



Dear Rhode Island Primary Care Practice,

Thank you for your efforts to care for your patients during this unprecedented time. The Rhode Island Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC) continues to focus on implementing initiatives to promote primary care, including through PCMHs. As part of this initiative, OHIC requires commercial health plans to provide supplemental payments to primary care practices that meet OHIC's three-part definition of PCMH to help finance their PCMH operations. The three-part definition includes requirements related to:

1. a practice's level of transformation experience;
2. implementation a quality improvement strategy targeted at cost management, and
3. demonstration of meaningful performance improvement.

The purpose of this letter is to communicate results on practice PCMH status, to summarize changes to the meaningful performance improvement requirement for 2020, and to convey changes that OHIC is making for 2020 in response to the impact of COVID-19.

A. Practice PCMH Status

In the fall of 2019, practices submitted responses to the Cost Management Strategies and Performance Improvement surveys. Simultaneously, OHIC reviewed NCQA records and enrollment in CTC-RI and PCMH-Kids to assess transformation experience. With this combined information, OHIC was able to analyze practice performance relative to the three-part definition of PCMH. Results of this analysis can be found on [OHIC's website](#).

B. Changes to the 2020 Meaningful Performance Improvement Requirement

1. Measures Included in the 2020 PCMH Measure Set

In 2020, practices will need to report on the following measures for the 10/1/2019 – 9/30/2020 measurement period. Measures new for 2020 reporting have an asterisk following them. New measures traditionally have "reporting-only" status, i.e., they will be used to establish baseline performance and to help practices develop reporting capacity.

Adult Practices

- Colorectal Cancer Screening (HEDIS) (Process)
- Comprehensive Diabetes Care: HbA1c Control (<8) (HEDIS) (Outcome)
- Comprehensive Diabetes Care: Retinal Eye Exam (HEDIS) (Process)
- Controlling High Blood Pressure (HEDIS) (Outcome)

Pediatric Practices

- Adolescent Well-Care Visits (HEDIS) (Process)
- Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life (OHSU) (Process)
- Lead Screening in Children (HEDIS, modified by RIDOH to define the attributed population) (Process)*
- Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity (OHIC-adapted version of the HEDIS measure – all-or-nothing measure including three sub-measures) (Process)

Of note, pediatric practices will not need to submit data for “Lead Screening in Children” to OHIC. With practice permission, RIDOH will provide OHIC with practice reports for performance for the 10/1/2019 – 9/30/2020 measurement year for this measure. OHIC will share these final performance data with practices once it receives data from RIDOH’s KIDSNET. Practices can log onto KIDSNET on that date, or at any other time, to estimate performance on the measure.

Updated specifications for all measures can be accessed on OHIC’s [“Patient-Centered Medical Home Definition and Requirements”](#) website.

2. Move to “Reporting-Only” Status for 2020 Due to COVID-19

A practice seeking OHIC PCMH recognition status has historically been required to meet OHIC’s definition of demonstrating “meaningful performance improvement.” By this OHIC has meant performance is at or above a pre-defined defined benchmark **or** performance has improved by at least three percentage points over one or two years. ***For reporting in 2020, however, OHIC has decided to move all measures to reporting-only status as it anticipates that COVID-19 will have a significant impact on quality measure performance.*** Therefore, practices only need to report performance on the appropriate measures from the PCMH Measure Set in order to meet this component of the PCMH definition. As a result, OHIC will use data from the 10/1/2018 –



9/30/2019 performance period to assess improvement for the 10/1/2020 - 9/30/2021 performance period.

If you have any questions on the content of this letter, please reach out directly to Cory King at 401-462-9658 or email him at Cory.King@ohic.ri.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie L. Ganim".

Marie L. Ganim, PhD
Health Insurance Commissioner