



IMPROVING
QUALITY
AND CONTROLLING COST

IS POSSIBLE

**HEALTH CARE
EXECUTIVE TOOLKIT**



UNLOCKING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN QUALITY AND COST

Health care is changing. Spurred by delivery and payment reform and changing patient expectations, providers face the daily struggle of continually elevating their care quality while still controlling costs. New care delivery models place all hope of growth within the ability to realize the benefits of population health management like improving quality measures, strengthening the care delivery network, cultivating the right health plan relationships and improving patient engagement.

To unlock value and achieve growth, these strategies depend on a foundation of accurate, comprehensive and actionable data. Yet health care executives are often unable to see a complete picture of their operations. Data exists in silos, more than half of patient care is delivered outside the primary care system, and patient outcomes are often tied to social determinants of health that seem beyond a physician's control.



The resources within this toolkit are designed to help you take immediate action to assess, refine and expand your organization's ability to deliver improved care quality while controlling costs.

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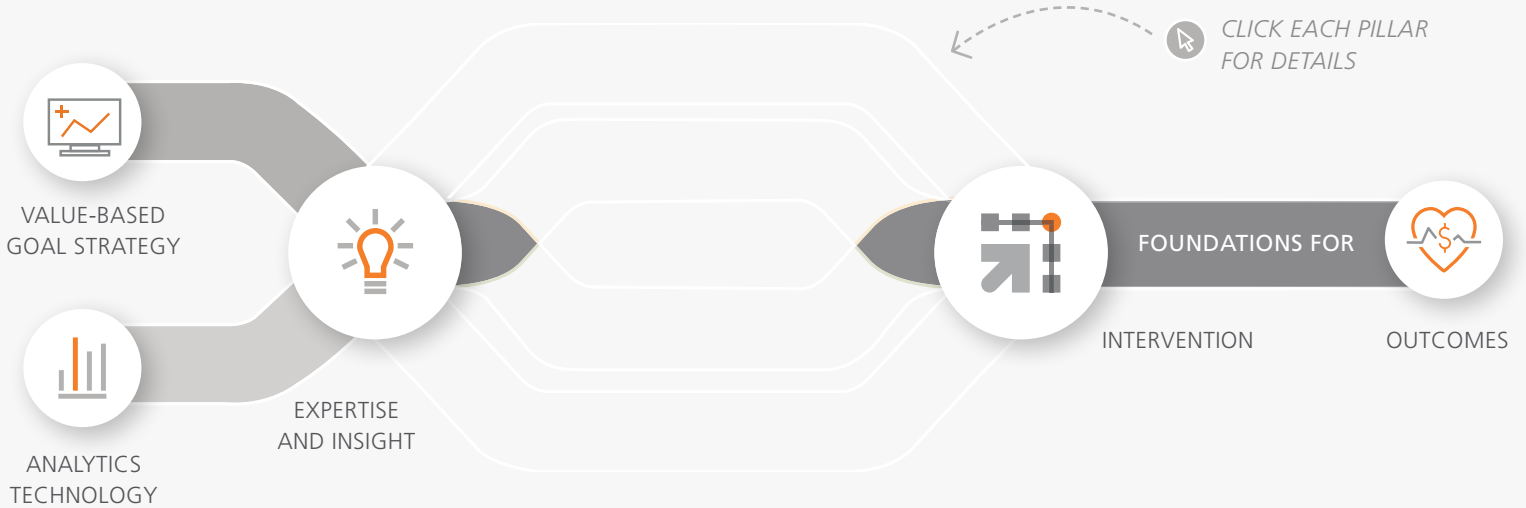
THE FOUR PILLARS OF A STRONG PHM FOUNDATION

Want to build an effective population health management (PHM) strategy? Focus on these four pillars.

Succeeding in a value-based world results from:

- Organizations embracing all aspects of population health
- Delivering necessary clinical and financial interventions to make the ecosystem work better

Source: Frost & Sullivan 2016 PHM Report

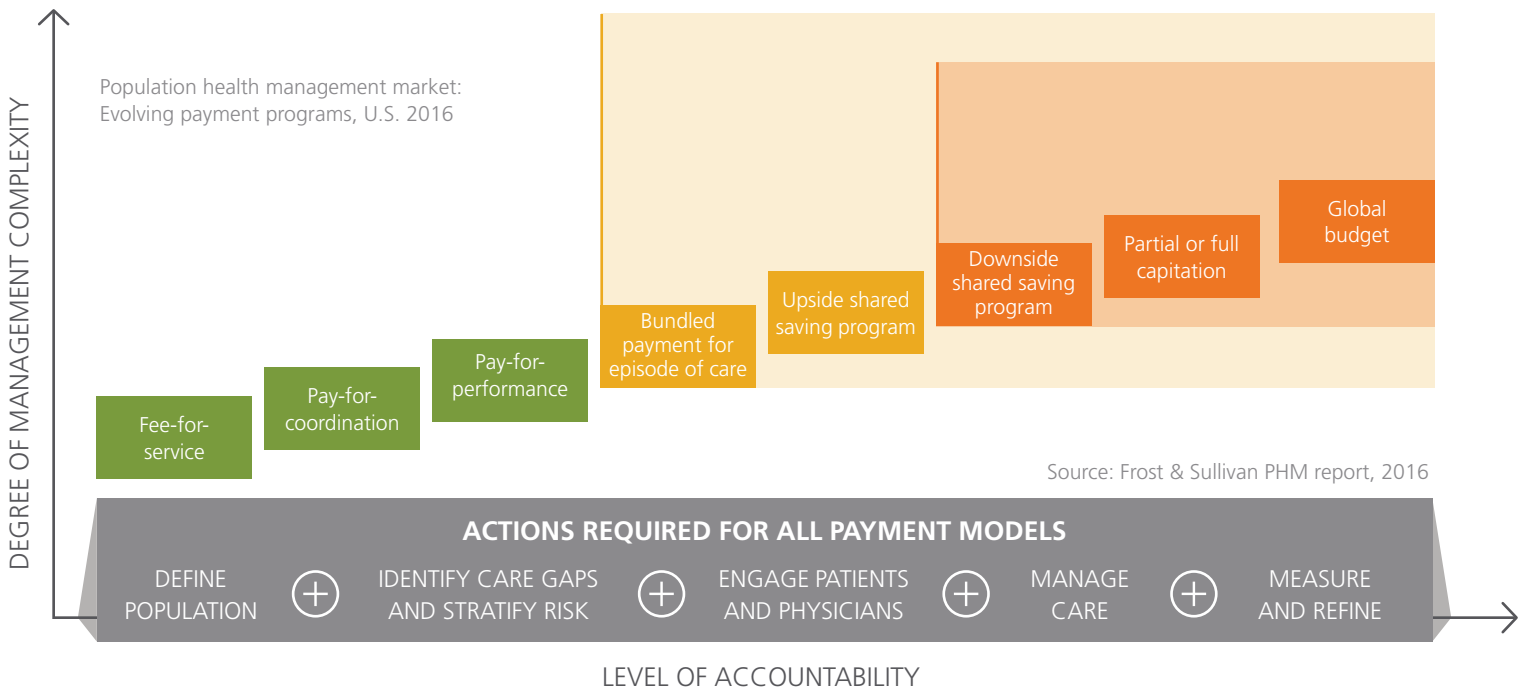


A complete PHM solution will need to analyze disparate patient data, highlight care improvement opportunities, manage delivery through coordination and engagement, serve up insights at the point of care, benchmark performance and mitigate financial risks.

VALUE-BASED CARE: RISK VS. REWARD

Value-based care (VBC) is a payment environment that rewards clinicians who deliver the highest-quality, most-efficient care. There are a variety of value-based-care models with escalating levels of accountability.

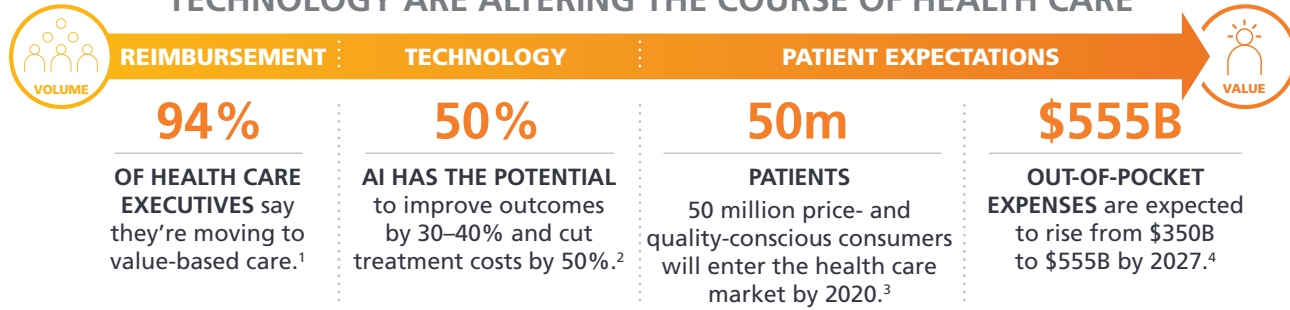
VALUE-BASED REIMBURSEMENTS TIE PROVIDER REVENUE TO PERFORMANCE



SOLVING THE HEALTH CARE PERFORMANCE CHALLENGE

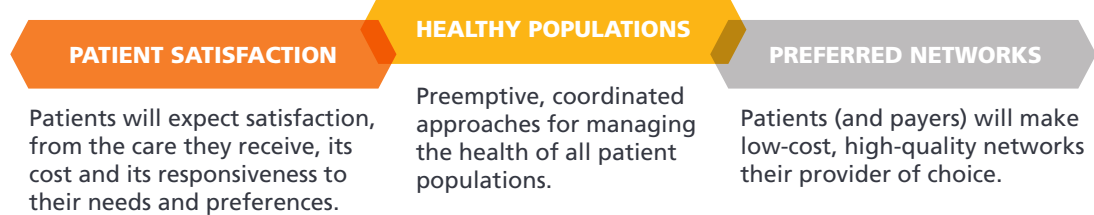
THE TREND

CHANGES IN PATIENT EXPECTATIONS, REIMBURSEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY ARE ALTERING THE COURSE OF HEALTH CARE



THE GOAL

COST-EFFECTIVE, HIGH-QUALITY CARE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



Quality, cost and consumer experience are the focus of the new health ecosystem.

THE POWER OF EXPERTISE



Bridge the performance gap with data and analytics capabilities.

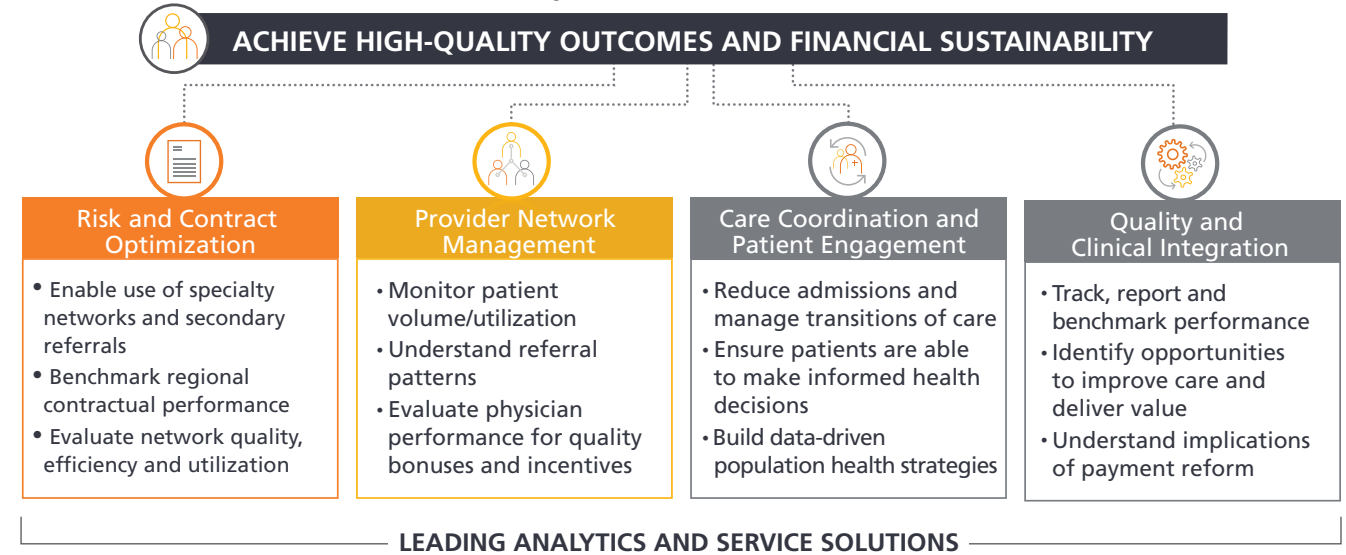
THE DESIGN

INTEGRATED DATA DRIVES EVIDENCE-BASED DECISIONS AND BETTER ACTIONS



THE ALIGNMENT

EXPERTISE, INSIGHT AND ACTION



THE RESULT

SUCCESS IN A CHANGING HEALTH CARE ENVIRONMENT



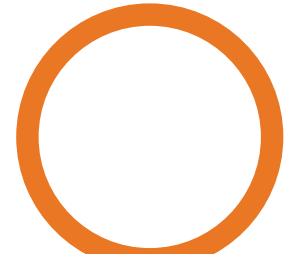
“Providers need to be very deliberate as they begin to transform towards alternative payment models. A great place to start is in analytics, to be able to analyze data and put it into action. At the same time, providers need to understand where the riskiest patients are and develop systems that reach those patients to keep them healthier for the long term.”
— Aric Sharp, Vice President of Accountable Care, UnityPoint Health

THE PITFALLS OF POOR ANALYTICS

While health care executives agree that aggregating data with analytics is important, not all analytics are equally valuable. Relying on poor analytics can leave care delivery systems without the meaningful insights necessary to have a positive effect on quality and cost.



CLICK ON ICONS BELOW TO REVEAL RISKS AND MITIGATIONS



PATIENT DATA

Patient-level metrics identify patients who need care management or focused support.



POPULATION DATA

Population-level metrics help providers identify and address broader population health trends within the attributed population.



SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Social factors like joblessness, illiteracy and social isolation affect clinical outcomes. The most useful patient-level social data helps redirect caregiver focus when serious nonmedical problems create barriers to care.

There are many sources of data you can and should pull from to better manage population health and improve your quality metrics.


“Analytics absolutely drives better care. It allows us to focus on our patients as a population, find who are the most vulnerable within our populations and address them in real time. Data analytics allows us to be proactive.”

— Mark DeRubeis, CEO, Premier Medical Associates

MAKE RISK CONTRACT NEGOTIATING LESS RISKY

Transitioning to risk-based contracts can be stressful. The process itself can be overwhelming, and providers are often at a disadvantage in the discussion. Make sure you're prepared for successful contract negotiations with these tips.

 *CLICK ON ICONS BELOW TO REVEAL DETAILS*



A grid of six horizontal lines arranged in three rows and two columns. The top row has an orange line on the left and a yellow line on the right. The middle row has a green line on the left and a teal line on the right. The bottom row has an orange line on the left and a yellow line on the right. A single green line is positioned below the bottom row, centered under the left column.

STEPS TO VALUE-BASED READINESS

All providers need to drive greater value and innovation to survive in this ever-changing health care landscape. Both economics and practicality prevent the journey to value-based care from being accomplished in a single step. Rather, providers will find it easier to gradually enhance their data and care delivery capabilities to reflect the changing needs of their contracts. The “next step” will depend upon where you currently sit on the journey. How prepared is your organization, and what should your next goal be?

ABILITY TO DELIVER ON VALUE-BASED-CARE RESPONSIBILITIES				
	STEP 1: BUILDING	STEP 2: OPTIMIZING	STEP 3: PERFORMING	STEP 4: INNOVATING
PATIENT ENGAGEMENT	Ad hoc provider interactions and patient outreach	Patients access simple decision aids; static portals	Automated patient outreach/scheduling; patient-enabled wellness programs	Fully bi-directional communication; complex patient decision support; interactive tools
CLINICAL PERFORMANCE	Episodic care	Standardized management of chronic and high-risk populations	Wellness-focused care; automated gaps-in-care alerts	Personalized medicine; remote care delivery
RISK & CONTRACT OPTIMIZATION	Enterprise financial reporting; fee-for-service models	Advanced cost accounting	Contract forecasting and modeling	Contract monitoring and optimization
PROVIDER NETWORK	Patient volume and utilization monitoring	Care delivery and performance gap analysis; enterprise physician reporting	Referral pattern analysis; physician quality incentives tied to performance	Vertical integration of patient care across regional provider organizations
DATA	Isolated interactions captured in EMR	Data aggregation and governance; increased data auto-throughput	Data interoperability across acute, ambulatory and specialist care	Complete data interoperability across all providers
ANALYTICS	EMR-based reporting; basic segmentation; cost-of-care reporting	Population health analytics; physician scoring; risk stratification	Predictive and prescriptive analytics; pattern identification	Real-time behavioral, social and environmental data with predictive care decisions; real-time operational analytics

“Those who are most successful often deploy innovative delivery models; analyzing data and trends in a population’s health, quality, and costs; and bearing financial risk. Value-based payment contracts reward providers for successfully executing these processes.”

— Deloitte, [Deloitte 2017 Survey of U.S. Health System CEOs](#)



A range of value-based contracts

Value-based care can refer to a variety of contracts that require providers to positively influence quality of care. Most providers will operate under multiple value-based models simultaneously, including:

- Focused risk-based contracts
- Formalized VBC delivery models (ACO/patient-centered medical home (PCMH))
- High volume of shared-risk contracts
- Fully capitated care models

BUILD YOUR PROVIDER NETWORK TO REFLECT YOUR VALUE-BASED-CARE VISION

For your organization to improve quality measures and reduce cost, your provider network has to align with your payer and care management strategies. These six steps can help your organization identify your best-performing physicians and refine your provider network strategy.

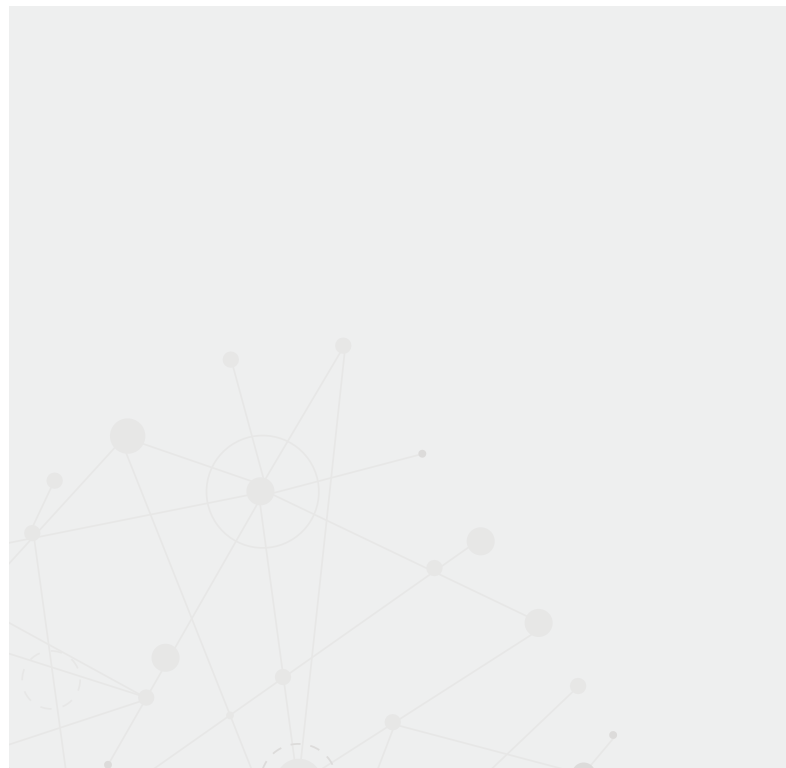
“We have a whole team that’s dedicated to revamping our entire referral process. High quality at the best cost is really another important responsibility that we have, especially the primary care providers.”

— Stephanie Copeland, Chief Quality Officer,
USMD Health System

BE AWARE OF THE CHALLENGES

Value-based care will drive providers to continually improve outcomes and lower costs. Common challenges include:

- **Incompatible data:** Most provider organizations lack a common EMR or platform to aggregate patient data.
- **Insufficient analytics:** Many analytic tools lack the ability to identify specific actions necessary to implement data insights.
- **Nationwide shortage of skilled specialists.**
- **Referral disconnects:** Quality and cost of care become more difficult to manage when patients visit specialists beyond a hospital’s visibility.



CLICK ON + TO REVEAL THE ANSWER



THE DUAL FOCUS:

Delivering on today's FFS needs while preparing for the value-based future

Providers don't have the luxury of closing, restructuring, retraining and then reopening under a new care delivery model. They must prepare for the value-based future while still delivering on the obligations of today. The provider network's strategy — and the population health management (PHM) strategy that underpins it — must focus on both the present and the future at the same time.



CLICK EACH NUMBER BELOW TO NAVIGATE THROUGH THE 6 STEPS

6 STEPS TO DELIVER ON THE PROMISE OF CARE COORDINATION

A clear care coordination strategy allows care delivery systems to achieve success in value-based care. Enabling clinicians to work at the top of their licenses allows them to make the greatest contribution possible with their time, raising care team satisfaction and cost efficiency. Follow these steps to help make care coordination work for your facility.

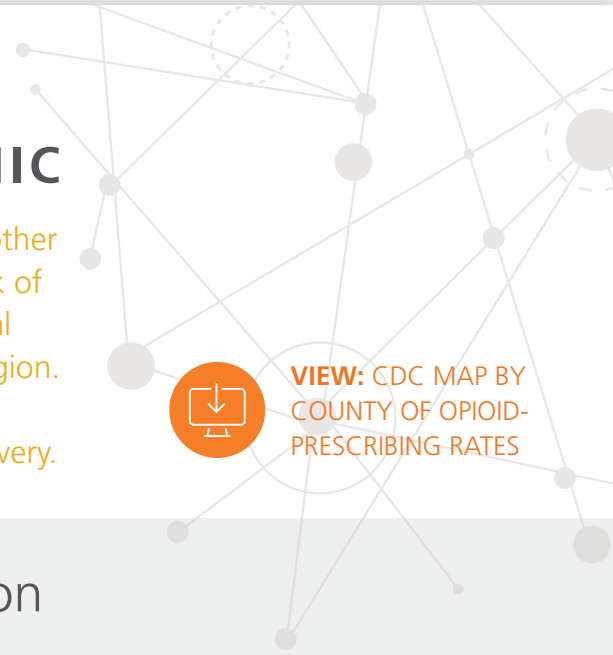


“Spending some time to give a patient a relatively inexpensive vaccine may prevent a very costly hospitalization down the line. Making an investment in getting more patients screened for colon cancer will lead to the result that you will have fewer patients in your practice who suffer the devastating effects of late-stage colon cancer and the costs that are associated with that.”

— Frank Colangelo, Chief Quality Officer, Premier Medical Associates

COMBATING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Opioids are a useful and necessary part of treatment for pain and other medical conditions, but these powerful drugs come with a high risk of misuse and dependency. Opioid abuse and misuse is now a national epidemic, impacting lives with no regard to age, race, wealth or region. Providers can take steps to prevent opioid abuse, provide effective treatment for those affected and support long-term individual recovery.



The opioid situation

[CLICK THE NUMBERS BELOW TO REVEAL OPIOID USE BY THE NUMBERS](#)

80% 70%

Strategies to Manage



[CLICK TO NAVIGATE THROUGH THE 3 STRATEGIES](#)

HARNESSING CONSUMERISM TO ENGAGE PATIENTS

Historically, consumers have been shielded from the true cost of health care, but high-deductible plans and health exchanges have resulted in a wave of increased consumer interest and involvement in their health care coverage, treatment and lifestyle decisions.

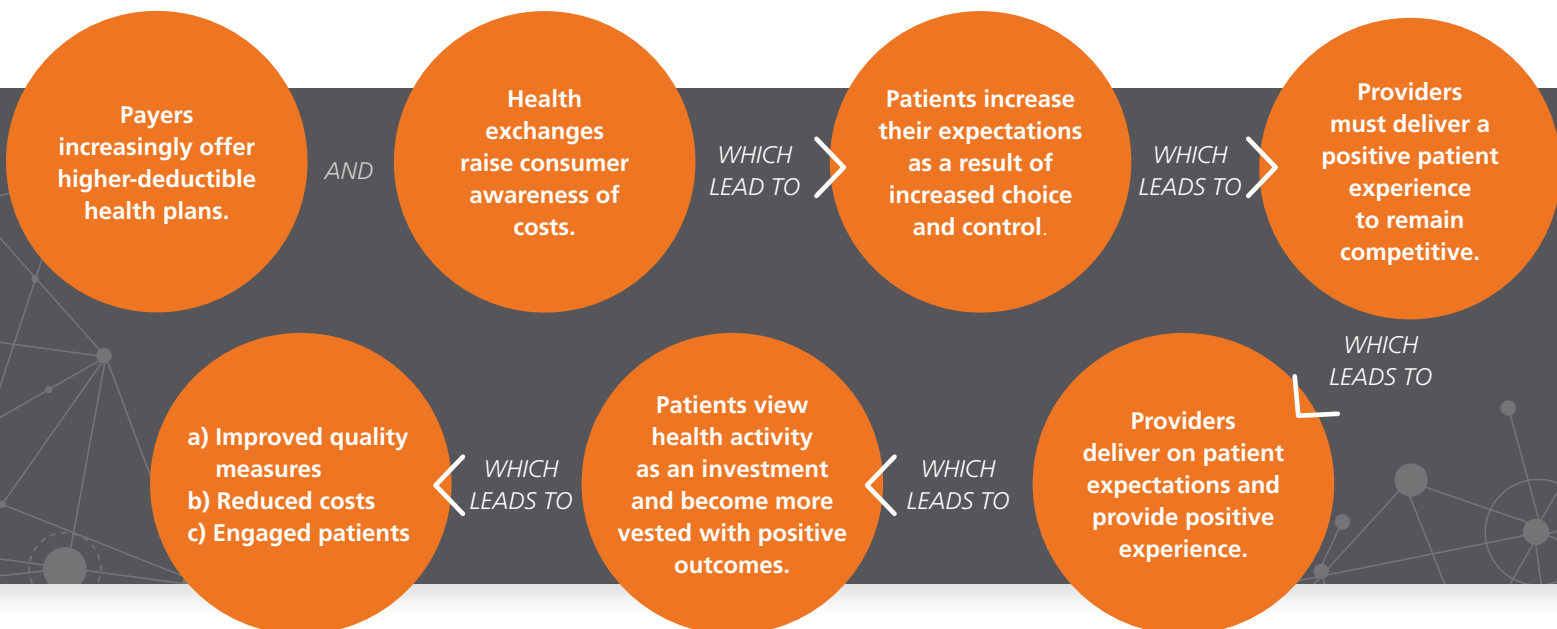
DELIVERING ON CONSUMER EXPECTATIONS

“More than ever before patients have more skin in the game, they have higher deductibles, they have more choice than ever before. If you don't have a good patient experience in your health system, someone else will take those patients.”

— Donn Sorensen, President, Mercy Health

ENGAGING PATIENTS TO IMPROVE QUALITY

Helping consumers navigate the complex health care system allows providers to harness the consumerism trend and influence factors affecting quality measures that are typically beyond their control.



FOUR BUDGET-FRIENDLY TIPS FOR POPULATION HEALTH MANAGEMENT

LESS COMPLEX AND COSTLY INVESTMENTS CAN DELIVER AN ROI. As more risk shifts from payers to care provider organizations, indicators are pointing to the expense and complexity of practicing medicine increasing to match that risk. Estimates on preparing for value-based care range in the millions, with many care provider organizations responding by pouring resources into their operations, often without measurable improvement in quality or satisfaction to show for it. However, that doesn't have to be the outcome. Below are some effective PHM efforts that can bring a return — without the high price tag.



CLICK EACH TIP FOR DETAILS

TIP

1

ESTABLISH A SHARED VISION OR PURPOSE

TIP

2

IMPLEMENT A ZERO-BASED EXPENSE MODEL

TIP

3

TRANSPARENCY IS FREE — AND IT WORKS

TIP

4

REINVENT PATIENT INTAKE AND ONBOARDING PROCESSES

A shared vision. Thoughtful technology investments. Critical cultural shifts. Modern patient relationships.

Modern providers invest in what matters. Considering the strategic importance of population health, connecting EMRs and advanced analytics empowers and enables efforts to improve the quality and completeness of care. However, aiming for patients who are happier and allowing physicians to remember why they got into medicine doesn't always require large monetary investments.

THE EMR IS A FOUNDATION — NOT A SOLUTION — FOR PHM

Effective population health management — as well as the uncovering of insights and the clinical interventions needed to achieve specific quality goals — depends upon having analytic tools that extend beyond the electronic medical record (EMR).

“[EMRs] are great repositories of the critical patient data necessary to make PHM work, but few are equipped with the proper data analysis functionality needed to support risk stratification and produce actionable information based on predictive analytics.”
— [Becker's Hospital Review](#)



SCOPE OF EMR

- Patient encounter data
- Database of isolated transactions
- Limited analysis
- Documentation improvement
- Clinician access to complete PHI
- Better PHI privacy and security
- More-effective diagnoses

OUTSIDE SCOPE OF EMR

- Social determinants of health data
- Claims data
- Clearinghouse data
- Population stratification and health cohort data
- No interoperability with different systems and other EMRs
- Operational reporting
- Financial ramifications of care decision patterns
- Care coordination insights
- Decision support
- Predictive analytics based on post-treatment efficacy analyses
- Identification of specific clinical interventions
- Patient engagement
- Measure adherence to protocols and variability of care

A BRIEF HISTORY OF EMRs



However, these EMRs were designed to fulfill existing regulations, not provide care coordination or analytics.

“Meaningful use” regulations drove care delivery systems to adopt EMRs.



Now providers need robust analytics to improve quality measures and control costs as the market moves toward value-based care.



Ultimately, EMRs are repositories of isolated health care transactions and were never intended to serve as longitudinal analytic tools to meet the needs of modern risk-sharing entities.



To respond to the need, EMR companies are scrambling to bolt analytics tools onto their base EMR.



DATA VS. ANALYTICS VS. INSIGHTS VS. ACTIONS

Value-based care requires analytics that identify specific clinical actions that apply meaningful insights to positively influence quality measures. Let's explore what each of these elements really means and how you can achieve them.

CLICK EACH SECTION
FOR DETAILS



DATA



ANALYTICS



INSIGHTS



ACTIONS

NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING: AI WITH AN ROI

Many vendors make bold claims about artificial intelligence (AI), but innovation for the sake of innovation isn't enough.

Health care providers need to see a return on any analytic investment they make. Natural language processing (NLP) is one way AI can help providers convert the potential within their health data into quality improvement and cost savings.

Natural language processing is an AI technology that actually makes sense for health care.

WHAT is natural language processing?

- Computational linguistics technology within the field of artificial intelligence.
- Using NLP, the computer can read, interpret and organize important health data that is buried in unstructured FREE-TEXT fields, such as physician's notes.
- Converts complex clinical narratives into actionable data points and insights.

WHY is NLP important?

- 80% of health record content is unstructured (such as descriptions, text fields and narrative notes) and doesn't fit into easily actionable categories.
- Extracting valuable information from this unstructured data is done manually and is time-consuming.
- NLP enhances the return on hospitals' electronic medical record (EMR) and analytic investments by improving the amount of usable data and enhancing analytic insights.

HOW does NLP work?

- NLP takes this large variety of source documentation and organizes it into actionable and indexable data.
 - NLP preserves the context of medical information, paving the way for in-depth analysis.
- Insights gleaned from NLP-augmented clinical data, adjudicated claims data and other data sources provide new ways for organizations to respond quickly and with material impact on care quality and cost.

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