

Wellforce MSSP ACO Overview of the SNF 3-Day Waiver

Presenters: Care Management Team/Medicare Program Manager





Welcome

Lori Uzdarwin, RN

Senior Director of Care Management

Tufts Medicine Integrated Network (TMIN)



Presenters

Karen Jenkins

Medicare Program Manager , Tufts Medicine Integrated Network (TMIN)

Emmet Sutera, RN, CCM

Clinical Program Manager , Hallmark Health PHO

Participating:

Pat Seidel, RN, MS, CCM, Dir Care Management, TMIN-Braintree

Lisa Flanagan, RN, CCM, Dir of Clinical Management Programs Hallmark PHO

Aliana Filiau, RN, PhDc, Clinical Nursing Director, Primary Care Boston, Tuft MC



Agenda

Wellforce ACO, LLC

Eligibility and CMS Requirements

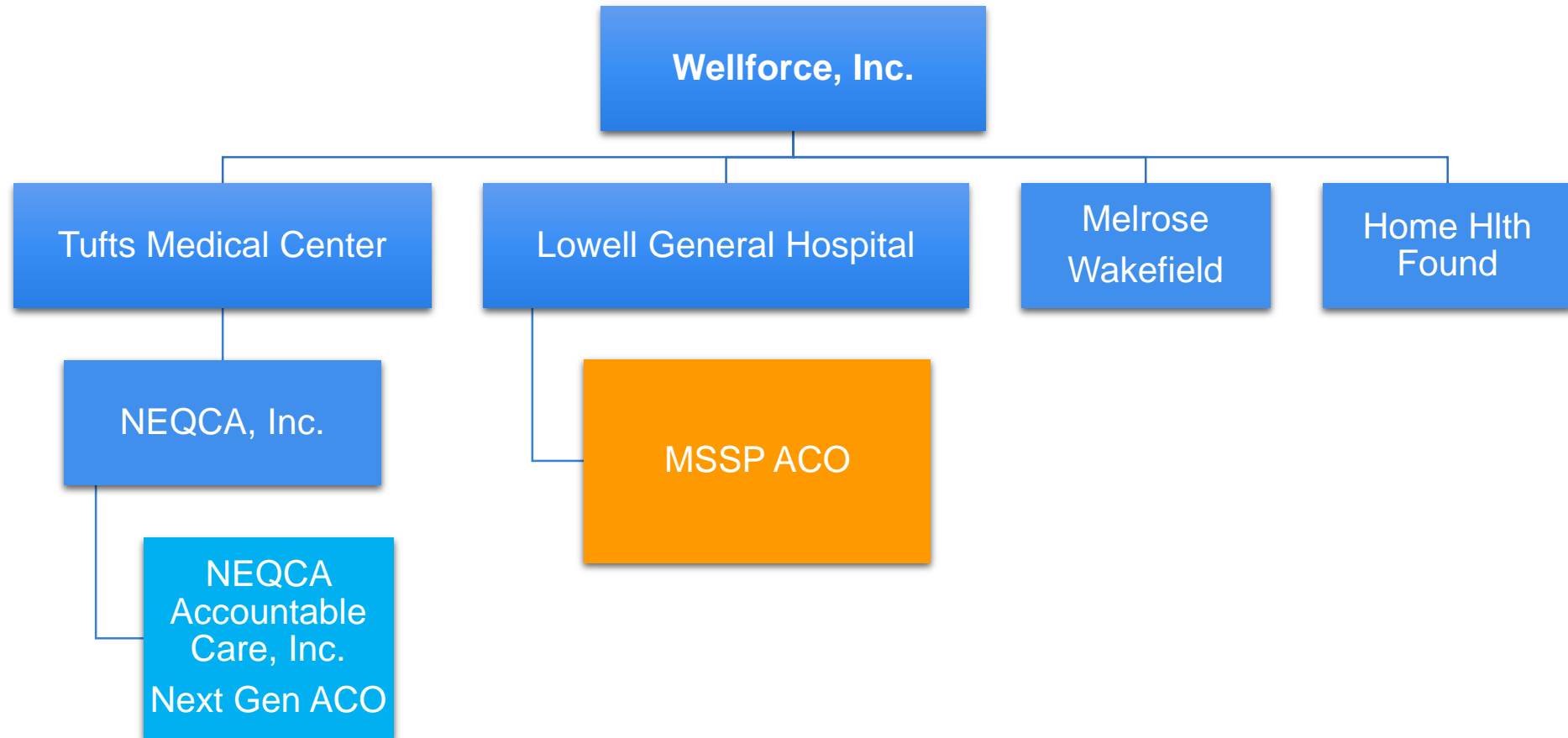
Implementing the Waiver throughout our ACO service area

High Value SNF Network

Expectations

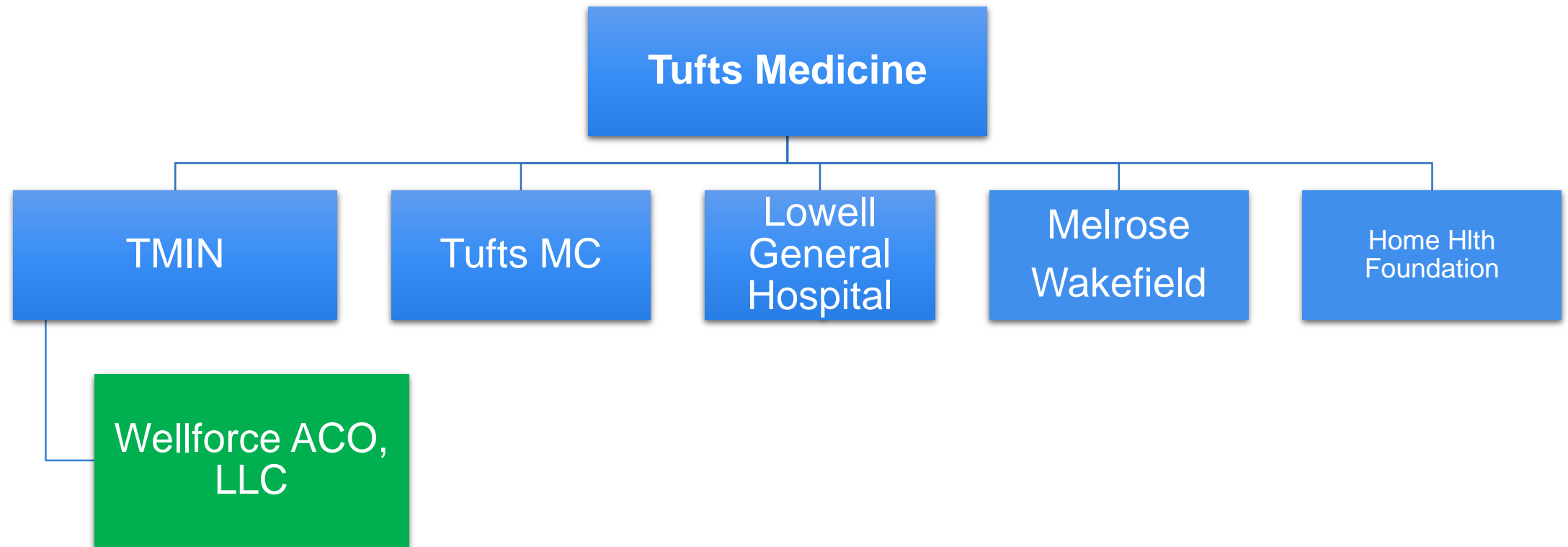


Prior to 2022: Two Medicare ACOs in the Wellforce System governed by two different entities





One Medicare ACO, subsidiary of Tufts Medicine Integrated Network (TMIN), in MSSP Enhanced Track starting January 1, 2022





Wellforce ACO, LLC

- Subsidiary of Tufts Medicine Integrated Network (TMIN)
- The ACO is participating in a 5-year agreement for the Medicare Shared Savings Program, Enhanced Track (2020 through 2024)
- Wellforce ACO is accountable for ~44,000 Medicare beneficiaries
- Over 1,200 individual providers (MDs, NPs, PAs) participating
- SNF Affiliate Agreements are **evergreen** through 12/31/2024



TMIN Network Map





Wellforce MSSP ACO Entities

Tufts MC PO*

Lowell General PHO*

Hallmark Health PHO (Melrose Wakefield Hospital)*

Congenial Healthcare

Highland Healthcare

Milton Primary Care

MassBay

Plymouth Bay

Cape Physicians

Metrowest Healthcare Alliance

Norwood



Responsibilities of ACO Ops and Care Management Teams

ACO Ops Team

- Execute and submit all SNF Affiliate Agreements
- Annual Compliance Training for all SNFs
- Send SNF Communication Plan to all NEW Affiliates joining the Medicare ACO
- Maintains SNF Affiliate List on CMS' ACO-MS site
- Tracks the CMS Star Ratings monthly
- Notifies SNFs if removed from Affiliate list

Care Management Team

- Triage waiver referrals
- ACO RN reviews /approves patients for waiver eligibility
- ACO RN communicates/collaborates w/SNF weekly on Care Plan, quality, appropriate utilization of services, coordination of services, concurrent review and discharge planning
- Transitions outreach after discharge





High-Value SNF Network : SNF 3 Day Waiver



SNF must have an overall quality rating of 3 or more stars under the CMS 5-Star Quality Rating System as reported on the Nursing Home Compare website



List of High-Value SNFs for the waiver are approved by the ACO Board annually



SNF must have a written agreement with the ACO to participate in the MSSP ACO as a “SNF Affiliate”



SNF must be approved by CMS to participate in the SNF 3 Day Waiver



ACO will provide training and will share the SNF 3DW Communication and Implementation plan with the SNF Affiliates



Beneficiary Eligibility for MSSP ACO SNF 3DW

To be considered eligible for the SNF 3 Day Waiver, beneficiaries must meet the following criteria:

- Appear on the list of ACO-aligned beneficiaries
- Does not currently reside in a SNF or other long-term care setting, and must not currently be appropriate for long term care
- Is medically stable
- Does not require inpatient level of care or further hospital evaluation, consults or treatment
- Has certain and confirmed diagnoses
- Has an identified skilled nursing or rehabilitation need with a defined end-point, that he/she cannot receive as an outpatient
- Requires daily skilled services which must be provided by, or under the supervision of, skilled nursing and therapy staff
- Has been evaluated and approved for admission to the SNF within 3 days prior to the SNF admission by a physician who is participating in the ACO



Authorization for the Waivers

Each of the ACO's geographic entities will have an RN care manager and physician to review/approve patients' eligibility for the waiver

SNF will receive signed medical orders from treating physician for waived patients



Expectations

Expectations from each SNF

- Weekly clinical updates
- 7-day post-discharge PCP appointment scheduled
- Discharge summary and medication list to PCP and ACO RN to facilitate Transitions of Care

Expectations from Wellforce ACO

- Waiver referrals accepted Monday through Fridays: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm
- Hospital case managers will contact SNF with name of Wellforce ACO, LLC RN who will review/authorize waiver
- Timely reviews and approvals



What we need from you

Clinical contacts (name, phone#, email)

- Admissions Office
- Care Coordinator/Discharge Planner (Social Worker, Care Manager)
- Director of Nursing
- Administrator/ED
- Director of Rehab
- Liaison

- **Send to:**
Colleen Griffin, Care Management Coordinator:
colleen.griffin@tuftsmedicine.org





Questions





For further questions please contact

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THANK YOU





Appendix



What is the SNF 3-Day Waiver?

Allows for Medicare payment for SNF services when an ACO-aligned beneficiary, who meets clinical criteria, can be admitted directly to a contracted SNF without the usual required 3-night inpatient stay.

This allows the ACO participating providers to select the most appropriate care delivery site for eligible beneficiaries, which improves care and the care experience, while reducing unnecessary costs.

Patients can be admitted to contracted SNFs through the Waiver directly from the Emergency Department, Observation or from Inpatient stay fewer than 3 inpatient hospital days.

Patients may also be admitted to contracted SNFs through the Waiver from home, physician practice, clinic or other community setting.

Since March 2020, due to the Covid 19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), a blanket SNF 3 Day Waiver has been in effect for all Medicare beneficiaries and all Medicare-enrolled SNFs for covid 19 related reasons- ENDS **5/11/23**



SNF 3-Day Waiver as an ACO Benefit Enhancement - Summary of Requirements

ACO contracts with high-value SNFs
(SNF Affiliates)

Verify Beneficiary Assignment to ACO

- ACO staff will confirm Beneficiary is assigned to the ACO and therefore eligible for the waiver

Authorization for Beneficiary to be transferred to SNF

- ACO staff will determine Beneficiary meets clinical criteria for SNF waiver
- Participating physician of the ACO will approve SNF 3 Day Waiver admission to contracted SNF
- Patient or family may choose the contracted SNF, or ACO will recommend SNF based on bed availability

Strongly Recommended: Following beneficiaries during SNF stay

- ACO staff will work with the contracted SNFs to ensure quality of care, appropriate utilization of services, coordination of services and planning for discharge



2023 Wellforce SNF Affiliates

Aberjona Nursing Center

Alliance Health at Marina Bay

Bay Path a Rehabilitation & Nursing Center

Bear Mountain Healthcare DBA Bear Mountain at Andover

Bear Hill Rehab and Nursing Center

Blaire House of Tewksbury

Briarwood Rehab and Health Care Center

Broad Reach of Chatham, Inc. dba Liberty Commons

CareOne at Brookline

CareOne at Concord

CareOne at Weymouth

CareOne at Wilmington

Cedar View Rehabilitation and HealthCare Center

Chestnut Woods Rehab Healthcare Center

D'Youville Transitional Care Inc. dba D'Youville Ctr for Adv Therapy

Elizabeth Seton Residence

Hebrew Rehabilitative Center, Recuperative Care Unit

Jeffrey and Susan Brudnick Center for Living

Lasell Village

Life Care Center of Plymouth

Life Care Center of Stoneham

Mary Ann Morse Health Care Center

Masconomet Healthcare Center

New Bridge on the Charles Skilled Nursing Facility

North End Rehab and Nursing Center

Palm Skilled Nursing Care and Center for Rehabilitation Excellence

Prescott House

South Cove Manor at Quincy Point

St. Patrick's Manor

The Elmhurst HealthCare

The Pavilion Rehabilitation and Nursing Center

Whittier Transitional Care Unit

Winchester Nursing Center

Wingate at Silver Lake

Woburn Nursing Center