

# **Introduction & Overview for Clinicians & Provider Groups**

## **Northern New England Practice Transformation Network (NNE-PTN)**

**Jeanne Ryer  
NH Citizens Health Initiative**

# The NH Citizens Health Initiative

## A Laboratory for Health System Transformation for New Hampshire

*Leading New Hampshire to a better health future...*

- *Better health*
- *Better care*
- *Lower costs*

*...for everyone in New Hampshire*

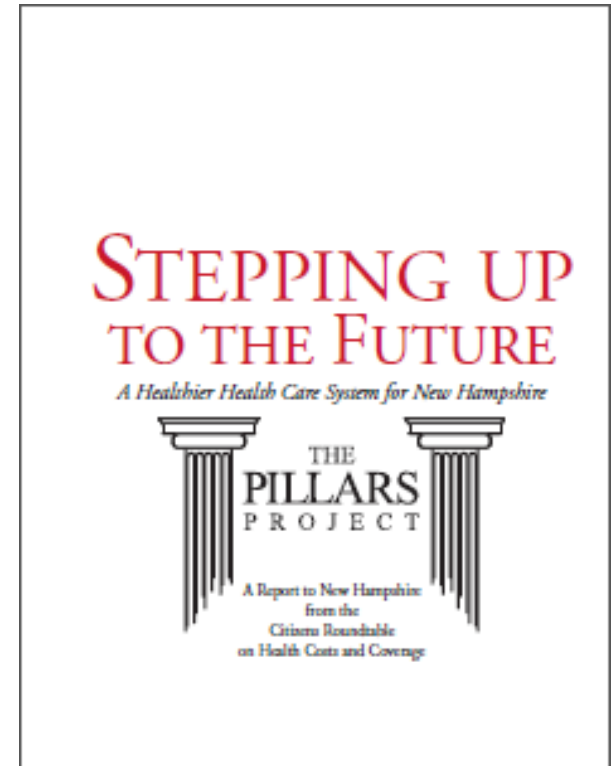
# Background

Formed out of the “Pillars Project.”

Led by volunteer Advisory Board of public and leaders from all sectors

Housed at Institute for Health Policy & Practice at UNH, within College for Health and Human Services

Project teams lead action work groups



# Leadership Advisory Board

Sharon Beaty, Mid-State Health Center

Jose Montero, Cheshire Medical Center

Co-Chairs

Karen Borgstrom, Partners in Community  
Wellness

Tyler Brannen, NH Insurance Department

William Brewster, MD, Harvard Pilgrim

Thomas Bunnell, NH Voices for Health

Lisa Butler, Public Member

David Coursin, MD, Public Member

Michael Ferarra, Dean CHHS, UNH

Yvonne Goldsberry, Endowment for Health

Peter Gosline, UCV Hospital

Lisa Guertin, Anthem

Lucy Hodder, UNHLaw

Heather Lavoie, Geneia

William Kassler, Past Pres. NH Medical Society

Katie Merrow, NH Charitable Foundation

Alida Milham, Public Member

Roger Sevigny, Commissioner NHID

Nicholas Toumpas, Commissioner, NH DHHS

# Building on Success/ Current Projects

## Building on Success

- ePrescribing: NH now 5th in US
- National All-Payer Claims Data Council
- Primary Care Workforce Report
- Medical Home Pilot

## Current Projects

- NH Accountable Care Project: Depression+ Chronic Conditions, Hypertension
- Public Health & Clinical Integration on Tobacco and Heart Health
- MapNH Health

# Northern New England Practice Transformation Network

- Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation
- Resources to NH, ME, and VT
- Help practices prepare for changes in payment and practice
- Four-year effort
- Rapid start
- On-the-ground assistance in NH

# Rapidly Changing World of Clinician Payment

DHHS Secretary Burwell's historic announcement  
(Jan 2015):

- **Goal #1:** move Medicare provider payments from FFS to alternative payment models

**30% by 2016, 50% by 2018**

- **Goal #2:** ensure virtually all Medicare fee-for-service payments are tied to quality and value

**At least 85% by 2016, 90% by 2018**



# Rapidly Changing World of Clinician Payment

- Current CMS Value Modifier for providers: applies up to 4% payment bonus or penalty based on performance
- MACRA (aka “SGR fix” Feb 2015): moves current CMS provider payments & penalties into new Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) by 2019
- Applies up to 9% payment penalty by 2020!



# Rapidly Changing World of Clinical Practice

- EMRs, Meaningful Use
- Quality reporting requirements
- Continued pressure for generating pt volume
- Measurement, public reporting of patient experience of care
- Clinician, staff change fatigue & burn-out
- Realities of continuous change...

# Bottom Line?

- CMS (and others) on unstoppable trajectory to move from FFS to value-based payments
- 25% physician payments or more will likely be based on cost/quality by 2019
- Pressure to participate in global payment budgets not far behind
- Pace of change likely to accelerate, not slow
- Practices, clinicians can succeed by preparing for inevitable change, or ...???



# Overarching Benefits of Participation

- **Improve health of your patients**

Assess & strengthen your systems for providing high-quality, patient-centered care

- **Improve health of your clinicians & practice team**

Get support for building stronger team-based care

Access resources to strengthen individual and team resilience

- **Improve financial health of your practice**

Maximize revenue, avoid penalties & succeed in rapidly evolving value-based payment systems



# Specific Benefits of Participation

- Receive baseline assessment of your practice status, create plan tailored to specific needs
- Obtain no-cost access to PQRS Solutions, assistance with PQRS reporting to CMS
- Participate in flexible range of educational offerings from PTN Learning Collaborative
- Access direct, practice-based QI support from Practice Coach



# Specific Benefits of Participation

- Get help to leverage existing Medicare payments – e.g., Annual Wellness Exam, Transitional Care Codes, Chronic Care Management (CCM) code
- Access team-building resources – e.g., TeamSTEPPS for ambulatory practices, leadership development
- Network with, learn from best practices with your medical neighborhood – i.e. primary care, specialty, BH peers



# Why Specialist Practices?

- Strengthen relationships with referral base
- Improve communication with primary care to create more efficient referral process, ensure “right patient in the chair”
- Network, collaborate with primary care partners - opportunity to “get in the game”!
- Improve efficiency of specialty visits
- Avoid upcoming CMS payment penalties

# Expectations for PTN Practices

- Participate in baseline practice assessment
- Participate in PTN Learning Collaborative
- Network with peers, share learnings, best practices
- Work with PTN staff to submit clinical quality measures through PQRS solutions
- Work with PTN staff to identify/submit other data as required by CMS (cost/utliz, pt exp)

# (Current) CMS ACO Exclusion

- CMS decision to prohibit practices in Medicare alternative payment models (e.g. ACOs) from participating in PTNs
- Identified by CMS at time of proposal (fall 2014)
- Secretary Burwell “bold goals” for moving providers to Value-Based Payment (Jan 2015)
- Currently estimate 60-70% ME, NH; 80% VT practices ineligible
- NNE PTN lobbying CMS to reconsider, modify exclusion



# Next Steps

- Review specific benefits & expectations for practices
- Sign PTN practice agreement form (online – coming soon!)
- Identify practice leadership team (dyad)  
Lead clinician (MD/DO, NP, PA)  
Lead administrator

# NNE-PTN Timeline

- QC actively communicating opportunity to primary care, specialty & BH practices & practice owners
- Begin baseline assessments by Jan 2016
- PQRS Solutions available to practices anytime after baseline assessment - **sign up by Jan 1 to participate in CY2015 PQRS reporting!**
- Learning activities to start spring 2016
- CMS offering 4-year opportunity



# Contact Info / Questions

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