Implementing Integrated Clinical Care Management in the Patient-Centered Medical Home

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Implementing Integrated Clinical Care Management in the Patient-Centered Medical Home

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND
Clinical Care Management (CCM) of the highest risk, most complex and costly patients is a key element of the Massachusetts Patient-Centered Medical Home Initiative (MA PCMH), and is a new service for most primary care practices. There is much confusion about the role of the Care Manager (CM), and a lack of awareness of key foundational elements critical to successful implementation of CCM.

AIMS
• Share approach to implementation of CCM in the MA PCMH
• Use care management and care coordination clinical quality measures to monitor implementation progress
• Share lessons learned in implementation process

METHODS

DESIGN:
• MA PCMH: - Multi-payer, statewide initiative, sponsored by MA Health & Human Services - 49 participating practice sites - 3-year demonstration; Start date: March 2011

INTERVENTION:
• Support for CCM implementation was provided by UMass Team through a learning collaborative, including monthly CCM Webinars and practice facilitation
• Developed CCM Implementation Model which includes the following domains:
  - Infrastructure and systems
  - CM role
  - Risk Stratification/Population of Focus
• UMass Facilitation and MA PCMH Practice Teams

MEASURES:
• % Hospitalized patients with follow-up after discharge
• % Highest risk patients with care plans

CARE MANAGER ROLE
• Leading and coordinating the CCM process
• Identifying, tracking and managing care of “highest risk” patients
• Overseeing the development and implementation of an integrated patient care plan for each highest risk patient
• Ongoing clinical assessment, monitoring and follow-up of highest risk patients
• Behavioral patient activation interventions, including motivational interviewing and self management support
• Patient teaching
• Medication review, reconciliation and coordination with a licensed professional for medication adjustment
• Intense medical and medication management
• Intense transition management
• Ensuring care coordination of highest risk patients across the practice and healthcare system

RESULTS
In the first 27 months of the MA PCMH, participating practices have significantly improved CCM by more consistently developing care plans for highest risk patients (*p < .0001).

LESSONS LEARNED
• Infrastructure and systems are critical foundational elements for effective CCM implementation
• Care coordination, clinical follow-up and CCM focus on different populations and include different services; team members need to be assigned to these functions and roles defined
• Identifying the population of focus for CCM through a standardized risk stratification method is the first step to ensuring effective and efficient CCM
• CCM requires an interdisciplinary team with clearly defined roles, scope of service and workflows, and the patient is a vital member of the team
• The CM oversees the development and implementation of an integrated care plan, assesses effectiveness and revises appropriately to meet goals, mitigate risk, and improve outcomes