetings, travel teams, ongoing communication w/ PU</li> <li>• Office describes team and condition addressed</li> <li>• Must be a multi-disciplinary team (min of 3). Examples of structured communication between team members at planned intervals.</li> </ul>	

### 4.3

#### ***Systematic approach is in place to ensure that evidence-based care guidelines are established and in use at the point of care by all team members of the Practice Unit***

##### PCP Guidelines:

- a. Guidelines are available and used at the point of care by all clinical staff in the Practice Unit
  - i. Guidelines are activated and used regularly to provide alerts about gaps in care on the Point of Care report or in the EHR
- b. All members in the practice, including front office staff who work with clinicians and patients, are knowledgeable about the type and length of appointments to book and their responsibilities for preparing resources for visits, based on the guidelines
  - i. Guidelines are actively used to monitor, track, and conduct outreach to patients to schedule care as needed
- c. Guidelines are used by PO to evaluate performance of physicians, Practice Units, and PO.

##### Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Evidence-based care guidelines may be those developed by specialist societies
- b. Guidelines are available and used at the point of care by all clinical staff in the Practice Unit
  - i. Guidelines are activated and used regularly to provide alerts about gaps in care on the Point of Care report or in the EHR
- c. All members in the practice, including front office staff who work with clinicians and patients, are knowledgeable about the type and length of appointments to book and their responsibilities for preparing resources for visits, based on the guidelines
  - i. Guidelines are actively used to monitor, track, and conduct outreach to patients to schedule care as needed
- d. Guidelines are used by PO to evaluate performance of physicians, Practice Units, and PO.

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evidence based care guidelines are used at point of care, flags gaps in care, guidelines assist with appointment time booking</li><li>• Have clinical staff demonstrate linking of evidence-based guidelines to upcoming patient visits</li></ul>	

### 4.4

#### ***PCMH/PCMH-N patient satisfaction/office efficiency measures are systematically administered***

##### PCP Guidelines:

- a. Patient satisfaction and office efficiency measures (e.g., patient waiting time to obtain appointment, office visit cycle time, percentage of no-show appointments) are monitored on an ongoing basis
  - i. Measures must be derived from surveys conducted by the office or from information provided by health plans, the PO, or other sources
    - Surveys do not need to focus on a specific chronic condition, provided they capture information relevant to all chronic conditions, such as asking about



- Example required
- Written action plans & goal setting (patient-specific) for 1 chronic condition
- Provide real time examples of patient action plans from patients in the registry.

#### 4.6- Required

***A systematic approach is in place for appointment tracking and generation of reminders for the patient population selected for initial focus***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Evidence-based guidelines are used systematically as a basis for:
  - i. Conducting tracking and follow-up regarding missed appointments
  - ii. Providing patients with mail and/or telephone reminders of upcoming appointments

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: YES</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointment reminder (upcoming appts) &amp; tracking (no shows) for 1 chronic condition</li> <li>• Discuss appointment tracking process - follow up for no shows, demo recent example</li> </ul>	

#### 4.7

***A systematic approach is in place to ensure that follow-up for needed services is provided for the patient population selected for initial focus***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Evidence-based guidelines are used systematically as a basis for:
  - i. Following up with patients to ensure that needed services, whether at the PCMH/PCMH-N practice site or at another care site, are obtained by the patients

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• System to ensure follow up for needed services for one chronic condition</li> <li>• Discuss process for follow up in general. Demonstrate recent example.</li> <li>• Recall system for patients that are not seen?</li> </ul>	

#### 4.8

***Planned visits are offered to the patient population selected for initial focus***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Planned visits consist of a documented, proactive, comprehensive approach to ensure that patients receive needed care in an efficient and effective manner.
  - i. Planned visits include the well-orchestrated, team-based approach to managing the patient’s care during the visit, performed on a routine basis, as well as the tracking

and scheduling of regular visits, and the guideline-based preparation that occurs prior to the visit.

- b. Many healthcare providers believe themselves to already be doing ‘planned’ visits. They note that their patients with chronic conditions come back at defined intervals. Yet upon closer inspection, these visits may look a lot like acute care: the provider might lack necessary information about the patient’s care needs; provider and patient might have different expectations for the visit; and staff may not be fully utilized to help with the organization of the visit and delivery of care. These ‘check-back’ visits, while scheduled in advance, are often not efficient or productive for the provider and patient.
- c. Key Components of a Planned Visit
  - i. Assign Team Roles and Responsibilities
    - For example, the following questions might need to be addressed: who is going to call the patient to schedule the visit? Who will room the patient? If the patient has diabetes, who will remove her/his shoes and socks? Who will examine the feet? Who will prepare the patient encounter form for use during the visit? All tasks need to be delegated to specific team members so that nothing is left to chance.
  - ii. Call a Patient in For a Visit
    - Develop a script for the call, and then decide which team member will make the call. Set the tone and expectations for the issues addressed in the visit.
    - If you choose to mail an invitation to patients, be sure to track respondents. Typically, less than 50% of patients respond to a letter. You will need to plan an alternative method of contacting non-responders.
  - iii. Deliver Clinical Care and Self-Management Support
    - In preparation for the visit, print an encounter form from your registry or pull the chart in advance so that you can review the patient’s care to date. Document what clinical care needs to be done during the visit.
  - iv. Until new roles are well integrated into the normal work flow, many practices have team huddles for 5-10 minutes...to review the schedule and identify chronic care patients coming in that day for an acute care visit. Decide how best to meet as a team to manage these patients. Determine the best intervals and timing for these meetings and stick to them. The brief get-togethers help the team stay focused on practice redesign and create a spirit of ‘one for all’.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documented process required. Planned visit - proactive, team approach to manage care during visit for one condition. Identify team roles (who calls patients), encounter forms printed and on chart prior to visit, and team huddles</li> <li>• Pick patient, have staff walk through what they do for a planned visit, look for evidence of evidence-based interventions. Provide documented process/guideline for planned visit with roles identified for practice unit staff. Show example of recent planned visit in schedule.</li> </ul>	

#### 4.9

### **Group visit option is available for the patient population selected for initial focus (as appropriate for the patient)**

#### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference AAFP information on group visits at:  
<http://www.aafp.org/fpm/20060100/37grou.html>
- b. Group visits are a form of office visit. (They are not the same as care coordination/care management services, which are follow-up services delivered by non-physician clinicians antecedent to an office visit at which individual treatment and/or health behavior goals have been established.)
- c. Group visits include not only group education and interaction but also all essential elements of an individual patient visit, including but not limited to the collection of vital signs, history taking, relevant physical examination and clinical decision-making.
  - i. Group visits differ from other forms of group interventions, such as support groups, which are generally led by peers and do not include one-on-one consultations with physicians.
- d. The clinician is directly involved and meets with each patient individually
  - i. NP or PA may conduct both the clinical and educational/group activity components of the group visit
- e. Members of the care management team may take vital signs and other measurements and assist with individual encounters
- f. Dietitians or pharmacists may lead educational sessions. Topics such as medication management, stress management, exercise and nutrition, and community resources, may be suggested by the group facilitator or by patients, who raise concerns, share information and ask questions. In programs emphasizing self-management, physicians and patients work together to create behavior-change action plans, which detail achievable and behavior-specific goals that participants aim to accomplish by the next session. Once plans are set, the group discusses ways to overcome potential obstacles, which raises patients' self-efficacy and commitment to behavioral change. Patients' family members can also be included in these group sessions."
- g. Group visits generally last from two to 2.5 hours and include no more than 20 patients at a time.
- h. Group visits may be conducted in collaboration with other Practice Units

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Group visit (2 hrs, no more than 20 pts), must include 1 on 1 with clinical decision-maker. Discuss patient selection process, walk through group visit: Who attended the group visit? How did practice reach out to patients? Can practice identify group visits now occurring?</li></ul>	

#### 4.10

### **Medication review and management is provided at every visit for all patients with conditions requiring management**

PCP Guidelines:

- a. At a minimum, medication review and management are provided by clinical decision-maker at every visit for all patients with chronic conditions.
  - i. Chronic conditions under 4.10 are defined as any condition requiring maintenance drug therapy.
  - ii. During every patient encounter, a list of all medications currently taken by the patient is reviewed and updated, and any concerns regarding medication interactions or side effects are addressed.
    - Adjustments are made during every encounter to ensure list is current and matches current clinical needs, and any medication discrepancies or contraindications are resolved by a clinician

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. At a minimum, medication review and management are provided at every visit for all patients with chronic conditions or when indicated given the patient’s health status
  - i. Chronic conditions under 4.10 are defined as any condition requiring maintenance drug therapy.
  - ii. During every patient encounter, a list of all medications currently taken by the patient is reviewed and updated, and any concerns regarding medication interactions or side effects are addressed.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Walk through medication reconciliation for patient scheduled to appear in office</li></ul>	

**4.11**

***Development and incorporation into medical record of written action plans and goal-setting is systematically offered to all patients with chronic conditions or other complex health care needs prevalent in practice’s patient population***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 4.5

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 4.5</b>
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**4.12**

***A systematic approach is in place for appointment tracking and generation of reminders for all patients***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- b. Evidence-based guidelines are used systematically as a basis for:
  - i. Conducting tracking and follow-up regarding missed appointments
  - ii. Providing patients with mail and/or telephone reminders of upcoming appointments

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: 4.6
PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointment tracking and reminder for ALL pts</li> </ul>	

#### 4.13

***A systematic approach is in place to ensure follow-up for needed services for all patients***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- c. Evidence-based guidelines are used systematically as a basis for:
  - i. Following up with patients to ensure that needed services, whether at the PCMH/PCMH-N practice site or at another care site, are obtained by the patients

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: 4.7
PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>System to ensure follow up for needed services for all patients</li> </ul>	

#### 4.14

***Planned visits are offered to all patients with chronic conditions (or, for some specialists, all sub-acute conditions) prevalent in practice population***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- d. Planned visits consist of a documented, proactive, comprehensive approach to ensure that patients receive needed care in an efficient and effective manner.
  - i. Planned visits include the well-orchestrated, team-based approach to managing the patient’s care during the visit, performed on a routine basis, as well as the tracking and scheduling of regular visits, and the guideline-based preparation that occurs prior to the visit.
- e. Many healthcare providers believe themselves to already be doing ‘planned’ visits. They note that their patients with chronic conditions come back at defined intervals. Yet upon closer inspection, these visits may look a lot like acute care: the provider might lack necessary information about the patient’s care needs; provider and patient might have different expectations for the visit; and staff may not be fully utilized to help with the organization of the visit and delivery of care. These ‘check-back’ visits, while scheduled in advance, are often not efficient or productive for the provider and patient.
- f. Key Components of a Planned Visit
  - i. Assign Team Roles and Responsibilities
    - For example, the following questions might need to be addressed: who is going to call the patient to schedule the visit? Who will room the patient? If the patient has diabetes, who will remove her/his shoes and socks? Who will examine the feet? Who will prepare the patient encounter form for use during the visit? All tasks need to be delegated to specific team members so that nothing is left to chance.
  - ii. Call a Patient in For a Visit

- Develop a script for the call and then decide which team member will make the call. Set the tone and expectations for the issues addressed in the visit.
  - If you choose to mail an invitation to patients, be sure to track respondents. Typically, less than 50% of patients respond to a letter. You will need to plan an alternative method of contacting non-responders.
- iii. Deliver Clinical Care and Self-Management Support
- In preparation for the visit, print an encounter form from your registry or pull the chart in advance so that you can review the patient’s care to date. Document what clinical care needs to be done during the visit.
- iv. Until new roles are well integrated into the normal work flow, many practices have team huddles for 5-10 minutes...to review the schedule and identify chronic care patients coming in that day for an acute care visit. Decide how best to meet as a team to manage these patients. Determine the best intervals and timing for these meetings and stick to them. The brief get-togethers help the team stay focused on practice redesign and create a spirit of ‘one for all’.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 4.8</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documented process required. Planned visits for ALL patients w/ chronic conditions</li> </ul>	

**4.15**

***Group visit option is available to all patients with chronic conditions (or, for some specialists, all sub-acute conditions) prevalent in practice population***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- g. Reference AAFP information on group visits at:  
<http://www.aafp.org/fpm/20060100/37grou.html>
- h. Group visits are a form of office visit. (They are not the same as care coordination/care management services, which are follow-up services delivered by non-physician clinicians antecedent to an office visit at which individual treatment and/or health behavior goals have been established.)
- i. Group visits include not only group education and interaction but also all essential elements of an individual patient visit, including but not limited to the collection of vital signs, history taking, relevant physical examination and clinical decision-making.
  - i. Group visits differ from other forms of group interventions, such as support groups, which are generally led by peers and do not include one-on-one consultations with physicians.
- j. The clinician is directly involved and meets with each patient individually
  - i. NP or PA may conduct both the clinical and educational/group activity components of the group visit
- k. Members of the care management team may take vital signs and other measurements and assist with individual encounters
- l. Dietitians or pharmacists may lead educational sessions. Topics such as medication management, stress management, exercise and nutrition, and community resources, may be suggested by the group facilitator or by patients, who raise concerns, share information and ask questions. In programs emphasizing self-management, physicians and patients work

together to create behavior-change action plans, which detail achievable and behavior-specific goals that participants aim to accomplish by the next session. Once plans are set, the group discusses ways to overcome potential obstacles, which raises patients' self-efficacy and commitment to behavioral change. Patients' family members can also be included in these group sessions.”

- m. Group visits generally last from two to 2.5 hours and include no more than 20 patients at a time.
- n. Group visits may be conducted in collaboration with other Practice Units

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 4.9</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group visit (2 hrs, no more than 20 pts), must include 1 on 1 with MD/NP/PA</li> <li>• Discuss patient selection process, walk through group visit: Who attended the group visit? How did practice reach out to patients? Can practice identify group visits now occurring?</li> </ul>	

#### 4.16

***A systematic approach is in place for tracking patients’ use of advance care plans, including engaging patients in conversation about advance care planning, executing an advance care plan with each patient who wishes to do so and including a copy of a signed advance care plan in the patient’s medical record, and where appropriate conducting periodic follow-up conversations with patients who have not yet executed an advance care plan***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. PCP must have systematic process in place to communicate with specialists and identify who has lead responsibility for discussing and assisting each patient with advance care planning
  - i. Training and information about advance care planning is available from the Centers for Disease Control and through a number of healthcare organizations
- b. PCP must have systematic process in place to track care plans distributed to patients and returned to PCP, and where appropriate, to conduct periodic follow-up conversations with patients who have not yet executed an advance care plan
- c. If patient is not ready to sign an advance care plan, document in medical record and address at next health maintenance exam

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Specialist(s) must have systematic process in place to communicate with PCP and identify who has lead responsibility for discussing and assisting each patient with advance care planning
  - i. Specialists are not expected to engage in advance care planning with patients visiting for routine, basic care
  - ii. Training and information about advance care planning is available from the Centers for Disease Control and through a number of healthcare organizations
- d. Specialist must have systematic process in place to track care plans distributed to patients and returned to specialist, and where appropriate, to conduct periodic follow-up conversations with patients who have not yet executed an advance care plan

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance Care Planning; conversation with patients, documentation, and demonstration of follow-up to patients who have been given advance care planning but have not returned paperwork.</li> <li>• Ask about who has conversation with patient. Does office have a template? If not the lead (specialist is) how are you informed of this? Specialist conversation? Sharing w/ PCP?</li> </ul>	

#### 4.17

***A systematic approach is in place for developing a survivorship plan for patients once treatment is completed, including a copy of the survivorship plan in the patient’s medical record, and ensuring that the plan is shared with the patient and the patient’s providers***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. PCP and specialist(s) must have systematic process in place to identify who has lead responsibility for developing each patient’s individualized patient survivorship care plan that includes guidelines for monitoring and maintaining the health of patients who have completed treatment
  - i. Information about survivorship plans can be accessed at:  
<http://www.cancer.org/Treatment/SurvivorshipDuringandAfterTreatment/SurvivorsHipCarePlans/index>
- b. Provider with lead responsibility must ensure that key care partners are aware of and have copies of the survivorship care plan

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survivorship Plan; process in place once treatment is complete, documentation in chart, plan shared amongst patient's providers.</li> <li>• Does office have Survivorship Plan population? Who has conversation with patient - if not the lead (specialist is), how is practice informed of this? Has there been conversation with specialist?</li> </ul>	

#### 4.18

***A systematic approach is in place for assessing patient palliative care needs and ensuring patients receive needed palliative care services***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. PCP and specialists have systematic processes to identify patients who may have unmet needs related to serious illness. Potential identification triggers may include for example:
  - i. Diagnosis or progression of serious illness such as advanced cancer, heart failure, COPD, or dementia
  - ii. Multiple chronic illnesses with frequent hospitalizations
  - iii. Significant scoring on risk stratification tools (e.g. LACE, PRISM, etc.)
  - iv. Answer of “no” to the ‘surprise’ question: Would you be surprised if this patient were to die in the next year?

- b. PCP and specialist(s) have systematic process in place to identify who has lead responsibility for assessing and addressing the palliative care needs of patients with serious illness, and referring to other providers as appropriate, including for example:
  - i. Advance care planning (including Durable Power of Attorney-HC designation, discussion and documentation of patient values and preferences)
  - ii. Pain and physical symptom management
  - iii. Psychological and emotional symptoms
  - iv. Spiritual distress
  - v. Caregiver stress
  - vi. Home or community-based support services
  - vii. Hospice eligibility
- c. Provider with lead responsibility ensures that all care partners are aware that patient is receiving palliative care services
- d. Palliative care services are made available as needed to patients with unmet needs at all stages of seriously illness, not only at time of terminal diagnosis
- e. Reference <https://www.nationalcoalitionhpc.org/ncp-guidelines-2013> for definition of palliative care, and an overview of the domains that should be addressed in the delivery of comprehensive palliative care
- f. Practice has established written protocols for determining when patients should be assessed for palliative care needs, based on accepted standards relevant to their patient population. Tools that can be used to support assessment and management of palliative care needs are available here:
  - i. Advance care planning: [www.prepareforyourcare.org](http://www.prepareforyourcare.org) (available in multiple languages); [www.makingyourwishesknown.com](http://www.makingyourwishesknown.com)
  - ii. Prognosis: <http://eprognosis.ucsf.edu/>
  - iii. Hospice eligibility: [http://geriatrics.uthscsa.edu/tools/Hospice\\_eligibility\\_card\\_Ross\\_and\\_Sanchez\\_Rooney\\_2008.pdf](http://geriatrics.uthscsa.edu/tools/Hospice_eligibility_card_Ross_and_Sanchez_Rooney_2008.pdf);
- g. Options for delivery of palliative care include:
  - i. Delivery within practice: At least one member of practice has received training through established palliative care training program and has educated other practice staff. Examples of such training include:
    - a) Hospice and Palliative Medicine Board Physician Certification (MD/DO)
    - b) Hospice Medical Director Physician Certification (MD/DO)
    - c) Palliative Care education for chaplaincy, nurses, social workers, and other health professionals: <https://csupalliativecare.org/programs/>
    - d) *For domains that cannot be addressed directly by practice staff, practice has knowledge of community resources that will enable patient to receive palliative care across all domains (e.g., physical, emotional, spiritual, legal, ethical).*
  - ii. Referrals: Practice maintains information on availability of comprehensive palliative care teams and makes referrals as appropriate. Sources for referral can be found at <http://www.mihospice.org/>

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation required</li> </ul>	

- Palliative Care; assessment process in place & shared among all care providers (including specialist)
- Does office have Palliative Care population? If not the lead (specialist is), how is practice informed?
- Has there been conversation with specialist?

**4.19**

***Systematic process is in place to identify patients who would benefit from care management services based on clinical conditions and ED, inpatient, and other service use***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. PCP and specialists must have systematic process in place to identify patients who are candidates for care management, and to document the results of the identification process
  - i. PCPs should notify specialists when patient has care manager
  - ii. Specialists should notify PCPs when specialist has care manager
  - iii. When there is more than one care manager, the involved providers should coordinate to identify care manager with lead responsibility

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCP and SCP should notify provider if patient has a care manager- and identify the lead care manager if there are multiple</li> </ul>	

**4.20**

***Systematic process is in place to inform patients about availability of care management services***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. PCP and specialist(s) must have systematic process in place to inform patients, family members, and caregivers about availability of care management services, and to document the conversation and the patient, family member, or caregiver response.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation of patient conversation regarding care management services</li> </ul>	

**4.21**

***Multi-disciplinary team meetings are held regularly to conduct patient case reviews, with development and review of comprehensive care plans for medically complex patients***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. PCP and specialist(s) must have systematic process in place to conduct and document regular patient case reviews, and develop and review comprehensive care plans for medically complex patients
- b. Common elements of a comprehensive care management plan include:

- i. Full problem list
- ii. Expected outcome and prognosis
- iii. Measurable treatment goals
- iv. Symptom management
- v. Planned interventions
- vi. Medication management
  - Medication allergies
- vii. Community/social services ordered
- viii. Plan for directing/coordinating the services of agencies and specialists which are not connected to the practice
- ix. Identify individual who is responsible for each intervention

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 4.2</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation of case review</li> </ul>	

**4.22**

***Provider initiating advance care plan in 4.16 ensures that all care partners are aware of and have copies of advance care plan***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Provider with lead responsibility must ensure that all care partners are aware of and have copies of advance care plan
- b. When all practitioners are on a common EHR platform, there must be a systematic approach such as a flag or other notification mechanism to ensure all providers are aware that an advance care plan is in place

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 4.16</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation that ACP was shared with care partners or systematic way to flag in EHR</li> </ul>	

**4.23**

***Practice has engaged in root cause analysis of any areas where there are significant opportunities for improvement in patient experience of care using tested methods such as Journey Mapping or LEAN techniques***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Practice is currently or has within the past two years engaged in analysis of patient experience of care, using established methods such as Journey Mapping or LEAN
- b. Steps to address areas of concern or dissatisfaction have been identified.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who is on the team</li> </ul>	

- ID Problem - Current state vs. target (future) goal
- What kind of quality improvement has practice implemented? LEAN - PDCA? JM?
- What/How is this measured
- Test of change? Outcome?

**4.24**

***Physician organization and/or practice unit standardizes, develops and maintains care management processes and workflows, to ensure efficient delivery of care management services in the practices for whom they coordinate/administer care management.***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- This capability should be marked as “in-place” only for practices with whom the PO has worked to implement care management. Practice participation in care management may be verified using PDCM claims data.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 4.24</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PO or practice provides documentation about general policies related to care management delivery and examples of care management workflows</li> </ul>	

**4.25**

***Physician organization ensures that care managers are trained, onboarded, and integrated into their practice(s) effectively. Includes ensuring training requirements are completed, creating process for “warm handoffs” from physician to care manager to facilitate strong uptake of care management services by patients, as well as development of communication materials to promote care manager as integral part of practice staff (i.e., flier about care manager role, business cards for care manager).***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- This capability should be marked as “in-place” only for practices with whom the PO has worked to implement care management. Practice participation in care management may be verified using PDCM claims data.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 4.24</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PO provides documentation on care manager training materials, care management training trackers, processes for ensuring warm handoffs, and/or practice materials used to introduce care manager to patients and caregivers</li> </ul>	

**4.26**

***Physician organization supports care management billing process for practices engaged in care management. PO may assist practice billing/coding staff with understanding care***

**management billing process, and ensuring the appropriate training resources are utilized for billing.**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. This capability should be marked as “in-place” only for practices with whom the PO has worked to implement care management. Practice participation in care management may be verified using PDCM claims data.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 4.24</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PO or practice provides care management billing training/reference materials/job aids</li> <li>• PO or practice demonstrates billing of care management codes</li> </ul>	

**4.27**

**Physician organization assists practices with integrating and analyzing data related to effective care management, including the PDCM monthly member lists, and reports for tracking PDCM Engagement Initiative, to ensure optimal care management engagement and targeting.**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. This capability should be marked as “in-place” only for practices with whom the PO has worked to implement care management. Practice participation in care management may be verified using PDCM claims data.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 4.24</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PO demonstrates procedure for processing/disseminating care management data to practices, including monthly patient lists and routine engagement reports and routine claims reports verified through health plan claims data</li> <li>• PO demonstrates how they assist practices in targeting high-risk patients</li> </ul>	

**4.28**

**Physician organizations assist practices with seeking waiver for offering Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) as needed/desired to reduce opioid dependency in the practice’s patient population. Practices that seek waiver must be both willing and able to deliver Medication Assisted Treatment to their patients.**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. For more information on Medication Assisted Treatment, refer to the following websites:  
<https://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment> and  
<https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/InformationbyDrugClass/ucm600092.htm>

- b. For more information on the waiver process, visit this site:  
<https://www.samhsa.gov/programs-campaigns/medication-assisted-treatment/training-materials-resources/buprenorphine-waiver>

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physician can provide evidence that they have successfully received waiver to deliver Medication Assisted Treatment, and can also demonstrate that they have delivered Medication Assisted Treatment to relevant patients through documentation in medical record.</li> </ul>	

## 5.0 Extended Access

Goal: All patients have timely access to health services that are patient-centered and culturally sensitive and are delivered in the most appropriate and least intensive setting based on the patient’s needs. Practice must be routinely referring non-emergent patients to after-hours care, whether located at the practice site or another urgent care center (i.e., specialist practices that always send patients to ED do not meet the criteria for having after-hours care capabilities in place).

10 total capabilities; 1 required  
 All capabilities applicable to: Adult and Peds patients

*Applicable to PCPs and specialists.*

### **5.1 - Required**

***Patients have 24-hour access to a clinical decision-maker by phone, and clinical decision-maker has a feedback loop within 24 hours or next business day to the patient's PCMH***

#### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Clinical decision-maker must be an M.D., D.O., D.C., licensed psychologist, P.A., or N.P. If not M.D. or D.O., clinical-decision maker must have ability to contact supervising M.D. or D.O. on an immediate basis if needed
  - i. Clinical decision-maker may be, but is not required to be, the patient’s primary care provider
- b. Clinical decision-maker has the ability to direct the patient regarding self-care or to an appropriate level of care.
  - i. When reason for patient contact is not relevant to provider’s domain of care, provider will ensure that patient is able to contact PCP or another relevant provider
- c. Clinical decision-maker communicates all clinically relevant information via phone conversation directly to patient’s primary physician, by email, by automated notification in an EHR system, or by faxing directly to primary physician regarding the interaction within 24 hours (or next business day) of the interaction
- d. For after-hour calls, clinical decision-maker responds to patient inquiry in a timely manner (generally 15-30 minutes, and no later than 60 minutes after initial patient inquiry)

- i. For urgent calls, clinical decision-maker responds to patient inquiry in a timely manner (generally 15-30 minutes, and no later than 60 minutes after initial patient inquiry)
- ii. For non-urgent calls during office hours, patients may be given response by phone before end of business day, or offered appointments in a timeframe appropriate to their health care needs

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: YES</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review process for 24-hour coverage</li> </ul>	

### 5.2

#### ***Clinical decision-maker accesses and updates patient's EHR or registry info during the phone call***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Clinical decision-maker (as defined in 5.1) must routinely have access to and update patient's EHR or registry information during all calls
  - i. Occasional technical problems, such as failure of internet service in rural areas, may occur and would not constitute failure to meet the requirements of 5.2 as long as access to the EHR or registry is typically and routinely available
- b. In circumstances where the patient is personally well known to clinician or the condition is non-urgent and easily managed, the clinician may not always need to access the EHR or registry during the call, and may update the record after the call

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 5.1</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On call has access to EHR/Registry and can update</li> <li>• Demo use by showing examples from EHR/Registry</li> </ul>	

### 5.3

#### ***Provider has made arrangements for patients to have access to non-ED after-hours provider for urgent care needs during at least 8 after-hours per week and, if different from the PCMH office, after-hours provider has a feedback loop within 24 hours or next business day to the patient's PCMH***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. After-hours is defined as office visit availability during weekday evening (e.g., 5-8 pm) and/or early morning hours (e.g., 7-9 am) and/or weekend hours (e.g., Saturday 9-12), sufficient to reduce patients' use of ED for non-ED care
- b. After-hours provider may be at Practice Unit site or may be in a physically separate location (e.g., an urgent care location or a separate physician office) as long as it is within 30 minutes travel time of the PCMH
  - i. Services provided by the after-hours provider must be billable as an office visit or an urgent care visit, not as an ER visit

- c. If after-hours provider is different from Practice Unit (e.g., they are an urgent care center or a physician who shares on-call responsibilities), there must be an established arrangement for after-hours coverage, and the after-hours provider must be able to provide feedback regarding care encounter to the patient's Practice Unit within 24 hours or on the next business day
- d. Practice Units may team with other practice units/physicians to provide after-hours urgent care
- e. Patient referral to specialists, high tech imaging, and inpatient admissions recommended by urgent care providers should be made by or coordinated with PCP
- f. Provider places high priority on avoiding unnecessary ED visits, and is routinely and systematically directing patients to after-hours care whenever appropriate

**Specialist Guidelines:**

- g. After-hours provider may be at Practice Unit site or may be in a physically separate location (e.g., an urgent care location or a separate physician office) as long as it is within 30 minutes travel time of the PCMH
  - i. Services provided by the after-hours provider must be billable as an office visit or an urgent care visit, not as an ER visit
- h. Feedback from urgent care center is only required when the care provided to the patient is relevant to the condition being managed by the specialist
  - i. For patients who do not reside within the specialist's geographic vicinity, establishment of a feedback loop may not always be possible
- i. For urgent care centers, after-hours care is defined as additional evening (or early morning) and weekend availability (not 9 am- 5 pm) beyond the standard BCBSM urgent care participation agreement, which requires urgent care centers to be open at minimum 5-8 pm weekdays and 6 hours per day on Saturday and Sunday
- j. For all other specialist practices, after-hours is defined as office visit availability during weekday evening (e.g., 5-8 pm) and/or early morning hours (e.g., 7-9 am) and/or weekend hours (e.g., Saturday 9-12), sufficient to reduce patients' use of ED for non-ED care.
- k. If after-hours provider is different from Practice Unit (e.g., they are an urgent care center or a physician who shares on-call responsibilities), there must be an established arrangement for after-hours coverage, and the after-hours provider must be able to provide feedback regarding care encounter to the patient's Practice Unit within 24 hours or on the next business day
- l. Practice Units may team with other practice units/physicians to provide after-hours urgent care
- m. Patient referral to specialists, high tech imaging, and inpatient admissions recommended by urgent care providers should be made by or coordinated with PCP Provider who places high priority on avoiding unnecessary ED visits, and is routinely and systematically directing patients to after-hours care whenever appropriate
  - i. If patient would have been brought into office during normal business hours, but is being sent to ED after-hours, this would not meet the requirements for this capability

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 after-hours available (non-ED - Urgent Care)</li> </ul>	

- Review documentation related to accessing non-ED centers when office closed

#### 5.4

***A systematic approach is in place to ensure that all patients are fully informed about after-hours care availability and location, at the PCMH site as well as other after-hours care sites, including urgent care facilities, if applicable***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Providers should ensure patients know how to contact them during after-hours, and should ensure patients are aware of location of urgent care centers, when applicable
- b. Where PCPs and specialists are in the same medical neighborhood, they should be aware of urgent care centers commonly used by care partners
  - i. Specialists are encouraged to work with the PCP community to identify appropriate urgent care sites with whom they share clinical information

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients educated on after-hours care</li> <li>• Review documentation provided or made available to patients about after-hours options</li> </ul>	

#### 5.5

***Practice Unit has made arrangements for patients to have access to non-ED after-hours provider for urgent care needs (as defined under 5.3) during at least 12 after-hours per week***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 5.3

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 5.3</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 after hours available</li> <li>• Review documentation related to accessing non-ED centers when office closed</li> </ul>	

#### 5.6

***Non-ED after-hours provider for urgent care accesses and updates the patient's EHR or patient's registry record during the visit***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 5.3 for definition of non-ED after-hours provider for urgent care needs
- b. Clinical decision-maker must routinely have access to and update patient's EHR or registry information during all visits
  - i. Occasional technical problems, such as failure of internet service in rural areas, may occur and would not constitute failure to meet the requirements of 5.6 as long as access to the EHR or registry is typically and routinely available

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-ED after-hours urgent care has access to EHR/Registry and documents DURING visit</li> <li>• Demo use by showing examples from EHR/Registry</li> </ul>	

### 5.7

***Advanced access scheduling is in place: for PCPs, at least 30% of appointments are reserved for same-day appointments for acute and routine care (i.e., any elective non-acute/urgent need, including physical exams and planned chronic care services, for established patients); for specialists, tiered access is in place***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. 30% of the day’s appointments should be available at the start of business for same-day appointments for both acute and routine care needs
  - i. In unusual, extenuating circumstances (such as a solo practice in a rural or urban under-served area), practice units may meet the requirements of capability 5.7 by having a routine, systematic procedure that practice unit clinicians remain after-hours as necessary to see the majority of patients requesting routine or acute care
- b. Written policy for advanced access is available
  - i. Patients are aware of policy and do not feel that they must self-screen to avoid imposing on practice unit staff
- c. Patients are accommodated throughout the day (not only during lunch or after-hours)
- d. Practice should provide time slots sufficient for non-acute visits
- e. Patients are seen on a timely basis with no excessive waiting time
- f. Patients can be seen by PAs/NPs or by any physician in practice
- g. Open access slots may be used for patients being discharged who need a follow-up appointment within 3-5 days, and also for Medicaid patients who must make their appointments 48 hours in advance in order to get free transportation.
- h. If practice does not have an approach to scheduling that closely follows the structure and process of formal open access scheduling consistent with the sources cited herein, then they must have documented policy and procedures demonstrating that the practice’s advanced access approach has the attributes referenced at the following sites:
  - i. <http://www.aafp.org/fpm/20000900/45same.html>
  - ii. <http://www.managedcaremag.com/archives/2002/12/same-day-appointments-promise-increased-productivity>
  - iii. Reference Institute for Healthcare Improvement articles at <http://www.ihl.org/Topics/PrimaryCareAccess/Pages/default.aspx> for information on implementing advanced access

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Specialists must establish tiered access system to address needs of sub-acute, chronic, and routine patients
  - i. Same day appointments available for urgent patients
  - ii. Appointments within 1-3 weeks available for sub-acute patients
- b. Written policy for advanced access is available
  - i. Patients are aware of policy and are not discouraged from requesting appointments

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written policy in place, patients are aware of policy.</li> <li>• Demo of communication to patients, plus demo of how scheduling system blocks appointments: Pull up current examples of scheduling blocks for year</li> </ul>	

**5.8**

***Advanced access scheduling is in place reserving at least 50% of appointments for same-day appointment for acute and routine care (i.e., any elective non-acute/urgent need, including physical exams and planned chronic care services, for established patients)***

**[Applicable to PCPs only]**

PCP Guidelines:

- a. 50% of the day’s appointments should be available at the start of the business day for same-day appointments for acute and routine patient needs
- b. Reference 5.7

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 5.7</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written policy in place, patients are aware of policy.</li> <li>• Demo of communication to patients, plus demo of how scheduling system blocks appointments: Pull up current examples of scheduling blocks for year being reviewed</li> </ul>	

**5.9**

***Practice unit has telephonic or other access to interpreter(s) for all languages common to practice’s established patients.***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Language services may consist of third-party interpretation services or multi-lingual staff
- b. Asking a friend or family member to interpret does not meet the intent of this capability

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpreter service</li> <li>• Verbal description of available tools is acceptable</li> <li>• Asking a friend or family member to interpret does not meet the intent of this capability</li> </ul>	

**5.10**

***Patient education materials and patient forms are available in languages common to practice’s established patients***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Not applicable to practices where English is the only language

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
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### **6.0 Test Results Tracking & Follow-up**

Goal: Practice uses a standardized tracking system to ensure needed tests are received, results are communicated in a timely manner, and follow-up care is received

9 total capabilities; 1 retired; 2 required.  
All capabilities applicable to: Adult and Peds patients

*Applicable to PCPs and specialists.*

*Provider ordering the test is responsible for following up to clearly communicate information about test orders and test results to partner provider, or to patient when indicated. When specialist recommends tests for co-managed patient, ordering PCP is responsible for all follow-up and for clearly communicating test orders and test results to partner provider.*

#### **6.1**

***Practice has test tracking process/procedure documented, which requires tracking and follow-up for all tests and test results, with identified timeframes for notifying patients of results***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- Test tracking procedure must be in writing and identify all steps in process and timeframes
- Procedure document must be reviewed and updated as needed annually

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documented process required that includes time frames for notification.</li> </ul>	

#### **6.2 - Required**

***Systematic approach and identified timeframes are in place for ensuring patients receive needed tests and practice obtains results***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- Follow-up occurs with patients to ensure necessary tests are performed
- Communication processes are in place with testing entities as necessary, to ensure results are received
- Results are reviewed, signed, and dated by the physician and noted in the patient's medical record

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: YES</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demo the process of identifying follow-up for necessary test.</li> </ul>	

### 6.3

***Process is in place for ensuring patient contact details are kept up to date***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Patients are asked at every visit to confirm that address and phone numbers are current

**RETIRED**

### 6.4

***Mechanism is in place for patients to obtain information about normal tests***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Patients are informed about how to access normal test results
- b. Process may use any of the following mechanisms:
  - i. Phone call, text, or other secured messaging from practice to patient
  - ii. Mail from practice
  - iii. Reminder card from practice
  - iv. Direct conversation with patient
  - v. Patient access via secure web portal (in conjunction with one of the above options for patients without internet access)
  - vi. Telling patients that “no news is good news” does not meet the intent of this capability; verbally telling patients to call a number without providing written instructions does not meet the intent of this capability. Patients must have clear understanding of how to obtain information about normal test results.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of how patients are notified (phone, mail, email, portal).</li> <li>• Demo with an example letter sent to patient and documentation in Patient Chart/Registry/EHR. If done through patient portal, practice will walk through the process of how info is transmitted from paper to portal.</li> </ul>	

### 6.5 - Required

***Systematic approach is used to inform patients about all abnormal test results***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Systematic approach is in place to flag as high priority results where follow-up is essential and the risk of not following up is high, i.e., tissue biopsies, diagnostic mammograms, INR tests
- b. For high priority results, patient is contacted by phone (repeated attempts at different times of day, on different days if necessary; if necessary and acceptable to patient, email or patient portal may be used to request the patient call office; as a last resort, results may be sent by registered mail)
  - i. For low priority results, such as minor lab abnormalities, contact may also be by letter
- c. Systematic approach is in place to ensure that practice is aware of and communicates to patients about all abnormal test results for all patients, in a timely manner, and that patient communication process is clear, and patients understand implications of test results

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: YES</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion with clinical staff about how patients are notified (phone, mail, email, portal).</li> <li>• Demo with an example letter sent to patient and documentation in Patient Chart/Registry/EHR. If done through patient portal, practice will walk through the process of how info is transmitted from paper to portal.</li> </ul>	

**6.6**

***Systematic approach is used to communicate with patients with abnormal results regarding receiving the recommended follow-up care within defined timeframes.***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Patients requiring follow-up are flagged and follow-up timeframes are specified
  - i. Provider makes at least 2 attempts to contact patient; for serious conditions, third attempt is made by certified mail
    - Communication attempts are documented in patient’s medical record
- b. Cancellations and no-show appointments are tracked and assessed to determine whether any patients require follow-up
- c. Outcomes of follow-up action are filed in patient’s medical record

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 6.5</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo follow-up process for patients including those that cancel or no-show, and documentation in EMR/Registry of at least 2 attempts to contact patient, third by certified mail</li> </ul>	

**6.7**

***Systematic approach is used to document all test tracking steps in the patient’s medical record***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. All phone calls, letters, and other communications with patient regarding testing and test results are documented in the patient’s medical record

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Example of patient’s chart with all steps tied to test-tracking documented: tests ordered, results received, results reviewed, and patient outreach</li> </ul>	

**6.8**

***All clinicians and appropriate office staff are trained to ensure adherence to the test-tracking procedures; all training is documented either in personnel file or in training logs or records***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Practice unit or PO maintains record of training and can provide training content for review
- b. Training occurs at time of hire for new staff, and is repeated at least annually for all staff

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation required</li> <li>• Staff training on test tracking, reviewed annually</li> <li>• A copy of the documented training content and sign in sheet</li> </ul>	

**6.9**

***Practice has Computerized Order Entry integrated with automated test tracking system***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Test-tracking system has Computerized Order Entry system structured to log all test orders and is linked to automated tracking system that supports caregiver follow-up
- b. Test tracking system has the ability to electronically receive and track results

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical staff demos using their registry or EHR. How are tests ordered through the system and how do results automatically feed back into the system?</li> </ul>	

**8.0 Electronic Prescribing and Management of Controlled Substance Prescriptions**

Goal: All providers use electronic prescribing and actively manage controlled substance prescriptions

5 total capabilities

All capabilities applicable to: Adult and Peds patients

**8.7**

***Full e-prescribing system is in place and actively in use by all physicians***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. All practitioners routinely use an e-prescribing system for all prescriptions for non-controlled substances
- b. When possible, EHR or other automated system should be set to default to e-prescribing. E-prescribing system meets Medicare requirement standards
- c. "Actively in use" is defined as greater than 75% of non-controlled prescriptions prescribed by the practice

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full e-Rx functionality by all PCPs</li> </ul>	

### 8.8

#### ***Electronic prescribing system is routinely used to prescribe controlled substances***

##### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- d. All practitioners routinely use an e-prescribing system to prescribe controlled substances
  - i. When possible, EHR or other automated system should be set to default to e-prescribing
  - ii. Greater than 75% of controlled substance prescriptions prescribed by the practice should be electronic

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review BCBSM EPCS reports to support PU's active use</li></ul>	

### 8.9

#### ***Michigan Automated Prescription System (renamed "PMP AWARe") reports are run prior to prescribing controlled substances***

##### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. All practitioners run PMP AWARe reports prior to prescribing controlled substances, and follow-up with patient if any concerns are identified

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What is the standardized process for running PMP AWARe? Is it documented in patient chart?</li><li>• Written policy is strongly recommended.</li></ul>	

### 8.10

#### ***Controlled Substance Agreements are in place for all patients with long-term controlled substance prescriptions***

##### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. All practitioners ensure that patients with controlled substance prescriptions for longer than 60-90 days have a Controlled Substance Agreement in place
  - i. For pediatric patients, agreement may be signed by parent/guardian
  - ii. Reference for sample forms:  
<https://www.drugabuse.gov/sites/default/files/files/SamplePatientAgreementForms.pdf>

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe process for completing Controlled Substance Agreement</li><li>• Show example of completed Controlled Substance Agreement</li></ul>	

### 8.11

#### **Controlled Substance Agreements are shared with all patient's care providers**

##### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. All practitioners ensure that copies of Controlled Substance Agreements are given to all of the patient's care providers
- b. When all practitioners are on a common EHR platform, there must be a systematic approach such as a flag or other notification mechanism to ensure all providers are aware that a controlled substance agreement is in place

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How does PU ensure copies of Controlled Substance Agreement is shared with all care partners?</li></ul>	

## **9.0 Preventive Services**

Goal: Actively screen, educate, and counsel patients on preventive care and health behaviors

9 total capabilities

All capabilities applicable to: Adult and Peds patients

*Applicable to PCPs and select specialists managing the full scope of preventive services.*

*When patient is co-managed by PCP and specialist, roles must be clearly defined regarding who is responsible for ensuring patients receive needed preventive services.*

*Primary prevention is defined as inhibiting the development of disease before it occurs, and is typically performed on the general patient population. Secondary prevention, also called "screening," refers to measures that detect disease before it is symptomatic. Tertiary prevention efforts focus on people already affected by disease and attempt to reduce resultant disability and restore functionality.*

### 9.1

**Primary prevention program is in place that focuses on identifying and educating patients about personal health behaviors to reduce their risk of disease and injury.**

##### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Patient questionnaire or other mechanism is used to elicit information about personal health behaviors that may be contributing to disease risk
  - i. During well-visit exam and initial intake for new patients
  - ii. During other visits when behavior may be relevant to acute concern (e.g., tobacco use when patient presents with cough)
- b. Patient assessment addresses personal health behaviors and disease risk factors, based on age, gender, health issues

- i. Behaviors and risks assessed should include a majority of the following (or other primary prevention procedures) as appropriate to the patient population: Alcohol and Drug Use, Awareness of Lead Exposure, Low Fat Diet and Exercise, Use of Sunscreen, Safe Sex, Testicular Self-Examination, Tobacco Avoidance, and Flu Vaccine

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a copy of the patient intake form &amp; discuss the process for identifying patients in need of preventive services</li> <li>• Counseling on isolated elements of prevention, such as tobacco cessation, does not meet the intent of this capability; only comprehensive primary prevention meets the intent.</li> </ul>	

### 9.2

#### ***A systematic approach is in place to providing primary preventive services***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Preventive care guidelines are integrated into clinical practice (e.g., Michigan Quality Improvement Consortium - [www.mqic.org](http://www.mqic.org)). Examples of appropriate Guidelines include:
  - i. Adult Preventive Services Guideline 18-49 Yrs.
  - ii. Adult Preventive Services Guideline 50-65 Yrs.
  - iii. Childhood Overweight Prevention Guideline
  - iv. Prevention of Unintended Pregnancy in Adults
  - v. Preventive Service for Children & Adolescents Ages Birth – 24 Months
  - vi. Preventive Service for Children and Adolescents Ages 2-18 Yrs.
  - vii. Tobacco Control Guideline
- b. Systematic appointment tracking system (implemented as part of Individual Care Management Initiative) is in place. Applies to full range of primary preventive services (for example, an ob-gyn ensuring patients receive mammograms and pap tests, but not flu shots, would not meet the intent of this capability).

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventive care guidelines in use - MQIC/HEDIS</li> <li>• How does the practice track appointments to ensure follow up (if not already discussed in 4.0)?</li> </ul>	

### 9.3

#### ***Strategies are in place to promote and conduct outreach regarding ongoing well care visits and screenings for all populations, consistent with guidelines for such age and gender-appropriate services promulgated by credible national organizations***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Systematic reminder system is in place and incorporates the following elements:
  - i. Age appropriate health reminders (e.g., annual physicals).

- ii. Age appropriate immunization information consistent with most current evidence-based guidelines
- iii. If reminders are generated by PO, offices should have knowledge of the process
- b. For children and adolescents from birth to 18 years of age examples of outreach strategies may include birthday reminders for well-visits, kindergarten round-up, flu vaccine reminders, health fairs, brochures, school physical fairs
- c. For adults, examples of outreach strategies may include annual health maintenance examination reminders, and age and gender-appropriate reminders about recommended screenings (e.g., mammograms)
- d. Outreach should be systematic and consistent with evidence-based guidelines

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach reminders - birthdays, annual physicals, immunizations, well visits</li> <li>• How to identify patients in need of preventive services? Provide an example of how patients are brought in for services.</li> </ul>	

**9.4**

***Practice has process in place to inquire about a patient’s outside health encounters and incorporates information obtained from those sources about relevant preventive services in patient tracking system or medical record***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. “Outside health encounter information” includes relevant preventive services such as immunizations provided at health fairs
- b. Practice unit should include actual/estimated date of service in the medical record whenever possible
- c. Information may be included in historical section of record

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo an example of an outside health encounter - update patient chart history w/dates of services</li> </ul>	

**9.5**

***Practice has a systematic approach in place to ensure the provision/documentation of tobacco use assessment tools and advice regarding smoking cessation***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Examples may include yearly assessment sheet, tobacco use intervention programs

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion about tobacco use and assessment with patient.</li> </ul>	

- How frequently is this assessed? What options are offered to assist patients in quitting?

**9.6**

***Written standing order protocols are in place allowing Practice Unit care team members to authorize and deliver preventive services according to physician-approved protocol without examination by a clinician***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- Standing orders are orders for office personnel that are signed in advance by the physician authorizing the provision of specified services under certain clinical circumstances, and are reviewed/updated on a regular basis
- Examples include vaccinations, fecal occult blood tests and mammogram orders, medication intensification algorithm for patients with lipid disorder or high blood pressure

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide written, signed and dated orders for review, which can include immunizations, fecal occult blood, mammograms</li> <li>• Orders should be reviewed annually</li> </ul>	

**9.7**

***Secondary prevention program is in place to identify and treat asymptomatic persons who have already developed risk factors or pre-clinical disease, but in whom the disease itself has not become clinically apparent; or tertiary prevention to prevent worsening of clinically-established condition***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- System with guideline-based reminders for age-appropriate risk assessment and screening tests, including for depression, is in place.
  - Practice Unit may choose to implement tools such as checklists attached to the patient chart, tagged notes, computer generated encounter forms and prompting stickers.
  - Systematic process is in place for following up on any positive screening results (e.g., process is in place for managing positive depression screenings)
- Mechanisms are established to identify asymptomatic at-risk patients and provide additional screenings
  - Practice systematically uses point of care alerts based on identified risk
  - Examples include accelerated regimen for colon and breast cancer screening in high risk patients
- Practice systematically establishes or modifies existing point of care alerts based on identified risk (e.g., accelerated colonoscopy schedule for patients with polyps)
- May not be applicable to some specialty types

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 9.1</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	

- Review secondary prevention screening tools that promote early disease detection and prevention of progression - depression, Suicide, ADHD/ADD, anorexia screening, high risk CA, family health history questions – how to address these concerns with the patient?

### 9.8

***Staff receives regular training and/or communications and updates regarding health promotion and disease prevention and incorporates preventive-focused practices into ongoing administrative operations***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Applicable to either primary or secondary preventive services
- b. Practice unit staff has received training or educational material regarding a full range of preventive services and health promotion issues
- c. Training occurs at time of hire for new staff, and is repeated at least annually for all staff
  - i. Educational material is circulated or posted when guidelines change
    - For example, PO or practice unit staff person may be assigned to update clinical personnel on standards and guidelines such as AHRQ newsletter updates, the immunization schedule & standards issued by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, Alliance of Immunization in Michigan, or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - For example, information may be provided to practice units educating them on appropriate billing and ICD-10 codes in order to ensure accurate reporting for preventive medicine services (including use of the correct ICD-10 code for a physical)
- d. Staff is trained (as appropriate to patient population) regarding consistently using and entering information into the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR)

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask to see training documents on preventive guidelines such as MCIR, AAP, CDC, etc.</li> <li>• Who receives updates &amp; how are the updates communicated to the staff?</li> </ul>	

### 9.9

***Planned visits are offered as a means of providing preventive services in the context of structured health maintenance exams for which the practice team and patient are prepared in advance of the date of service***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Reference 4.8 for requirements of planned visit

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documented process required</li> </ul>	

- Walk through a planned preventive visit - what info is provided to the patient prior to the visit, what occurs during and post visit.

## **10.0 Linkage to Community Services**

Goal: Expand the PCMH-Neighborhood to include community resources. Incorporate use of community resources into patients’ care plans and assist patients in accessing community services.

8 total capabilities; 1 required

All capabilities applicable to: Adult and Peds patients

*Applicable to PCPs and specialists.*

*When patient is co-managed by PCP and specialist, roles must be clearly defined regarding who is responsible for ensuring patients receive needed community services.*

### **10.1**

***PO has conducted a comprehensive review of community resources for the geographic population that they serve, in conjunction with Practice Units***

**PCP and Specialist Guidelines:**

- a. The review may take place within the context of a multi-PO effort
- b. Review should include health care, social, pharmaceutical, mental health, and rare disease support associations
  - i. If comprehensive community resource database has already been developed (e.g., by hospital, United Way) then further review by PO is not necessary
  - ii. Review may include survey of practice units to assist in identifying local community resources

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss review process with PO representation at the visit.</li> <li>• United Way or other formal databases will count</li> </ul>	

### **10.2 - Required**

***PO maintains a community resource database based on input from Practice Units that serves as a central repository of information for all Practice Units.***

**PCP and Specialist Guidelines:**

- a. The database may include resources such as the United Way’s 2-1-1 hotline, and links to online resources such as www.auntbertha.com.
- b. At least one staff person in the PO is responsible for conducting a semiannual update of the database and verifying local resource listings (PO may coordinate with Practice Unit staff to ensure resource reliability)

- i. During the update process, consideration may be given to including new, innovative community resources such as Southeast Michigan Beacon Community’s Text4Health program
- ii. It is acceptable for staff to not verify aggregate listings (such as 2-1-1) if they are able to document how often the listings are updated by the resource administrator
- c. Resource databases are shared with other POs, particularly in overlapping geographic regions
- d. Portion of database includes self-management training programs available in the community

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: YES</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo examples in the database</li> </ul>	

**10.3**

***PO in conjunction with Practice Units has established collaborative relationships with appropriate community-based agencies and organizations***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Practice or PO in collaboration with practice is able to provide a list of organizations providing services relevant to their patient population in which collaborative, ongoing relationships are directly established
  - i. PO in conjunction with practice has conducted outreach to organizations and held in-person meetings or face-to-face events, at least annually, that facilitate interaction between practices and agencies where they discuss the needs of their patient population
- b. Collaborative relationships must be established with selected agencies with relevance to patients’ needs
- c. Collaborative relationships need to be established directly with the individual agencies (not via 2-1-1) and involve ongoing substantive dialogue

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Example of relationship</li> <li>• PO in conjunction w/ PU has conducted outreach to organizations</li> </ul>	

**10.4**

***All members of practice unit care team involved in establishing care treatment plans have received training on community resources and on how to identify and refer patients appropriately***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Training may occur in collaboration with community agencies that serve as subject-matter experts on local resources
- b. Training occurs at time of hire for new staff, and is repeated at least annually for all staff

- c. Practice unit care team is trained to empower and encourage support staff to alert them to patient’s possible psychosocial or other needs
- d. PO or Practice Unit administrator assesses the competency of Practice Unit staff involved in the resource referral process at least annually. This may occur in conjunction with community agencies.
  - i. For example, practice unit staff are able to explain process for identifying and referring (or flagging for the clinical decision-maker) patients to relevant community resources
  - ii. Practice Unit is able to demonstrate that training occurs as part of new staff orientation

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What training did you receive in developing a process for partnering in community resources for patients?</li> <li>• How did this training improve your process for connecting patients with community resources?</li> </ul>	

**10.5**

***Systematic team approach is in place for assessing and educating all patients about availability of community resources and assessing and discussing the need for referral***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Systematic process is in place for the practice unit team to educate new patients and all patients during annual exam (or other visits, as appropriate) about availability of community resources, and assessing and discussing the need for referral
  - i. Assessment and education process must include intake form or screening tool related to social determinants of health, followed up with conversation in which patients are asked whether they or their family members are aware of or in need of community services
  - ii. Practice support staff are empowered to alert practice unit staff to possible psychosocial and other needs
  - iii. For example, Practice Units may develop an algorithm (or series of algorithms) to guide the assessment and referral process
  - iv. Additional information about available community resources should be disseminated via language added to patient-provider partnership documents, PO or Practice Unit website, brochures, waiting room signage, county resource booklets at check-out desk, or other similar mechanisms

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice to show tools used for educating patients on community resources</li> <li>• How are a patient’s need for resources assessed? What screening tools are utilized?</li> </ul>	

## 10.6

### ***Systematic approach is in place for referring patients to community resources***

#### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Practice Unit must be able to verbally describe or provide written evidence of systematic process for referring patients to community resources.
  - i. For example, systematic process may consist of standardized patient referral materials such as a “prescription form”, computer-generated printout that details appropriate sources of community-based care, or other documented process or tools.
  - ii. Assessments that identify a patient with need for referral are documented in the medical record to enable providers to follow-up during subsequent visits
  - iii. Patients should have access to national and local resources that are appropriate for their ethnicity, gender orientation, ability status, age, and religious preference, including resources that are available in other languages such as Spanish, Arabic, and American Sign Language.
  - iv. For example, if Practice Units within a PO have a great deal of diversity within their patient population, the PO may amass specific information about services for those diverse patient groups. Practice Units may also share information about resources for diverse groups.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What does the referral process look like and who is involved?</li><li>• Are appointments made for patients? (Dedicated staff member)</li></ul>	

## 10.7

### ***Systematic approach is in place for tracking referrals of high-risk patients to community resources made by the care team, and making every effort to ensure that patients complete the referral activity***

#### PCP Guidelines:

- a. Practice units have the responsibility to identify those patients who are at high risk of complications/decompensation for whom referral to a particular agency is critical to reaching established health and treatment goals.
- b. Referrals to community resources should be tracked for high-risk patients. Practice Units are encouraged to create a hierarchy to ensure that vital services (such as referrals to mental health providers) are being tracked appropriately.
- c. The purpose of tracking the referrals is to ensure that these high-risk patients receive the services they need.

#### Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Practice units have the responsibility to identify those patients who are at high risk of complications/decompensation for whom referral to a particular agency is critical to reaching established health and treatment goals.

- b. Referrals to community resources should be tracked for high-risk patients. Practice Units are encouraged to create a hierarchy to ensure that vital services (such as referrals to mental health providers) are being tracked appropriately.
- c. Specialists must ensure that PCPs are notified about referrals to community resources for high-risk patients.
- d. The purpose of tracking the referrals is to ensure that these high-risk patients receive the services they need.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo how follow-up occurs with high-risk patients. What are examples of “high-risk” regarding community resources for the practice?</li> </ul>	

**10.8**

***Systematic approach is in place for conducting follow-up with high-risk patients regarding any indicated next steps as an outcome of their referral to a community-based program or agency.***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Patients may be held partially responsible for the tracking process. For example, Practice Units may use technology such as Interactive Voice Response (IVR) for patients to report initial contact and completion, develop a “passport” that patients can have stamped when they complete trainings or attend a support group, or use existing disease registries such as WellCentive to track community-based referral activities.
- b. Process includes mechanism to track patients who decline care and obtain information about reasons care was not sought.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 10.7</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematic process for follow up w/high risk patients regarding next steps</li> </ul>	

**11.0 Self-Management Support**

Goal: Systematic approach to empowering patients to understand their central role in effectively managing their illness, making informed decisions about care, and engaging in healthy behaviors.

8 total capabilities

All capabilities applicable to: Adult and Peds patients

*Applicable to PCPs and specialists. When patient is co-managed by PCP and specialist, roles must be clearly defined regarding which provider is responsible for leading self-management support activities and which provider is responsible for reinforcing self-management support activities.*

*To receive credit for a self-management support capability, basic self-management support delivered in the context of office visits must be available to all patients. Advanced self-management support, delivered by trained care managers in the context of provider-delivered care management services, is expected to be available only to those members who have the provider-delivered care management benefit.*

### **11.1**

***Clinician who is member of care team or PO staff person is educated about and familiar with self-management support concepts and techniques and works with appropriate staff members at the practice unit at regular intervals to ensure they are educated in and able to actively use self-management support concepts and techniques.***

#### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. The expectation of this capability is that POs are actively empowering the staff within the practice unit to incorporate self-management support efforts into routine clinic process.
- b. Regular intervals are defined as a minimum of once per year
  - i. New staff must be trained at time of entry to practice
- c. Self-management support uses a team-based, systematic, model-driven (including behavioral and clinical dimensions) approach to actively motivating and engaging the patient in effective self-care for identified chronic conditions; must extend beyond usual care such as encouragement to follow instructions
- d. Level, type, and intensity of training, education, and expertise may vary, depending upon team members' roles and responsibilities in the Practice Unit
  - i. Education must be substantive and in-depth and focus on a particular model of self-management support and not consist of only a brief introduction to the concept.  
Recommended sites for more information include:
    - IHI Partnering in Self-Management Support: A Toolkit for Clinicians
      - <http://www.ihl.org/knowledge/Pages/Tools/SelfManagementToolkitforClinicians.aspx>
    - Self-Management Support Information for Patients and Families:  
<http://www.ihl.org/resources/Pages/Tools/SelfManagementToolkitforPatientsFamilies.aspx>
    - Flinders Self-Management Model:  
[http://www.flinders.edu.au/medicine/fms/sites/FHBHRU/documents/publications/FLINDERS%20PROGRAM%20INFORMATION%20PAPER%20FINAL\\_M.pdf](http://www.flinders.edu.au/medicine/fms/sites/FHBHRU/documents/publications/FLINDERS%20PROGRAM%20INFORMATION%20PAPER%20FINAL_M.pdf)
    - South West Self-Management Program:  
<http://www.swselfmanagement.ca/smtoolkit/>
    - Motivational Interviewing
      - <http://www.motivationalinterviewing.org/>
- e. Education of practice unit staff members may be provided by PO staff person if the PO staff person has adequate time to provide comprehensive, meaningful education; otherwise, practice unit is responsible for identifying a member of the practice's clinical care team to receive education in self-management support concepts and techniques
- f. Appropriate team members should have awareness of self-management concepts and techniques, including:
  - i. Motivational interviewing
  - ii. Health literacy/identification of health literacy barriers

- iii. Use of teach-back techniques
- iv. Identification of medical obstacles to self-management
- v. Establishing problem-solving strategies to overcome barriers of immediate concern to patients
- vi. Systematic follow-up with patients

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be in place before 11.2-11.7</li> <li>• No formal training needed (train the trainer okay), i.e. PTI training, self-management toolkit.</li> <li>• Regular, ongoing staff education regarding self-management techniques. Motivational interviewing, health literacy, teach backs, identification of obstacles</li> <li>• Describe how training has supported interactions with patients in coaching them toward self-efficacy (Minimum 1x/yr. and new staff trained at time of entry into practice).</li> </ul>	

**11.2**

***Structured self-management support is systematically offered to all patients in the patient population selected for initial focus (based on need, suitability, and patient interest)***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Self-management support is assisting patients in implementing their action plan through face-to-face interactions and/or phone outreach in between visits.
- b. Self-management support services may be provided in the context of a planned visit
- c. An action plan is a patient-specific goal statement that incorporates treatment goals including aspects of treatment that involve self-management. It is not an action step; it is a goal statement.
- d. Physicians may provide self-management support within the context of E&M services
  - i. At least one other trained member of the care team must be designated as a self-management support resource, with time allocated to work with patients

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 11.1</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which chronic condition has been chosen as a focus for self-management?</li> <li>• How are patients engaged in self-management?</li> <li>• What tools are used?</li> </ul>	

**11.3**

***Systematic follow-up occurs for all patients in the patient population selected for initial focus who are engaged in self-management support to discuss action plans and goals, and provide supportive reminders***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Follow-up may occur via phone, email, patient portal, or in person, and must occur at least monthly.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 11.1</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do you follow up with those patients engaged in self-management and how do you track those patients?</li> <li>• Provide examples of phone outreach between visits? Documentation in the EMR?</li> </ul>	

**11.4**

***Regular patient experience/satisfaction surveys are conducted for patients engaged in self-management support, to identify areas for improvement in the self-management support efforts***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Surveys may be administered electronically, via phone, mail, or in person
- b. Results must be quantified, aggregated, and tracked over time
- c. Self-management support survey questions may be added to regular patient satisfaction surveys providing sampling is structured to ensure adequate responses from those who actually received self-management support services
- d. If survey results identify areas for improvement, timely follow-up occurs (e.g., self-management support efforts are systematized to assure they are available on a timely basis to all patients for whom they are appropriate)

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 11.1, 11.2</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documented survey results</li> <li>• Demonstrate examples of areas of improvement and action taken based on survey results</li> <li>• Have results improved based on actions taken?</li> </ul>	

**11.5**

***Self-management support is offered to multiple populations of patients within the practice’s patient population (based on need, suitability and patient interest)***

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 11.1, 11.2</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do you engage patients in self-mgmt?</li> <li>• What tools are you using?</li> <li>• What chronic condition/s have you chosen for self-management?</li> </ul>	

**11.6**

***Systematic follow-up occurs for multiple populations of patients within the practice’s patient population who are engaged in self-management support to discuss action plans and goals, and provide supportive reminders***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Follow-up may occur via phone, email, patient portal, or in person, and must occur at least monthly.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 11.1, 11.3</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do you follow up with those patients engaged in self-management and how do you track those patients?</li> <li>• Provide examples of phone outreach between visits</li> <li>• Documentation in the EHR?</li> </ul>	

**11.7**

***Support and guidance in establishing and working towards a self-management goal is offered to every patient, including well patients (e.g., asking well patients about health goals)***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Self-management goal is developed collaboratively with the patient and is specific and reflective of the patient’s interests and motivation

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do you engage patients in self-management?</li> <li>• What tools are you using?</li> <li>• How do you follow up with patients engaged in self-management and how do you track those patients?</li> <li>• Provide examples of phone outreach between visits</li> <li>• Documentation in the EHR?</li> </ul>	

**11.8**

***At least one member of PO or practice unit is formally trained through completion of a nationally or internationally-accredited program in self-management support concepts and techniques, and regularly works with appropriate staff members at the practice unit to educate them so they are able to actively use self-management support concepts and techniques.***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Training for self-management techniques should include:
  - i. Motivational interviewing
  - ii. Health literacy/identification of health literacy barriers
  - iii. Use of teach-back techniques

- iv. Identification of medical obstacles to self-management
- v. Establishment of problem-solving strategies to overcome barriers of immediate concern to patients
- vi. Systematic follow-up with patients
- b. Practices should seek structured information/approaches/processes, which can be from any legitimate source
- c. Self-management training of the practice unit staff must be provided directly by the individual(s) certified as completing the formal self-management training
  - i. A “train the trainer” model, where, for example, a PO staff person who has completed a formal self-management training program subsequently trains practice consultants, who in turn train practice unit staff, does not meet the requirements for this capability.
  - ii. Examples of training programs that meet the criteria are available from the PGIP Care Management Resource Center at <http://micmrc.org/system/files/micmrc-approved-self-management-support-mcm-program-summary-v12a.pdf>
  - iii. Such programs must be sufficiently robust that they provide ample opportunities for learners to practice new self-management support skills with individualized feedback as part of the practice experience.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe how the training has supported interactions with patients in coaching them toward self-efficacy?</li> <li>• Example: Stanford Certified Self-Management Team member</li> </ul>	

## **12.0 Patient Web Portal**

Goal: Patients have access to a web portal enabling patients to access medical information and to have electronic communication with providers

14 total capabilities; 3 retired.

All capabilities applicable to: Adult and Peds patients

*Applicable to PCPs and specialists.*

*Patient web portal is a system that supports two-way, secure, compliant communication between the practice and the patient. For capabilities pertaining to patient’s use of portal, practice unit staff must be trained in and have implemented this capability, patients must be able to use it currently, and patients must be actively using the portal.*

### 12.1

*Available vendor options for purchasing and implementing a patient web portal system have been evaluated*

**RETIRED**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Assessment of vendor options may be conducted by PO or Practice Unit.

### 12.2

*PO or Practice Unit has assessed liability and safety issues involved in maintaining a patient web portal at any level and developed policies that allow for a safe and efficient exchange of information*

**RETIRED**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Safety issues may include prohibiting electronic communication for emergency situations, etc.
- b. All messages exchanged must be secure and HIPAA compliant.
- c. Attestation of PO is acceptable

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss w/PO implementation plan if not in use, if in use, ask for policies related to use of the portal – must be HIPAA compliant with PHI. Safety issues &amp; emergency scenarios discussed or demonstrated</li> </ul>	

### 12.3

*Patients actively request appointments electronically*

- a. PCP and Specialist Guidelines: Practice schedules patients and notifies them of their appointment time

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask the practice staff to access the portal and demo appointment request, ask how they are notified of request and how they fulfill requests (practice will schedule patients and notify them of their appointment time)</li> <li>• Portal usage log is acceptable demonstration of capability</li> </ul>	

### 12.4

*Patients actively log and/or graph results of self-administered tests (e.g., daily blood glucose levels, blood pressure, weight)*

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Option should be available to patients, recognizing that not all patients will choose to use these tools. Demonstration of use is required

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients log/graph self-administered tests (e.g., glucose log)</li> <li>• Ask the practice staff to pull up a patient example, demo use of tool. Who is responsible for reviewing information received? What does practice do with information on logs/graphs?</li> </ul>	

### 12.5

#### ***Providers are automatically alerted by system regarding self-reported patient data that indicates a potential health issue***

##### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. "Flags" may be set using customized parameters for individuals based on their care needs.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask the practice staff to demo how they are alerted and the process that follows the alert</li></ul>	

### 12.6

#### ***Patients actively participate in E-visits***

##### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. POs and/or Practice Units have developed and implemented protocol for responding to patient messages/requests for e-visits in a consistent and timely manner (e.g., a triage system), using structured online tools.
- b. Please refer to the AAFP guidelines for e-visits for more information. The guidelines are available here: <https://www.aafp.org/about/policies/all/virtual-visits.html>

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PU to demonstrate how an e-visit would look</li><li>• Portal usage log is an acceptable demonstration of capability</li></ul>	

### 12.7

#### ***Providers are routinely using patient portal to electronically send automated care reminders and health education materials.***

##### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Both types of communications must be occurring
- b. An automated care reminder is a patient-specific communication, such as a reminder about gaps in care
- c. Information must be actively transmitted to patients (not merely available on website)

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PU to demo automated care reminder &amp; discuss the process after the reminder is sent - walk through the resources available to the patient via the portal.</li></ul>	

### 12.8

#### ***Patient portal system has capability for patient to create and update personal health record***

##### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- RETIRED
- a. Personal health records are created and maintained by patients to improve their health care experience and reduce fragmentation of care, and typically include:
    - i. PCP name and phone number, allergies, including drug allergies, medications, including dosages, chronic health problems, major surgeries, living will or advance directive, family history, immunization history, results of screening tests, cholesterol level and blood pressure, exercise and dietary habits, health goals
    - ii. Content of personal health record may be defined by patient and PO/Practice Unit, within context of patient portal system, but must contain at least some of the following patient-supplied elements
      - Chronic health problems, family history, exercise and dietary habits, health goals
  - b. Patients must be actively adding or augmenting existing health information in the portal
    - i. The capability must exist for the patient to add the information themselves directly into the personal health record
      - If patient prefers, information may be given to provider to be entered

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo how the patient creates the health record.</li> </ul>	

### 12.9

#### ***Patients actively review test results electronically***

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo of how the patient views the lab/test results</li> <li>• Portal usage log is an acceptable demonstration of capability</li> </ul>	

### 12.10

#### ***Patients actively request prescription renewals electronically***

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo of Rx request &amp; process that follows</li> <li>• Portal usage log is an acceptable demonstration of capability</li> </ul>	

### 12.11

#### ***Patients actively graph and analyze results of self-administered tests for self-management support***

##### PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Option should be available to patients, recognizing that not all patients will choose to use these tools

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demo of graphing results and how this info is used at point of care</li> </ul>	

**12.12**

***Patients actively view visit summaries online that contain patient personal health information that has been reviewed and released by the provider and/or practice***

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demo of how the patient accesses the medical record &amp; what info is available to them</li> <li>Elements must include, at a minimum: active diagnoses, current medications, allergies, treatment plan, next steps/follow-up</li> </ul>	

**12.13**

***Patients actively schedule appointments electronically through an interactive calendar***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Patients should have the ability to see currently available appointments and insert themselves into the schedule of the practice. Time slot is then reserved for patient.
1. May be subject to final confirmation by practice

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demo appointment scheduling, ask how PU is notified of scheduled appt.</li> <li>Cannot be a request only - patients should have the ability to see currently available appointments and insert themselves in to the schedule of the practice.</li> <li>Time slot is then reserved for patient</li> </ul>	

**12.14**

***Practice routinely uses patient portal to prepare patient for planned visits, alerting patients to needed tests that can be done in advance, gathering information about questions and issues patients would like to discuss***

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide examples of alerts or questionnaire</li> </ul>	

**13.0 Coordination of Care**

Goal: Patient transitions are well-managed and patient care is coordinated across health care settings through a process of active communication and collaboration among providers, patients and their caregivers

12 total capabilities

All capabilities applicable to: Adult and Pediatric patients

*Applicable to PCPs. When patient is co-managed by PCP and specialist, roles must be clearly defined regarding which provider is responsible for leading care coordination activities.*

*Applicable to specialists for patients for whom the specialist has lead care management responsibility or when the admission is relevant to the condition being managed by specialist.*

**13.1**

***For patient population selected for initial focus, mechanism is established for being notified of each patient admit and discharge or other type of encounter, at facilities with which the physician has admitting privileges or other ongoing relationships***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Standards for information exchange have been established among participating organizations to enable timely follow-up with patients.
- b. Facilities must include hospitals, and may include long-term care facilities, home health care, and other ancillary providers.

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notification of admit/discharge or other health encounter for one chronic condition. Is practice getting info from other locations?</li> <li>• How are patients followed in the hospital? If hospitalists see the PCP's patients, how is info exchanged and notification received of admits and discharges?</li> <li>• If electronic, demo notification of need for info and how the info is sent</li> </ul>	

**13.2**

***Process is in place for exchanging necessary medical records and discussing continued care arrangements with other providers, including facilities, for patient population selected for initial focus***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Patients are encouraged to request that their practice unit be notified of any encounter they may have with other health care facilities and providers (for example, SNFs, rehab facilities, non-primary hospitals)
- b. Practice units are responsible for ensuring that other providers have relevant medical information in a timely manner necessary to make care decisions

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Specialists systematically request that patients provide name of PCP

- b. Patients are encouraged to request that their PCP be notified of any encounter they may have with other health care facilities and providers (for example, SNFs, rehab facilities, non-primary hospitals)
- c. Practice units are responsible for ensuring that other providers have relevant medical information in a timely manner necessary to make care decisions

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Info exchange process - transfer of care to other providers/facilities. PCP giving info to other locations.</li> </ul>	

**13.3**

***Approach is in place to systematically track patient population selected for initial focus.***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. The following information must be tracked for all patients in health care facilities
  - i. Facility name
  - ii. Admit date
  - iii. Origin of admit (ED, referring physician, etc.)
  - iv. Attending physician (if someone other than PCP)
  - v. Discharge date
  - vi. Diagnostic findings
  - vii. Pending tests
  - viii. Treatment plans
  - ix. Complications at discharge

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess tracking system for patients in acute, intermediate and home care.</li> <li>• Demonstrate examples of patients being tracked</li> </ul>	

**13.4**

***Process is in place to systematically flag for immediate attention any patient issue that indicates a potentially time-sensitive health issue for patient population selected for initial focus***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. For example, home monitoring of CHF patient indicates weight gain, or diabetes patient is treated for cellulitis in ER, or a CHF patient has a change in mental health status

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide examples of high-risk triage patient situations (i.e. patient calls w/high glucose, weight gain)</li> </ul>	

### 13.5

***Process is in place to ensure that written transition plans are developed, in collaboration with patient and caregivers, where appropriate, for patients in patient population selected for initial focus who are leaving the practice (i.e., because they are moving, going into a long-term care facility, or choosing to leave the practice).***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Caregivers may include nurse, social workers, or other individuals involved in the patient’s care
- b. Practice units are responsible for ensuring that written transition plan is provided in a timely manner so that patient can receive needed care
- c. Transition plan must consist of either a written summary or clear, concise excerpts from the medical record containing diagnoses, procedures, current medications, and other information relevant during the transition period (e.g., upcoming needed services, prescription refills)
- d. A copy of the transition plan must be provided to the patient
- e. Inability to develop collaborative plan due to voluntary, precipitous departure of patient from the practice, or unwillingness of the patient to participate, would not constitute failure to meet the requirements of 13.5

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Written transition plans for patients leaving practice</li><li>• Discuss the process from the time the office is notified that a patient will be leaving the practice. Ask to provide example of a transition plan</li></ul>	

### 13.6

***Process is in place to coordinate care with payer case manager for patients with complex or catastrophic conditions***

*PCP and Specialist Guidelines:*

- a. Process may be directed by PO or practice unit
- b. Process should include ability to respond to and coordinate with payor case managers when the patient is enrolled in formal case management program
- c. Process should include ability to contact health plan case managers when, in the clinician’s judgment, unusual circumstances may warrant the coverage of non-covered services, particularly to avoid inpatient admissions or use of other higher-cost services

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Process for case management coordination: BCN is 800-775-2283, BCBSM is 800-845-5982, Blue Cross Complete is 800-228-8554</li><li>• Discuss process for referrals to case managers</li></ul>	

**13.7**

***Practice has written procedures and/or guidelines on care coordination processes, and appropriate members of care team are trained on care coordination processes and have clearly defined roles within that process***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Written procedures and/or guidelines are developed for each phase of the care coordination process
- b. The procedures or guidelines are developed by either the PO or practice unit
- c. Training/education of members of care team are conducted by either the PO or practice
- d. Training occurs at time of hire for new staff, and is repeated at least annually for all staff

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written procedure or guideline for care coordination process with clearly defined roles (i.e. home care, rehab, acute hospital, SNF)</li> </ul>	

**13.8**

***Care coordination capabilities as defined in 13.1-13.7 are in place and extended to multiple patient populations that need care coordination assistance***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Applicable to all patients with chronic conditions
- b. Written procedures and/or guidelines on care coordination processes may be developed by the PO or practice

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Applicable to multiple patient populations relevant to the practice
- b. Written procedures and/or guidelines on care coordination processes may be developed by the PO or practice

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 13.1-13.7</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must have 13.1-13.7 in place before 13.8</li> </ul>	

**13.9**

***Coordination capabilities as defined in 13.1-13.7 are in place and extended to all patients that need care coordination assistance***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Written procedures and/or guidelines on care coordination processes may be developed by the PO or practice

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 13.1-13.8</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must have 13.1-13.7 in place before 13.9</li> </ul>	

**13.10**

**Following hospital discharge, a tracking method is in place to apply the practice’s defined hospital discharge follow-up criteria, and those patients who are eligible receive individualized transition of care phone call or face-to-face visit within 24-48 hours**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. PCP and specialists should coordinate to determine which physician(s) is/are most appropriate for follow-up
- b. Hospital discharge follow-up criteria is defined by the practice

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Documentation required for tracking process</li><li>• PCP and specialists should coordinate to determine which physician(s) is/are most appropriate for follow-up</li><li>• Who at the PU contacts the patient for the Transition of Care (TOC) visit?</li><li>• What is the time frame for patient contact (e.g. 24-48 hours?)</li><li>• Are same day appointments held for TOC visits?</li></ul>	

**13.11**

**Practice is actively participating in the Michigan Admission, Discharge, Transfer (ADT) Initiative**

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Practice maintains an all-patient list that has been sent to MiHIN’s Active Care Relationship (ACRS) File in accordance with all MiHIN’s specifications
- b. The practice maintains an active and compliant status with the statewide health information exchange (HIE) system.
- c. The practice has a process for managing protected health information in compliance with applicable standards for privacy and security.
- d. The practice connects information received through the HIE process with clinical processes, such as transition of care management following hospitalization.

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Practice maintains an all-patient list that has been sent to MiHIN’s Active Care Relationship (ACRS) File in accordance with all MiHIN’s specifications</li><li>• The practice maintains an active and compliant status with the statewide HIE system.</li><li>• The practice has a process for managing protected health information in compliance with applicable standards for privacy and security.</li><li>• The practice connects information received through the HIE process with clinical processes, such as transition of care management following hospitalization.</li></ul>	

- Who at the PU has access to the ADT information and how is the information used?
- How often do you access the ADT?
- What is your patient outreach process after an ED visit or IP visit (include timeframe)?

**13.12**

***Practice is actively participating in the Michigan Admission, Discharge, Transfer (ADT) Medication Reconciliation Use Case***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- a. The practice connects medication reconciliation information received through the HIE process with clinical processes, such as transition of care management following hospitalization, and a process exists for updating patient medical records

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
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**14.0 Specialist Pre-Consultation and Referral Process**

Goal: Process of referring patients from PCPs to specialists, and from specialists to sub-specialists, is well coordinated and patient-centered, and all providers have timely access to information needed to provide optimal care

11 total capabilities; 3 retired  
All capabilities applicable to: Adult and Peds patients

*Applicable to PCPs and specialists.*

**14.1**

***Documented procedures are in place to guide each phase of the specialist referral process – including desired timeframes for appointment and information exchange - for preferred or high-volume providers***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Practice unit has defined parameters for specialist referral process, including timeframes, scheduling process, transfer of patient information to specialist, and reporting of results from specialist(s), for preferred and high-volume providers
  - i. Parameters include procedures to ensure that specialists are being given the information they need prior to appointments, including but not limited to:
    - Care manager name (if one assigned)
    - Names of other specialists seen for same condition
    - Requested service (e.g., single consult, co-management, assumption of care)
      - Please reference introduction, p. 7

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Practice unit has defined parameters for specialist referral process, including when patient is being referred from PCP to specialist, and when specialist is referring to another sub-specialty, for preferred and high-volume providers
  - i. Parameters must define timeframes, scheduling process, transfer of patient information from referring physician to specialist, and reporting of results
  - ii. Parameters include procedures to ensure that PCPs are aware of what information is needed by specialist prior to appointments
  - iii. Parameters include procedures to ensure that when specialist is referring to a different specialist, the referring physician provides information needed prior to appointments

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy/Procedures must be documented with timeframes- include:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Care manager (if one assigned)</li> <li>○ Names of other specialists seen for same condition</li> <li>○ Requested service (e.g., single consult, co-management, assumption of care)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

**14.2**

***Documented procedures are in place to guide each phase of the specialist referral process – including desired timeframes for appointment and information exchange – for other key providers***

**PCP Guidelines:**

- a. Other key providers are defined as those to whom patient is referred to manage an uncommon condition of special importance to the patient’s well-being

**Specialist Guidelines:**

- a. Other key providers are defined as PCPs who refer patients for management of an uncommon condition of special importance to the patient’s well-being

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: 14.1</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies/procedures must be documented with timeframes</li> </ul>	

**14.3**

**Directory is maintained listing specialists to whom patients are routinely referred**

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Practice Units have defined and updated the criteria which are most important to them when referring patients to a specialist, and revise or update database of preferred physicians regularly

**RETIRED**

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. For PCPs with whom the specialist shares a meaningful number of patients, specialists will provide PCPs or POs with information needed to maintain the PCP’s directory
  - i. Information should include current contact information (phone, address, fax, list of key contacts: office manager, appt scheduler), provider updates (new providers or if providers left practice), new procedures/techniques available, any insurance changes, and a summary of any other key changes in the practice (EHR, patient portal)
  - ii. Specialist must contact PCP or PO to validate information at least annually and update when necessary

Required for PCMH Designation: NO	Predicate Logic: n/a
PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask to see specialist directory</li> </ul>	

**14.4**

**PO or Practice Unit has developed specialist referral materials supportive of process and individual patient needs**

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Materials for processing the referral in the PCP office and for receipt by the specialist include the following information:
  - i. Basic information about the specialist, including name, office location and hours
  - ii. Expectations about the specialist visit: e.g., consultation, test/procedure, transfer of responsibility for patient management
  - iii. Expected duration of specialist involvement, if PCP is able to determine in advance
  - iv. How quickly patient should see the specialist
  - v. Referral materials may be provided to specialist and patient (where appropriate for patient) in writing or via email
    - If referral materials are not appropriate for patient, verbal or other communication mechanism may be used to ensure patient understands timeframe and purpose of referral

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Processes are in place to ensure PCP referral materials are used appropriately by the specialist and other team members in the specialist office
- b. Specialist practice must provide patient with a summary of the specialist appointment, including:
  - i. Diagnosis, medication changes, plan of care
  - i. Expected duration of specialist involvement
  - ii. When the patient should return to the specialist and when the patient should return to the PCP
- c. Visit information must be provided to patient in writing at time of visit

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide the specialist referral material</li> </ul>	

**14.5**

***Practice Unit or designee ensures patients are scheduled for specialist appointments in timely manner***

**RETIRED**

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Practice Units assist patients as needed in coordinating with central scheduling office or specialist office to have appointments made in timely manner
- b. For urgent cases, PCP has systematic process for communicating directly with specialist to ensure patient is seen in timeframe requested.

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Specialist coordinates with PCPs to make appointments for patients when requested to do so by PCP
- b. Responsibility for notifying patient of appointment date and time is clearly established
- c. Specialists schedule any out of office or sub-specialist referrals and notifies PCP of these appointments

**14.6**

***Each facet of the interaction between preferred/high volume specialists and the PCPs at the Practice Unit level is automated by using bi-directional electronically-based tools and processes to avoid duplication of testing and prescribing across multiple care settings***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Practice Units have built bi-directional processes into existing patient registry, portal system, or EHR, or utilize other tools (e.g. Fusion by CareFX)
- b. Policies have been developed to ensure safe, HIPAA compliant information exchange for all information related to the specialist referral process

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Specialist has capability to accept electronically-generated referrals via patient registry, portal system, or EHR, or other tools (e.g. Fusion by CareFX)

- b. Policies have been developed to ensure safe, HIPAA compliant information exchange for all information related to the specialist referral process

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for demo in EMR on how the process works - how the referral is made, and how follow up and info exchange occurs</li> </ul>	

**14.7**

***For all specialist and sub-specialist visits deemed important to the patient’s well-being, process is in place to determine whether or not patients completed the specialist referral in a timely manner, reasons they did not seek care if applicable, additional sub-specialist visits that occurred, specialist recommendations, and whether patients received recommended services***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. System must be in place to determine whether the patient was seen, to identify what was done or recommended and whether the recommendations, including testing, procedures or follow up visits, occurred.
- b. The patient’s care plan should be updated to reflect the specialist results and recommendations

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. System is in place to inform PCPs when patients are seen, identify what was done or recommended and whether the recommendations, including testing, procedures or follow up visits, occurred.
  - i. If patient is not seen, specialist conducts outreach to patient and PCP is notified

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demo the follow-up process: paper or EMR</li> </ul>	

**14.8**

***Appropriate Practice Unit staff are trained on all aspects of the specialist referral process***

PCP and Specialist Guidelines:

- b. Training occurs at time of hire for new staff, and is repeated at least annually for all staff

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for staff training documentation, required annually</li> </ul>	

**14.9**

***Practice Unit regularly evaluates patient satisfaction with most commonly used specialists, to ensure physicians are referring patients to specialists that meet their standards for patient-centered care***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Evaluation of patient satisfaction may consist of conversations between clinician and patient following specialist visit, patient satisfaction survey results from specialist office, or formal survey conducted by the primary care practice
- b. Results must be quantified, aggregated, and tracked over time
- c. Evaluation should be conducted at least annually
- d. If specialists are not meeting standards for patient-centered care, timely follow-up occurs (e.g., PCP may contact specialist’s office to discuss concerns; referral patterns may be modified)

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Specialist conducts patient satisfaction survey and provides results to referring PCPs

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss patient satisfaction assessment – will ask to see survey and what is done with results</li> <li>• Results must be quantified, aggregated, and tracked over time.</li> </ul>	

**14.10**

***Physician-to-physician pre-consultation exchanges are used to clarify need for referral and enable PCP to obtain guidance from specialists and subspecialists, ensuring optimal and efficient patient care***

**RETIRED**

PCP Guidelines:

- a. Documented procedures are in place outlining processes to be followed for pre-consultation exchanges, when appropriate, and related documentation

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Specialist practice has mechanism in place to ensure PCP access to timely pre-consultation exchanges

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documented procedure for physician-to-physician pre-consultation exchanges when appropriate</li> </ul>	

**14.11**

***When patient has self-referred to specialist, specialist obtains information from patient about PCP and informs PCP of patient's visit, so PCP follow-up can be conducted***

PCP Guidelines:

- a. PCP conducts follow-up with patients who have self-referred to specialist

Specialist Guidelines:

- a. Specialist routinely notifies PCP of visits when patients have self-referred

<b>Required for PCMH Designation: NO</b>	<b>Predicate Logic: n/a</b>
<b>PCMH Validation Notes for Site Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PCP demonstrates examples of patient follow-up</li></ul>	