

Payment Reform:

Bundled Payment Pilot & Electronic Connectivity

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TMC Health Policy Institute National Meeting

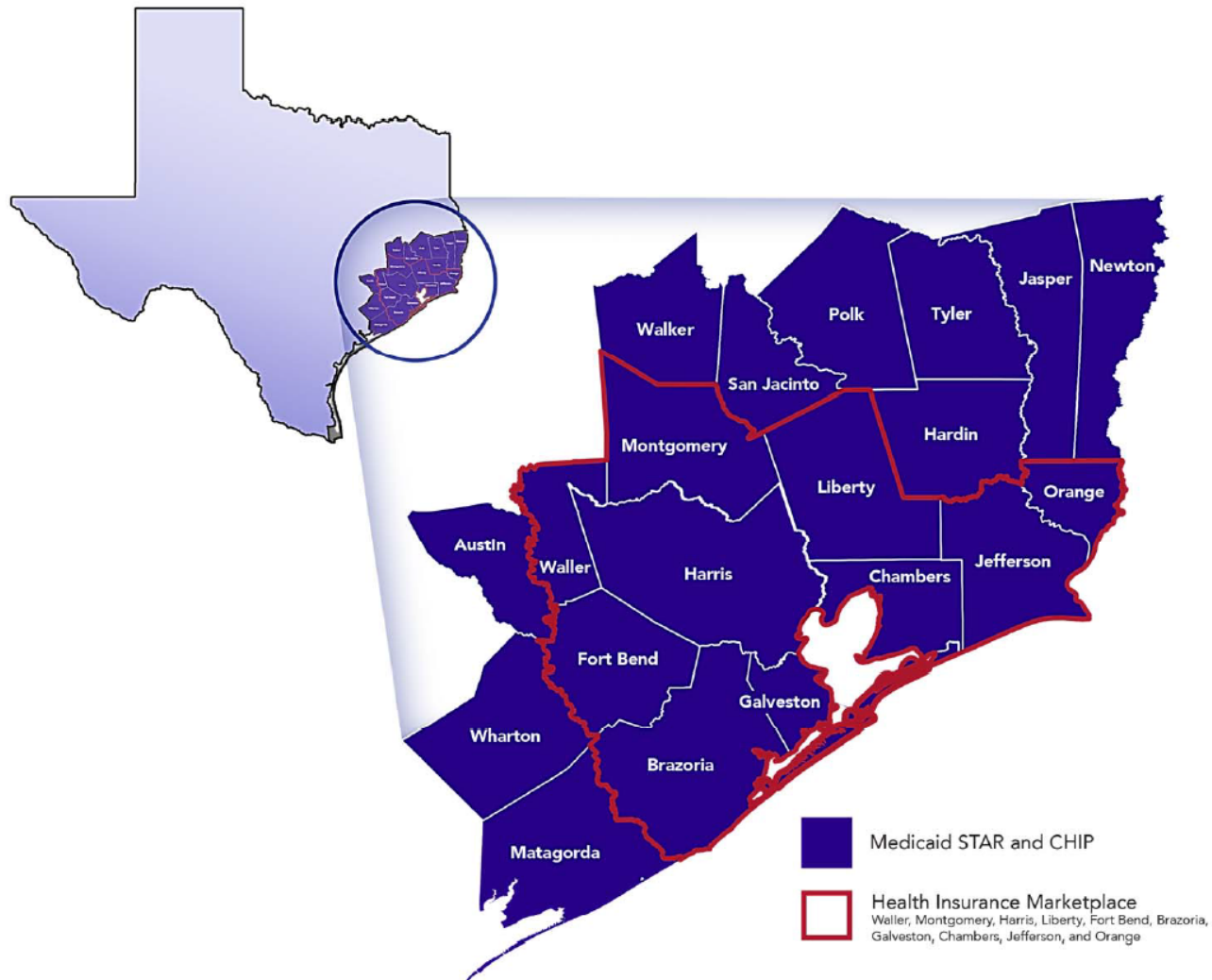
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About Us

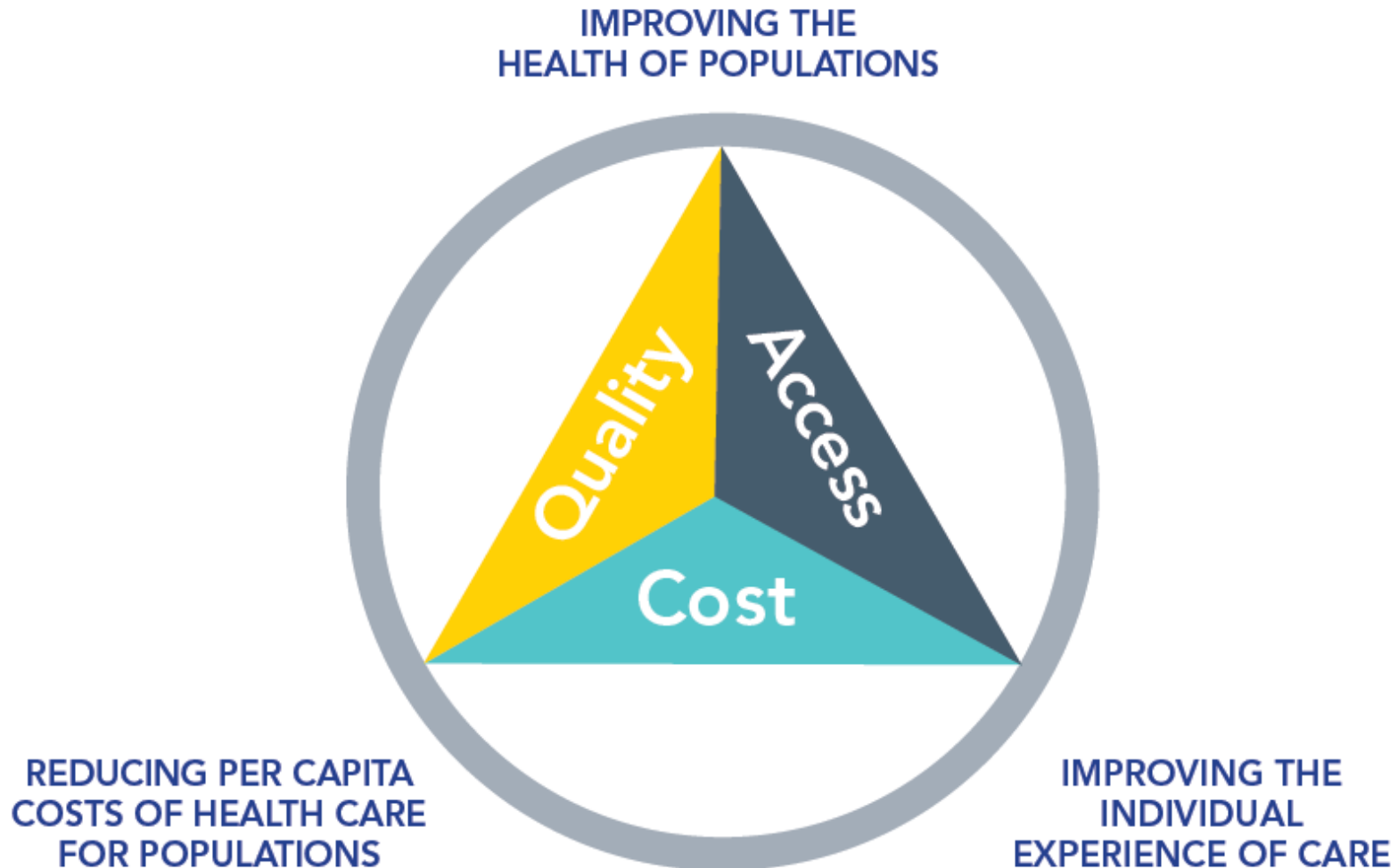
- Non-profit Health Maintenance Organization licensed by the Texas Department of Insurance
- Affiliate of the Harris Health System (Houston's public hospital system)
- Serves over 440,000 Members in the following programs:
 - Medicaid State of Texas Access Reform (STAR) Program
 - Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
 - Health Insurance Marketplace Plans offered under the ACA.
 - Regional HMO coverage for State of Texas employees (ERS).
 - Administrator for multiple collaborative safety net projects.
- Surplus goes to community benefits program

Service Area Map



Guiding Principle:

Health Care Triple Aim



What Are Our Goals?

A Health Policy Home Run

Third Base:

Simplify funding and administration of programs

Second Base:

Coverage for everyone

Home Plate:

Slow healthcare cost increases through provider payment reform

First Base:

Personal accountability for health and financing

Our Maternity Pilot

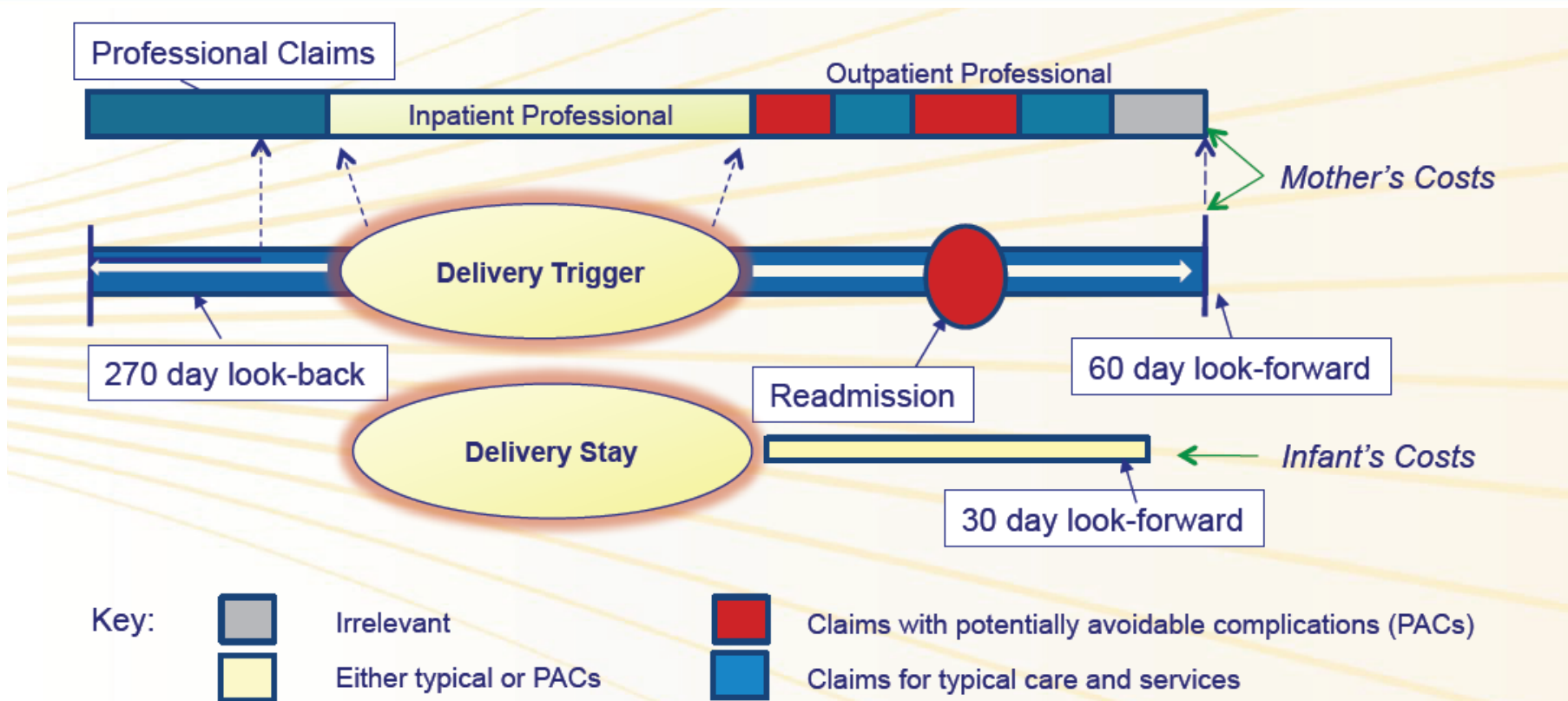
- Area of significant variation in costs and health outcomes within a definable episode of care
- High opportunity for expense savings & quality improvements:
 - 22K deliveries/year
 - Over \$200M total annual related medical expenses
- A multi-year pilot beginning March 1, 2015
- Medicaid (STAR) membership only
- Includes all relevant costs for mothers & babies
 - Professionals (OB, MFM, Pediatrics, Neonatology)
 - Hospitals
 - All ancillary services

Pregnancy and Delivery Episode Definitions for Bundled Payment

The definition of the pregnancy/delivery/neonatal episodes includes:

- Both low risk and high risk pregnancies with severity markers
- Related care for Moms and babies:
 - For the mother: includes all related services for delivery including post discharge period (60 days post discharge) and entire pre-natal care period (270 days prior to delivery)
 - For the infant: includes initial delivery stay and all services/costs up to 30 days post discharge
 - Blended C-section and vaginal delivery rate; blended nursery levels 1, 2 and 3; exclude nursery level 4 babies.

Maternity and Newborn Episode



- *Episode is triggered by delivery*
- *Services for the Mother are evaluated as typical (e.g. ultrasound, anesthesia, office visits, etc.) or complications (obstetrical trauma, fetal distress, c-section in low risk pregnancy, etc.)*

Average Expected Episode Budget (Blended Deliveries) ~ \$8,952*

Episode Costs* (All Providers)



Creating Patient Specific Budgets – Year 1

- Patient specific budgets are based on the historical average costs and are adjusted based on risk factors
- Patient Risk Factors include:
 - Patient demographics – age
 - Patient comorbidities - mostly diagnosis code-based (very few procedures)
 - Clinical severity markers (derived from episode specific risk categories, e.g. gestational diabetes, multiple gestation, etc.)
 - Collected from claims data and clinical records
 - Neonatal costs are not risk adjusted
- Timing of Risk Factors:
 - Risk factors are mostly ex-ante (historic); not concurrent
 - Clinical severity markers (subtypes) are pulled from the trigger claims, the look-back time window, and medical record data

Provider Selection

- Provider groups selected based on willingness to engage and understanding of need to move in this direction
- Chose two higher volume, multi-specialty (OBs, neonatologists and pediatricians) physician groups
 - UT Physicians – deliveries at LBJ and Memorial Hermann facilities
 - UTMB – deliveries at system facilities

After historical data analysis:

- Providers identify eligible patients upon delivery (mothers and babies)
- Preliminary patient budgets are created
- Providers submit initial quality data for identified patients
- Community submits updated claims data on regular basis
- Ongoing reconciliation of patient lists
- Quarterly provider meetings on financial and quality results
- Final budgets are created at completion of episode;
Reconciliation occurs at end of each pilot year

Planned Transition

- Year 1: Upside risk only, quality scorecard used for monitoring and setting benchmarks
- Year 2: Upside/downside risk, quality thresholds for shared savings
- Year 3 and beyond: Move away from current contractual payments to flat dollar or other budget payments with reconciliation

Opportunities for Margin Under Bundled Approach

Potential of \$1 million in savings from a budget of \$9 million.

Reduction	Provider
Reduce C-Section Rate by 10 percentage points	\$335,000
Reduce Neonatal LOS by 10%	\$175,000
Reduce PACs for C-Sections by 50%	\$90,000
Reduce PACs during Pregnancy by 50%	\$85,000
Reduce PACs for Vaginal Delivery by 50%	\$30,000
Reduce Infant Post-Discharge Admits by 50%	\$225,000
Reduce Infant Post-Discharge ED Visits by 50%	\$60,000
Total Potential Savings/Margin	\$1 Million

Quality Scorecard

Full Term Births

Term Babies	GA>or equal to 37 completed weeks	Points
Prenatal Care	Prenatal Care Visit (HEDIS)	0
	Risk-appropriate screenings during pre-natal care visits	10
	Shared-decision making on mode of delivery	10
Delivery Care	% of early elective deliveries prior to full gestation	20
	% of eligible patients who receive intra-partum antibiotic prophylaxis for GBS and/or Antenatal Steroids	5
Postpartum Care	Postnatal Care Visit (HEDIS)	0
	BP Monitoring	15
	Random finger-stick testing; patients with results that exceed a certain threshold required to have a 2 hour fasting glucose test	10
	Depression screening	10
Baby Care	% of babies who were exclusively breast fed during stay	10
	% of babies receiving Hep B vaccine prior to discharge	10
Total Points		100

Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROM)

- PROMs and how they differ from Patient Satisfaction Surveys was first discussion:

“How was the food in the hospital?” or “How long did you wait for your appointment in the physician office?”

VS.

“Were you given enough time to ask questions during office visits?” or “Do you feel you were involved enough in decisions about your care?”
- Modified Childbirth Connection PROM Survey
 - Birth Information
 - Prenatal Care
 - Birth Experience
 - Postpartum Care

Year 1 Financial Results

- Year 2 start delayed until October 1, 2016, to allow for full analysis of budget and quality data
- Year 1 final results:

	Provider 1	Provider 2
Delivery Budget	7% favorable	12% unfavorable
Newborn Budget	10% favorable	100% unfavorable
Pregnancy Budget	7% unfavorable	2% favorable
Total Budget	5% favorable	33% unfavorable

Year 1 Quality Results

Provider 1	Possible Points	Points Achieved	Percent
Prenatal	30	27	90%
Delivery	90	60	67%
Post-Partum	40	33	83%
Newborn	40	24	60%
All (preterm and full term weighted average)			73%

Provider 2	Possible Points	Points Achieved	Percent
Prenatal	55	26	47%
Delivery	40	32	80%
Post-Partum	55	39	71%
Newborn	50	38	76%
All (preterm and full term weighted average)			67%

Key Year 1 Takeaway

- Nursery level determination may be less objective than previously thought and may not be best indicator of ultimate cost:
 - Significant differences in level distribution across providers and over time
 - Correlations of LBW and/or preterm with nursery level is uneven
 - Birth defects can be costly but are not necessarily dealt with in Level 4 nursery.
- Recommendation: to protect both provider (from extreme outlier episodes) and plan (from arbitrary placement), keep all babies in but use stop loss aimed at true outliers

Year 2 Transition

- Began October 1, 2016 to allow providers time to digest Y1 results and make care delivery changes
- Year 2 includes upside and downside risk, tempered by quality improvements/declines

% Share in Loss (over budget)	Change in Score (PPT)	% Share in Gain (under budget)
0.50	-0.20	0.0
0.45	-0.05	0.35
0.40	0	0.45
0.35	0.05	0.55
0.25	0.20	0.75

Measuring Success

- Little provider change in behavior/practice during Year 1
- Delayed Year 2 start so that providers could have fuller understanding of changes they could implement
- Year 1 quality results set baseline for many metrics we did not have visibility into previously; expect quality metrics improvement in Year 2
- Case study commitment

UT Physicians Reduces Costs & Improves Outcomes of Obstetric Patients



UT Physicians received a bonus check of more than \$101,000 from Community Health Choice for its successful efforts during a pilot study to lower costs and advance the care of pregnant women and their babies.

“It has been a great experience to be in partnership with Community Health Choice the last two years,” said Sean Blackwell, M.D., professor and chair of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at McGovern Medical School at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth). “We have improved the quality of care provided to our patients, eliminated unnecessary procedures and lowered costs. It’s a formula for success.”

Electronic Connectivity with Harris Health

Network Access Improvement Program (NAIP)

Background

- Clinical data flow between providers and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) still lives in the 90's:
 - Telephonic pre-certifications
 - Faxes for clinical information
 - On-site concurrent reviews by managed care staff
 - Retrospective denial of claims due to “system” failures rather than lack of medical necessity for services
- EPIC is largest EHR system in Houston market
- Regional health information exchange (GHH) slow to connect providers much less MCOs
- Need to build trust between providers and MCOs to expedite care, improve outcomes and reduce administrative burden

Goals

- Utilize IGTs to draw down additional Federal Medicaid funds for projects that improve network access, care coordination and provider/MCO relationships (NAIP)
- Improve availability, quality and coordination of services for Medicaid enrollees through provider/MCO collaboration
- Reduce administrative burden of MCOs' utilization management and claim payment processes
- Build trust between providers and MCOs

The Project

- Build “EpicCare Link” interface between Community and Harris Health
- Allow Community staff access to member medical record information
- Bi-directional electronic exchange of eligibility and prior authorization information
- Collaboration to increase efficiency of prior authorization requests:
 - Electronic submission and approval of prior authorizations
 - Clinical information available in a dedicated section of EpicCare Link
- Year 1 includes inpatient admissions, outpatient information and requests to be added in year 2
- Capability for electronic claim status queries and responses

Evaluation and Next Steps

Analysis not yet complete but expecting:

- Reduction in process time
- Near elimination of wait time for additional information and need for call-backs
- Reduction in administrative denials
- No increase in medical necessity denials (early fear that MCOs would use access to find reason to deny claims)
- Opportunity to provide real-time electronic connectivity to MCO care guidelines to reduce concurrent review burden
- Opportunity to replicate with other providers using EPIC

Questions & Answers

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