

OPCPCC Conference

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The third annual Ohio Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative (OPCPCC) conference was held on November 7, 2014 in Columbus, with over 270 in attendance. The theme of this year's conference was *PCMH as a Path to Population Health*. The keynote speaker was Peter Anderson, MD, who developed the *Family Team Care Model™* and authored *The Familiar Physician*. Other conference topics included the challenges of PCMH transformation in a rural setting, NCQA 2014 standard updates, behavioral health integration into primary care, and an update on Ohio's State Innovation Model (SIM) plan. Exhibits were provided by UnitedHealthcare, Pfizer, Ohio Health, Molina, CareSource, Boehringer Ingelheim, Abb Vie, and the OPCPCC Patient Engagement Learning Center. Presentations are now posted on the [OPCPCC website](#).



The Ohio Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative (OPCPCC) is a coalition of primary care providers, health professionals from the medical neighborhood, insurers, employers, consumer advocates, government officials and public health professionals. They are joining together to create a more effective and efficient model of healthcare delivery in Ohio. That model of care is the Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH).

IN THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---|---|
| OPCPCC Conference | 1 |
| Ohio's Dental Access Crisis is a Challenge for PCMH | 2 |
| PCMH Education Pilot Project Pilot | 3 |
| Health Services Advisory Group | 4 |
| New PCMH Consumer Website | 4 |
| PCMH Growth in Ohio | 4 |
| NCQA Discount for OPCPCC Members | 5 |
| OPCPCC Membership | 5 |
| Announcements and Upcoming Events | 5 |



Continued on page 5

Ohio's Dental Access Crisis is a Challenge for Patient-Centered Medical Homes

by Cathy Levine, Executive Director, UHCAN Ohio

Ohio's movement toward the patient-centered medical home (PCMH) model of primary care holds the promise of better health for more Ohioans. But, the PCMH promise of coordinating all patient health needs butts up against the lack of access to affordable dental care faced by too many Ohioans.

In 2001, Ohio Department of Health Director Dr. Nick Baird identified dental care as "the number one unmet health care need of Ohioans." Since then, the situation has improved, but not enough. The most recent Ohio Medicaid Assessment Survey (OMAS) indicated that access to dental care remains the top unmet health need for children and low-income adults.

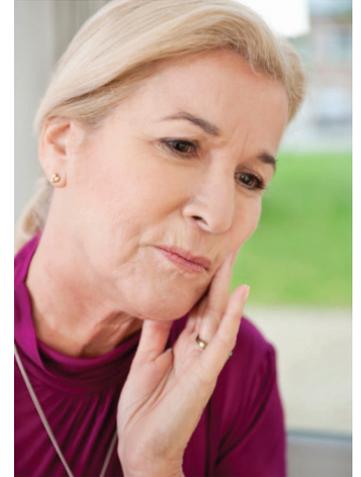
Ohio has a serious mal-distribution of dental providers. Ohio has at least 84 federally designated Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (up from 56 in 2009). These areas have high population to dentist ratios, so it's hard for local residents to find a dentist, especially one who will accept Medicaid or a payment plan. And, before the recent Medicaid expansion, 45% of Ohio adults did not have dental insurance -three times more than the number of Ohio adults without health insurance.(1) Since only 15.8% of Ohio dentists see a substantial number of Medicaid patients, having Medicaid doesn't guarantee access to regular care.

If you've ever worked in an emergency department, you know that one of the top reasons for ED visits is dental emergencies – an abscess or other painful crisis often reflecting a lack of regular basic preventative care and treatment. (2, 3)

The oral health of Ohioans is troubling. Forty-five percent of Ohio adults have had one or more permanent teeth removed due to tooth decay or gum disease. (1) This indicates a serious health risk, since infections in the mouth can cause harm to other parts of the body and poor oral health increases the risk of stroke, heart disease, diabetes, respiratory infections and other health problems. Also, decayed and missing teeth disqualify many Ohioans from employment, especially in a growing service economy.

Barriers to regular dental care, in addition to access, include affordability, transportation, awareness of the need for regular care, and fear of dental care. Because the reasons for lack of

dental care are many, Ohio needs a range of efforts and some efforts are already in effect, such as loan repayment programs. Several states have taken steps to expand and modernize the dental workforce, using team based care to see more patients, much as in the PCMH model. The recently concluded Ohio Oral Health Task Force will be coming out with comprehensive recommendations, which may address workforce issues.



Lack of access to quality, affordable dental care for many Ohioans will get in the way of improving the health and wellbeing of many patients using Patient Centered Medical Homes. We look forward to working on the implementation of the recommendation from the Director of Health's Task Force on Oral Health and Access to Dental Care.

UHCAN Ohio is a non-profit, non-partisan organization working to achieve access to high quality, affordable health care for all Ohioans and building the voice of consumers in health care policymaking.

References

1. Ohio Department of Health Data Brief: The Oral Health of Ohioans and Their Access to Dental Care, 2011: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/~media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/ohs/oral%20health/ohioreportdatabrief2011.ashx>
2. Ohio Department of Health Data Brief: Utilization of Ohio Emergency Departments to Treat Dental Problems: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/~media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/ohs/oral%20health/EDVisitDataBriefApril2013.ashx>
3. UHCAN Ohio, It's an Emergency! Too Many Ohioans Go to Emergency Rooms for Oral Health Care Needs: <http://uhcanohio.org/sites/default/files/DAN%20Emergency%20Report%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

PCMH Education Pilot Project Pilot

The two-year Ohio PCMH Education Pilot Project (House Bill 198) practice transformation officially ended on June 30, 2014, with 42 pilot sites completing the project. To date, 16 sites have achieved PCMH recognition, two have submitted applications for recognition, nine have worked with TransformMED to complete applications, and seven additional indicated they will submit their applications by the end of the year. Some pilot sites are working to submit for recognition through a corporate application with other practices in their health systems, with an estimated 43 additional sites resulting from these efforts. A detailed [list of pilot sites](#) is available on the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) website. A final report for the project will be available soon.



The OPCPCC conference on November 7 included a presentation on the challenges of PCMH transformation in a rural setting. This topic was presented through the lens of the PCMH Education Pilot Project with Patrick Ecklar, MD, chair of the project's Education Advisory Group serving as the moderator. A short video of one of the Advanced Practice Nurse-led pilot sites, Adena Oak Hill, presented a success story told by Alicia Kammler, MS, CNP and two of her patients. Ted Wymyslo, MD, Chief Medical Officer for the Ohio Association of Community Health Centers, presented the story of the community health centers who participated in the project. Laurie White, PhD, LISW-S, ACSW, Director of Organizational Planning and Development for Family Health Services of Darke County and Jennifer Hohman, MD from NOMS Fremont Family Practice presented the stories of their PCMH journeys. Slides from their presentation are available on the [OPCPCC website](#).

For more information regarding the PCMH Education Pilot Project, please visit the [PCMH Education Pilot Project website](#).

Health Services Advisory Group



On August 1, 2014, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) awarded Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) the new Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO) contract for Ohio. This five year appointment focuses on improving cardiac health and diabetes care for disparity populations among Ohio's Medicare beneficiaries. To accomplish these goals, HSAG is offering to assist eligible providers at no cost, in the following ways:

- Submission of cardiac measures through PQRS (Physician Quality Reporting System) aligned electronic health records (EHRs)
- Provide technical assistance for blood pressure control
- Reduce disparities in diabetes care: Everyone with Diabetes Counts (EDC)
- Expertise in quality improvement through Value-Based Payment, Quality Reporting, and the Physician Feedback Reporting Programs
- Alignment and coordination with related CMS Programs

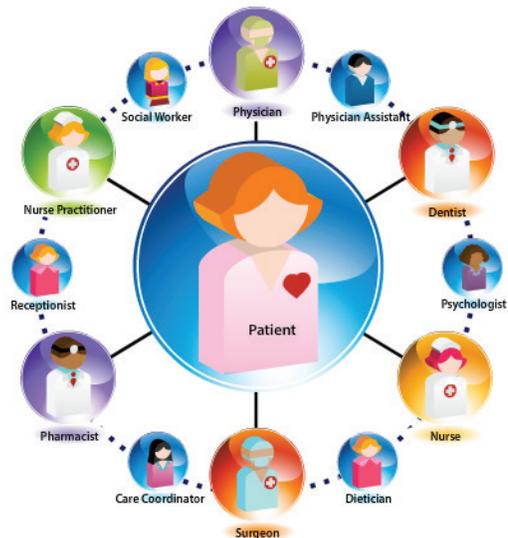
Starting in 2015, CMS will switch to a pay for performance model in place of the current pay for reporting EHR incentive program for both cardiac and diabetes quality measures. In order to avoid reimbursement penalties, HSAG staff is ready to assist your practice in improving on any of these quality measures you may find challenging.

In addition to this on site assistance and in order to successfully implement your Meaningful Use (MU) measures, HSAG will be offering Learning and Action Network (LAN) calls and webinars that share local and national best practices for improving population health, patient self-management, and beneficiary engagement in registering for patient portals. If you are a Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) or participate in the CMS EHR incentive programs, these activities should prove especially beneficial.

HSAG Physician Office Lead, Bonnie Hollopeter, is available to set up an appointment and enlist your participation in this national effort to improve care and clinical outcomes on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries. Should you have any questions, please contact Bonnie at 614.307.2036 or bhollopeter@hsag.com.

New PCMH Consumer Website

In order to create awareness of the benefits of receiving care in a Patient-Centered Medical Home, a subcommittee of the OPCPCC Communications and Education Learning Center developed a new PCMH website designed for healthcare consumers. A consumer focus group meeting was convened on September 9, 2014 to obtain consumer input. The consumer focus group meeting enabled the committee to receive value input, which was used to refine the content and layout of the website. All Ohioans are encouraged to view the [PCMH Consumer website](#) to learn more about the value of PCMH and becoming an active healthcare partner.



PCMH Growth in Ohio

Ohio continues to experience significant growth in the number of PCMH sites in Ohio. The number of Patient-Centered Medical Homes in Ohio has grown from 157 in June 2012 to 535 in November 2014. The 535 sites are comprised of 477 NCQA (National Committee for Quality Assurance)-recognized sites, 7 AAAC (Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care)-accredited sites, and 51 Joint Commission-accredited sites. An interactive map of PCMH practices in Ohio may be viewed on the [ODH PCMH web site](#).

Continued from page 1



NCQA Discount for OPCPCC Members

As part of the purchase of monthly data feeds from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), which are used to populate the PCMH provider map, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has received a sponsor discount code for NCQA fees. Members of the Ohio Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative (OPCPCC) can use this discount code to receive a 20 percent discount on NCQA application fees. The code can be used by OPCPCC members who are not already eligible for other discounts, such as the 50 percent NCQA multi-site discount given to practices that have three or more sites that share the same EMR. To use the ODH sponsor discount code, please first complete the free on-line membership form for OPCPCC and then call Amy Bashforth at 614-644-9756 to receive the code.

OPCPCC Membership

The Ohio Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative (OPCPCC) invites you to formalize your membership in OPCPCC. Check out the [OPCPCC website](#) to see the strong list of supporters. **Membership in OPCPCC is free** and benefits include:

- Conferences and networking opportunities
- Quarterly Newsletters
- Ohio PCMH Weekly updates
- Discount code for 20% discount on NCQA application fees

Please complete the [on-line membership form](#), to ensure that you will receive updates about OPCPCC and PCMH activities in Ohio. Please call 614-644-9756 with any questions regarding membership in OPCPCC.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- **Tue., Dec. 23 at 11:00 AM Patient Engagement Learning Center conference call**
- **Tue., Jan. 27 at 11:00 AM Patient Engagement Learning Center conference call**
- **Tue., Feb. 24 at 11:00 AM Patient Engagement Learning Center conference call**

If you have ideas or would like to contribute an article for an upcoming newsletter, please send your ideas PCMH@odh.ohio.gov or call Amy Bashforth at (614) 644-9756.