

CBGH NEWSLETTER

May 2011

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READ THE *COLORADO HEALTH MATTERS QUALITY REPORT: PHYSICIANS*

PROMETHEUS

In March, The Colorado Health Foundation approved a grant for piloting the [PROMETHEUS Payment Model](#) in Colorado, affording the opportunity for three Colorado communities to lead the way in implementing global episode-of-care payment in Colorado.

What the Feasibility Grant Documented. Based on an analysis of 5 of Colorado’s larger payers as part of the 2010 feasibility grant, Healthcare Incentives Improvement Institute (HCI3) and CBGH identified that the costs of potentially avoidable complications (or PACs) account for 39% of current spending on the 21 conditions evaluated. Applying that ratio to Colorado’s total health spending suggests that Colorado payers spend approximately \$2.4 Billion dollars each year on potentially avoidable services that bring little to no value to patients. By simply reducing complication rates to the best observable rates seen across the country, Colorado has an opportunity to save at least \$360 Million.

Exciting Opportunity for Quality Improvement. While the potential of saving dollars by reducing quality waste is significant, the truly exciting opportunity lies in using data to improve the quality of care patients receive. PROMETHEUS “evidence-informed case rates” or ECRs will be able to document, for both purchasers and providers, exactly where variations from scientifically informed best practices are compromising patient

care. By working collaboratively - probably for the first time in most instances - purchasers and providers can partner to systematically target specific areas of improvement, achieving better care for Coloradans and sharing savings with providers.

CBGH’s Purchaser Action Committee. Because we have contracted with HCI3 to work with self-funded employers across the State, and particularly in the Colorado Springs and Longmont areas, CBGH has put together a Purchaser Action Committee to achieve several goals, including aggregating data in a usable format and engaging employers in discussions with providers about quality targets. The Purchaser Action Committee will work on a community basis toward improving quality and reducing waste.

Any employers interested in additional information, including the potential benefits for their company, should email [Bob Smith](mailto:Bob.Smith@cbghealth.org) at CBGH.



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- Donna Marshall**
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State of Colorado
CBGH Secretary
- Ken Detweiler**
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COLORADO HEALTH MATTERS QUALITY REPORT: PHYSICIANS RELEASED



CBGH released the [Colorado Health Matters Quality Report: Health Plans](#) in January and released the [Colorado Health Matters Quality Report: Physicians](#) in April. We hope to release our *Hospital* version by the end of May and we will immediately begin work on the 2011-12 editions. To that end, we continue conducting monthly

calls with participating health plan representatives to acquire the most up-to-date, relevant information to include in future publications.

Colorado Health Matters Quality Reports available at www.ColoradoHealthOnline.org



CBGH MEMBERSHIP NEWS

COLORADO
BUSINESS GROUP ON
HEALTH

What's happening in our world

CBGH joins NBCH in supporting *Purchasing High Performance*

[The Commonwealth Fund](#) and the [National Business Group on Health](#) have collaborated to create the quarterly newsletter *Purchasing High Performance*. Every issue brings innovative purchasing strategies, benefit design ideas, and news to make the most of health care dollars. The mission of The Commonwealth Fund is to promote a high performing health care system that achieves better access, improved quality, and greater efficiency. [\[Read more\]](#)

Colorado Culture of Health Conference

CBGH has postponed the 5th Annual Colorado Culture of Health Conference until April 2012. We will be meeting with past and potential conference partners in May and look forward to welcoming a larger group of partners for the 2012 Conference. If you are interested in learning more about partnering with us on the Colorado Culture of Health Conference, please contact [Peter Castle](#).

Donna Marshall assists new business coalition in Albuquerque

In April, Donna visited the [Albuquerque Coalition for Health Care Quality](#) to give the group suggestions on why and how the New Mexico employer community can work together on shared initiatives and why these same employers should continue to support their [Aligning Forces for Quality](#) initiative. This initiative between the Coalition and the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) aims to bring together those who receive care, give care and pay for care to improve the quality of health care in Albuquerque.

eValue8

Once again, CBGH has supported this national initiative of the National Business Coalition on Health and has convened a number of Colorado health plans to report their data to Colorado businesses in 2011. Kaiser Permanente, CIGNA, UnitedHealthcare and Anthem are the health plans in Colorado participating this year. eValue8 "site visits," where we highlight each of the plans' strengths and opportunities for improvement and have a dialogue with health plan leadership, are scheduled for June 9th & 10th. We will ask plans to participate in 2012, even though some regional coalitions have changed their schedule to every other year. For this year's schedule see page 4.

CBGH MEMBERSHIP NEWS CONT'D

COLORADO
BUSINESS GROUP ON
HEALTH

CBGH consultant Dawn Bowden joins Ethicon Endo-Surgery

CBGH recently hired Dawn for a time-limited consulting project and were happy to hear that she has taken the position formerly held by Todd Davis as Manager of Healthcare Policy & Economics at Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc. (A Johnson & Johnson company). Mr. Davis worked closely with CBGH on behalf of Ethicon in years past and we look forward to working in collaboration with Dawn as she settles in at her new position.

Leapfrog Hospital Survey

As the Colorado Regional Roll Out (RRO), CBGH sent letters to urban and rural hospital CEOs and quality managers in early March asking them to participate in the 2011 hospital survey. The Leapfrog Group has not yet released the list of hospitals who have indicated their intent to participate or have begun their response. We hope to see an increase in hospital participation in 2011.

Bridges to Excellence

The Bridges to Excellence (BTE) program was just featured in a [Denver Business Journal](#) article. Dr. Tracy Hofeditz, Dr. Laird Cagan, and Donna Marshall were interviewed regarding the BTE program that gives incentives to doctors to meet certain cardiac and diabetes standards. A total of 326 doctors throughout Colorado received recognition and cash incentives. In 2010 alone, CBGH paid out \$65,900 to the honorees.

[\[Read more\]](#)

Partnership for Patients

CBGH and the National Business Coalition on Health support the [Partnership for Patients](#), a new public-private initiative developed to improve the quality, safety and affordability of health care for all. The Partnership for Patients brings together leaders of major hospitals, employers, physicians, nurses, and patient advocates along with state and federal governments in a shared effort to make hospital care safer, more reliable, and less costly.

CBGH PBM PROGRAM ADDS GAPS-IN-CARE FILLER

Medco recently released an online and smart phone safety net app which helps close gaps in care by automatically sending alerts to members when a prescription for a maintenance medication is not refilled. The safety net is applicable whether member prescriptions are filled through the mail service or a retail pharmacy.

Medco clients may also request a Gaps in Care Projection Report. The report reveals what the estimated avoidable health care costs are for each gap in care closed through the safety net. The report may include details that show individual responses as to why a gap in care occurred as well as overall trends.

[\[Read more\]](#)



CALENDAR

May 2011—December 2011

MAY

CBGH Monthly Meeting: Thursday, May 12 Colorado College, Slocum Commons, 14 E. Cache La Poudre Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 [Hosted by [Colorado College](#)]

JUNE

eValu8 Site Visits

Visits will be held at the Plumbers Local Union #3, 17100 E. 32nd Place, Aurora, CO 80011

Thursday, June 9—8:30AM to 4:00PM—UnitedHealthcare & Anthem

Friday, June 10—8:30AM to 4:00PM—Kaiser Permanente & CIGNA

Contact [Peter Castle](#) for more information

JULY

CBGH Monthly Meeting: Thursday, July 14 Marriott Denver South, 10345 Park Meadows Drive, Denver, CO [Hosted by [Merck](#)]

AUGUST

CBGH Monthly Meeting: Thursday, August 11 Location TBD, Colorado Springs, CO [Hosted by Colorado Springs Utilities]

NBCH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NBCH's 16th Annual Conference will be held November 7-9, 2011 in Phoenix. Join NBCH and its coalition employer members at the health care buyer's premier conference for two days of in-depth training, networking, & product demonstrations with health care's largest employer customers. Meet with peers and experts alike, capitalizing on this unique opportunity to discuss health care issues and insights as NBCH presents A New Era for Employers: Better Health, Better Care, Lower Costs. The 2011 Annual Conference will convene nearly 500 health care leaders in Phoenix, Arizona to focus on the overarching and interconnected imperatives of health and health care transformation.