

Need to Know

Important Updates

Coming Soon: A New and Powerful Population Health Management System

The MaineHealth ACO is preparing to launch a new population health management system that will expand the ACO's, and participants', understanding of our patient populations. The system we've selected uses two tools – Epic's Healthy Planet and a tool called Arcadia– to mine both clinical and claims data to answer questions about cost, utilization, the health of populations and much more. This article is the first in a series that will help introduce the ACO's new population health management capabilities.

What is a population health management system?

Population health management solutions are one of the latest tools to emerge in the health care market. EHRs have been adopted across the country in small practices and large hospital systems to better understand and document the needs of individual patients. As we tackle the larger goal of monitoring and managing the health of populations, the data and toolsets needed to be successful change. Not only is a holistic view of an individual patient needed, but so is the ability to perform analytics, identify trends, and pinpoint problems and opportunities at the individual and population level. The system chosen by the MaineHealth ACO is a hybrid solution using tools from Arcadia and Epic Healthy Planet. Care management functionality will reside in Epic. Arcadia will aggregate clinical data from multiple EHRs and integrate claims data into our new data warehouse. This data will power a Quality Improvement Module, Cost and Utilization Module, Contract Dashboards, Risk and Hierarchical Condition Category (HCC) Adjustment Module, and Patient Management Module.

Who will use it?

Epic Healthy Planet will be used mainly by care managers. Some are already trained on this tool today and others, who currently depend on the Clinical Improvement Registry (CIR), will transition to Healthy Planet in the future. The CIR will continue to be supported by the ACO until all users are transitioned.

Arcadia can be used by a large variety of users which will include ACO staff, executive leadership, practice managers, provider and clinical support teams, quality improvement teams, and healthcare data analysts. More information on each module and how it will be used will be included in future newsletters and communications.

Implications for Practices and Participants

The new Arcadia tool will provide near real-time, actionable data, to users. Users will have a self-service portal where they can filter the data and get answers to their questions, view performance on quality measures, identify care gaps, and drill down into information including on cost, quality, and utilization.

Stay tuned!

We're currently working across our functional teams to develop a phased rollout. Future articles will include more detailed rollout information as it becomes available.