

**Physicians Play the High-Stakes Care
Coordination Game: A Progress Report on
Medicare's Care Management for
High Cost Beneficiaries**

October 28, 2008

CMHCB Demonstration

- In October, 2004 CMS released a Solicitation for the Care Management for High Cost Beneficiaries (CMHCB) Demonstration as part of a broader effort to “redesign” Medicare
- CMHCB is charged with developing and testing multiple strategies to improve the coordination of Medicare services for high-cost FFS beneficiaries
- Model is **intensive medical management** for patients with various medical conditions to reduce cost as well as improve quality of care and quality of life **Population-based** study, with Intervention and Control Group
- **Risk-based:** Awardee required to produce at least 5% net savings to CMS in 3 years or must return all administrative fees paid the awardee

MassGeneral Care-Management Program

- Goal – demonstrate that practice-based case management can improve patient outcomes and reduce overall cost for high risk patients.
- Sponsored by the MGPO in partnership with MGH
- 2,500 patients selected by CMS, based on cost, medical risk and loyalty algorithm
- Supported by mental health, pharmacy, community resource, end of life and financial service components
- IT infrastructure developed to maximize communication and decision support

Health Buddy Project

- Goal: Demonstrate that organized delivery systems, supported by telehealth, can reduce costs and improve care for high-cost / high-risk Medicare beneficiaries
- Partners: Bosch / Health Hero Network, American Medical Group Association, Wenatchee Valley Medical Center (WA), Bend Memorial Clinic (OR)
- Intent-to-treat population of 1,917, selected on basis of claims associated with CHF, DM, COPD, with HTN / CAD as co-morbidities
- Model: Medical group care coordination supported by Health Buddy System telehealth platform

Montefiore Care Guidance Program

- Goal: To demonstrate that supporting beneficiaries and providers with a comprehensive care coordination program can reduce medical expense in a high cost Medicare FFS population
- Program administered by CMO, the Care Management Company of Montefiore Medical Center
- Hybrid complex care management model with both provider-based and centrally located resources
- Comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment results in personalized problem list and care plan
- Care plans include wide range of interventions and are carried out by interdisciplinary teams of RNs, LPNs, SWs and patient educators supported by MDs, NP, pharmacist and nutritionist