



# STAKEHOLDER INNOVATION GROUP



Tuesday October 22, 2019



Maryland  
Hospital Association

# PROGRESS REPORT ON STATE PRIORITIES



Creating forums  
for collaboration  
at multiple levels  
with diverse  
stakeholder  
groups



Aligning financial  
incentives  
throughout the  
care continuum



Testing new  
models through  
pilots



Continue focus on  
hard to place  
patients

Informed by Data



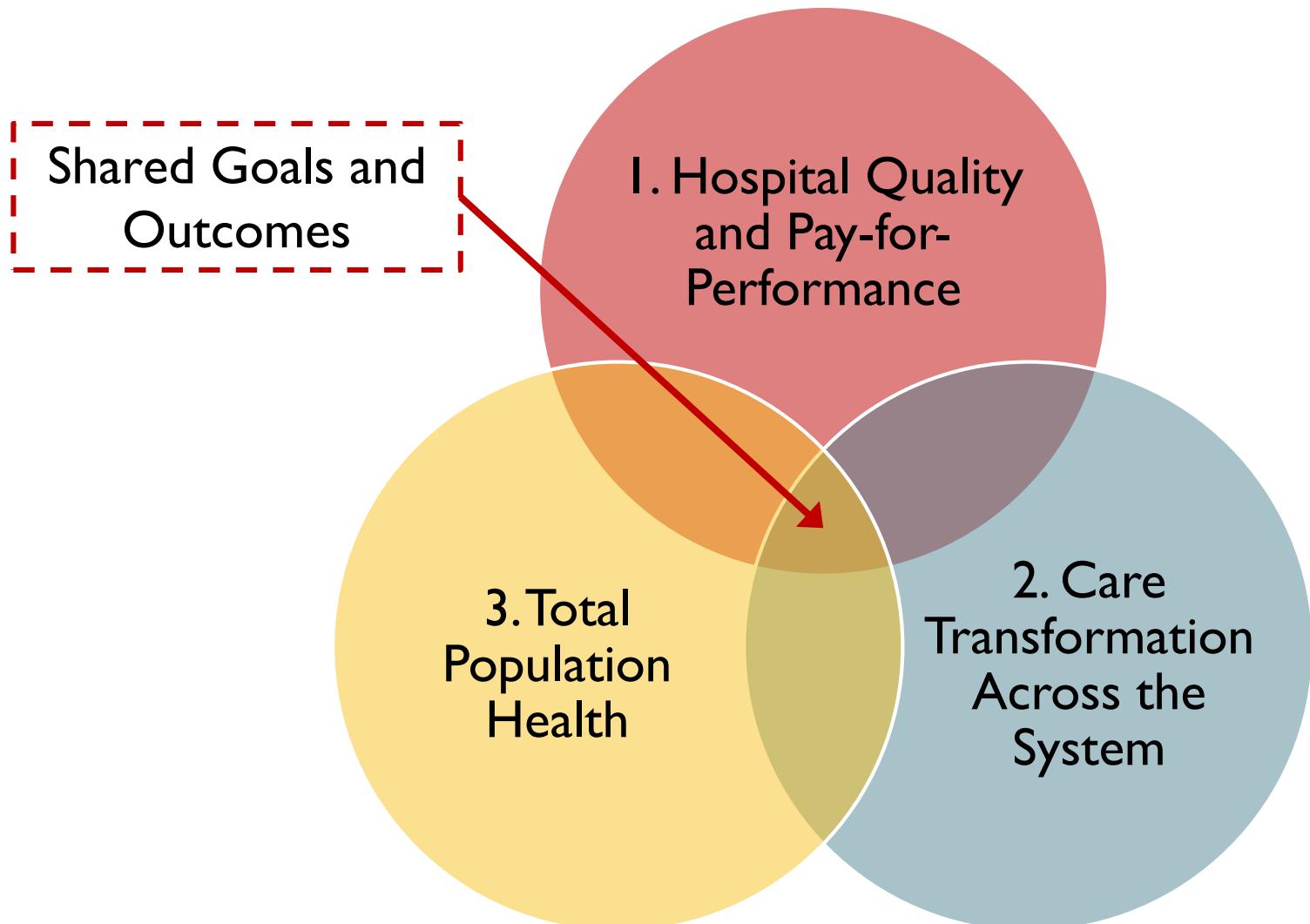
*October 22, 2019*

## Statewide Integrated Health Improvement Strategy

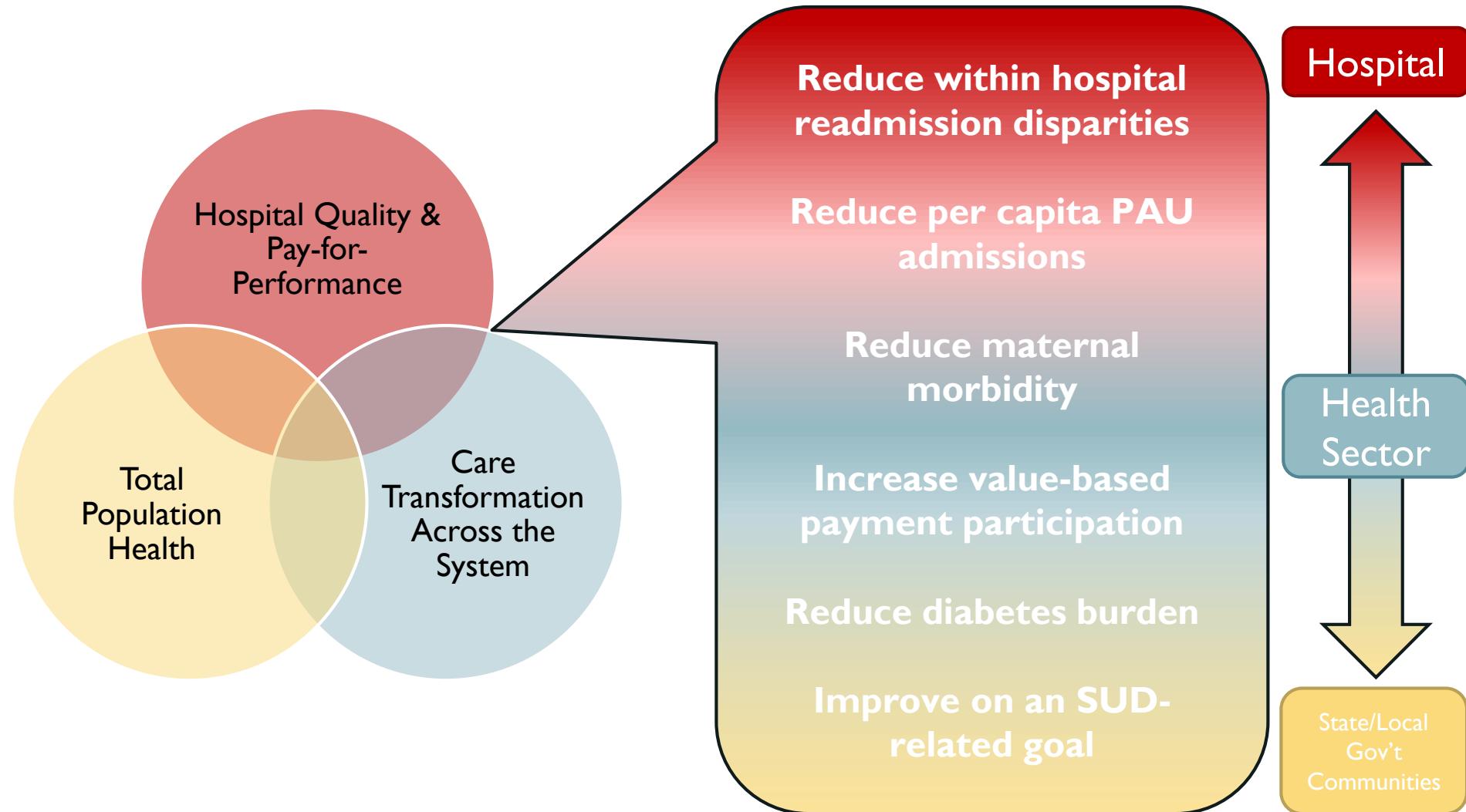
Tequila Terry  
Health Services Cost Review Commission



# Statewide Integrated Health Improvement Strategy



## Potential Examples of Shared Outcomes and Goals



# Guiding Principles for Maryland's Integrated Health Improvement Strategy

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- ▶ Maryland's strategy should fully **maximize the population health improvement opportunities** made possible by the Model
- ▶ Goals, measures, and targets should be **specific to Maryland** and established through a collaborative public process
- ▶ Goals, measures and targets should reflect an **all-payer perspective**
- ▶ Goals, measures and targets should capture statewide improvements, including **improved health equity**
- ▶ Goals for the three domains of the integrated strategy should be **synergistic and mutually reinforcing**
- ▶ Measures should be focused on **outcomes whenever possible**; milestones, including process measures, may be used to signal progress toward the targets
- ▶ Maryland's strategy must **promote public and private partnerships** with shared resources and infrastructure

# 1. Hospital Quality & Pay-for-Performance under the TCOC Model

Refine existing hospital pay-for-performance programs and quality reporting

Develop paradigm for including population health metrics into pay-for-performance, monitoring, and various HSCRC financial methodology applications

- ▶ Maintain waivers from CMS
- ▶ Maximize all-payer opportunity
- ▶ Sustain and improve high quality care under capitated hospital model
- ▶ Monitor additional types of performance metrics for holistic evaluation of hospital quality
- ▶ Align with outcomes-based credit
- ▶ Foster hospital accountability for population health
- ▶ Utilize HSCRC hospital pay-for-performance expertise to support and align with other state value based initiatives to achieve statewide population health goals

## 2. Care Transformation Across the System

- ▶ Objective: Create measure(s) of progress toward improved statewide outcomes and meaningful development of care transformation in Maryland
- ▶ Example: Structural measure of share of Medicare beneficiaries in Category 3

<b><u>Category 1</u></b> No change in practice of care	<b><u>Category 2</u></b> Providers accept value-based payments for patients in their own setting of care	<b><u>Category 3</u></b> Providers financially accountable for value and care quality for a population regardless of setting*
E.g., FFS payments for providers  Some link to value and quality of care may be included (e.g., MIPS) but do not fundamentally change the incentives	E.g., Hospitals under global budgets accountable for services in the hospital  Moves to value within own setting but little/no financial accountability for outcomes or what happens in other settings	E.g., ACO, ECIP, EQIP  This could be an attribution-based approach (e.g., ACO, ECIP, EQIP) or it could include self-defined populations (e.g., hospitals' Care Transformation Initiatives)

### 3. Total Population Health

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► **Objective:** Identify population health focus areas that the State will work to improve as part of the Total Cost of Care Model.

#### Priority Area 1: Diabetes

- Identified as a statewide priority by Maryland State Secretary of Health

#### Priority Area 2: Opioid Use Disorder

- Identified as a statewide priority by Lieutenant Governor through the Maryland Heroin and Opioid Emergency Task Force (2015-2018) and the Commission to Study Mental and Behavioral Health (2019)

#### Priority Area 3: TBD

- The State may choose a 3<sup>rd</sup> population health focus area by December 31, 2020.

## What Has CMMI Said?

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- ▶ CMMI insists that for the TCOC Model to be “expanded” (made permanent) based on data through 2021:
  - ▶ Targets must be set and progress shown in the 3 domains
    - ▶ Hospital quality
    - ▶ Care transformation
    - ▶ Population health
  - ▶ Would require the State to establish targets in all three domains as soon as possible in 2020
  - ▶ Although outcomes are preferred to show success, they are less likely to be obtained in 2021 data
  - ▶ Each goal /measure could have, for example, a 2021 milestone, a 2023 interim target, and a 2026 target

# Statewide Integrated Health Improvement Strategy: Our Approach

## Gather Data & Set the Goals

- Establish a collaborative process to select targets, measures and milestones
  - Hospital Quality and Pay-for-Performance (HSCRC Performance Measurement Workgroup)
  - Care Transformation Across the System (HSCRC TCOC Workgroup)
  - Total Population Health (MDH Diabetes Action Team)

## Resource the Goals

- Develop multisector alignment of investments and accountability

## Message the Goals

- Develop communications/outreach strategy for statewide engagement

## Act on the Goals

- Launch and support a statewide network of effective change

## Monitor the Progress

- Evaluate outcomes, reassess investments, adjust approaches accordingly



# Structure of Statewide Integrated Health Improvement Strategy

Domain	2021 Milestone	2023 Interim Target	2026 Target
<b>1. Hospital Quality and Pay-for-Performance</b>			
<b>2. Care Transformation Across the System</b>			
<b>3. Total Population Health</b>			

- As noted earlier, measures won't always fit solely into one domain – which is good, showing the complementary nature of statewide efforts under the Model.

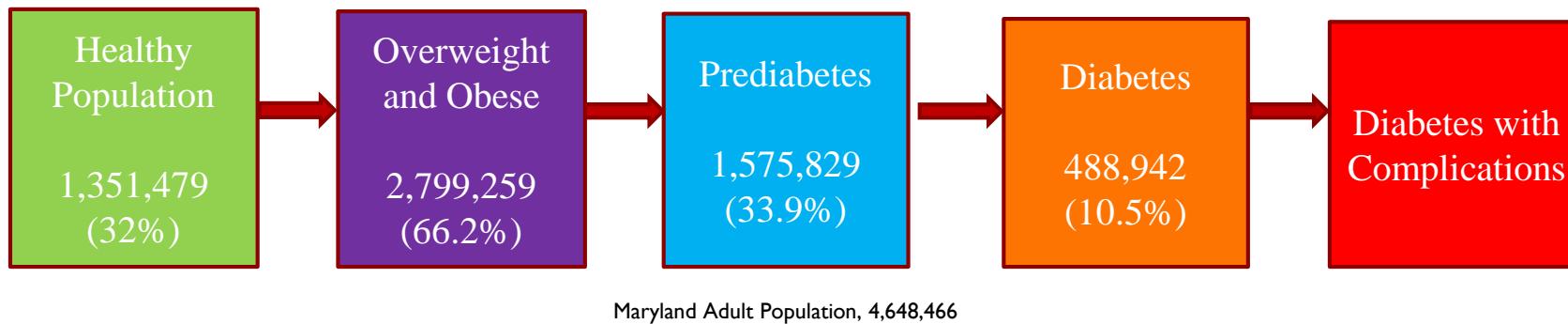


## Total Population Health: Activities Underway



# Priority Area 1: Diabetes

- ▶ Leading cause of preventable death and disability
- ▶ Increasing prevalence reflecting significant racial, ethnic and economic disparities
- ▶ Evidence-based interventions (EBIs) can prevent or delay onset and improve outcomes
- ▶ Maryland Medicaid launching Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) this Fall
- ▶ Diabetes/obesity cited as a priority by every jurisdiction's Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC) and every hospital's Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)
- ▶ Strong private sector support for a sustained statewide initiative
- ▶ Success provides credit in TCOC Agreement



Data from: US Census; 2017 Maryland BRFSS, and for Prediabetes, CDC Fact Sheet for NHANES US prediabetes estimates applied to Maryland adult population.

# Diabetes Action Plan

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- ▶ The Maryland Department of Health has released a draft **Diabetes Action Plan** to foster activity and enthusiasm to reduce the risk, consequences and cost of diabetes.
  
- ▶ The plan is comprised of 4 sections:
  - ▶ *Section I:* The Burden and Consequences of Diabetes
  - ▶ *Section II:* Determinants and Risk Factors for Diabetes
  - ▶ *Section III:* Intervention Strategies and Action Steps for Diabetes Prevention and Control
  - ▶ *Section IV:* Inventory of Diabetes-related Resources.
  
- ▶ Action is needed for:
  - ▶ People at a **healthy weight**, so they may prevent overweight and obesity
  - ▶ People who are **overweight and obese**, so they may achieve a healthy weight
  - ▶ People with **prediabetes and gestational diabetes**, so they may easily take part in prevention programs to halt disease progression
  - ▶ People with **diabetes**, so they may control their disease, get the proper medical care they need to manage their disease and enjoy their optimum health.



# Diabetes Action Plan

- ▶ Maryland's draft **Diabetes Action Plan** is open for public comment  
[https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/CCDPC/Pages/ccdpc\\_home.aspx](https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/CCDPC/Pages/ccdpc_home.aspx)
- ▶ Throughout the comments period, MDH will continue to refine the draft plan and will indicate the addition of any new material.
- ▶ The final plan will be released before the end of 2019.



# Diabetes: Next Steps

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## **ALIGN RESOURCES, MESSAGES AND ACTION**

- ▶ Develop and Implement a Statewide Communication Plan
- ▶ Convene Local Health Improvement Coalitions
- ▶ Engage Providers Across the Care Spectrum
- ▶ Launch an Interactive Online Inventory of Diabetes Resources
- ▶ Engage Academia in Building Evidence around Effective Strategies
- ▶ Engage Payers Beyond CareFirst
- ▶ Engage Businesses and Residents in Why and How
- ▶ Report to CMMI on Progress

# Regional Partnership Catalyst Grant Program

- ▶ The HSCRC staff is proposing a new “**Regional Partnership Catalyst Grant Program**” that would begin on July 1, 2020.
- ▶ The Regional Partnership Catalyst Grant Program will help support and align resources for the Statewide Integrated Health Improvement Strategy
- ▶ Widespread collaboration is a requirement for funding
  - ▶ Partnership models must include a variety of resources that influence health

## Funding Stream I: Diabetes Prevention & Management Programs

- Support implementation of CDC approved diabetes prevention programs
- Support diabetes management programs

## Funding Stream II: Behavioral Health Crisis Services

- Support implementation or expansion of behavioral health models that improve access to crisis services

## Funding Stream III: Population Health Priority Area #3

- To be defined by December 31, 2020

# Funding Stream I: Diabetes Prevention & Management

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- ▶ The diabetes funding stream will award grants to Regional Partnerships that choose to implement the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP)
- ▶ As an additional component of the diabetes funding stream, the HSCRC will also promote and track development of diabetes management services
  - ▶ Medicare Diabetes Self-Management Training (DSMT)
  - ▶ Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT)
- ▶ Regional Partnerships will be tasked with expanding the number of MDPP suppliers across the State and getting Medicare beneficiaries enrolled with the long-term goal of losing weight.
- ▶ Proposed grant term: 5 years
- ▶ Rationale:
  - ▶ Promotion of an evidence-based program with demonstrated long-term results
  - ▶ Supports the statewide Diabetes Action Plan
  - ▶ Alignment with Medicaid and commercial payers
  - ▶ Funding mechanism exists beyond grant funds



# Funding Stream II: Behavioral Health Crisis Services

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- ▶ The behavioral health crisis services funding stream will award grants to develop and expand capacity for comprehensive crisis management services
- ▶ Grants would be used to support programs that align with the “Crisis Now: Transforming Services is Within Our Reach” action plan developed by the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention
  - ▶ Crisis Call Center & “Air Traffic Control” Services
  - ▶ Community-Based Mobile Crisis Teams
  - ▶ Short-term, “sub-acute” residential crisis stabilization programs
- ▶ The HSCRC staff would also consider other evidence-based crisis programs and services that may be appropriate to address region specific needs
- ▶ Proposed grant term: 5 years
- ▶ Rationale:
  - ▶ Promotion of interventions to assist in reducing unnecessary ED and hospital utilization
  - ▶ Intended to help address the gaps in capacity that exist

# Regional Partnership Catalyst Grant Program: Next Steps

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- ▶ If program is approved, HSCRC would launch an RFA to consider applications for funding effective for July 1, 2020
  
- ▶ The HSCRC staff will form an unbiased evaluation committee that will include subject matter experts on Diabetes and Behavioral Health crisis management
  
- ▶ Public comments are being accepted on the design of the Regional Partnership Catalyst Grant Program
  - ▶ Comments period ends October 23, 2019
  - ▶ Comments should be emailed to [hscrc.rfp-implement@maryland.gov](mailto:hscrc.rfp-implement@maryland.gov)



# Thank You

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# Episode Quality Improvement Program (EQIP)\*

\* Formerly known as EEP (Enhanced Episode Program)

10/22/19 SIG

Bad News: For years, CMMI has excluded Maryland from many models or limited take-up

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- ▶ **Bundled Payments for Care Improvement Advanced (BPCI Advanced)**
- ▶ **Oncology Care Model (OCM)**
- ▶ **New Radiation Oncology (RO) Model**
- ▶ **Comprehensive ESRD Care Model (CEC)**
- ▶ **Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+)**

Good News: Maryland Model now permits developing our own versions

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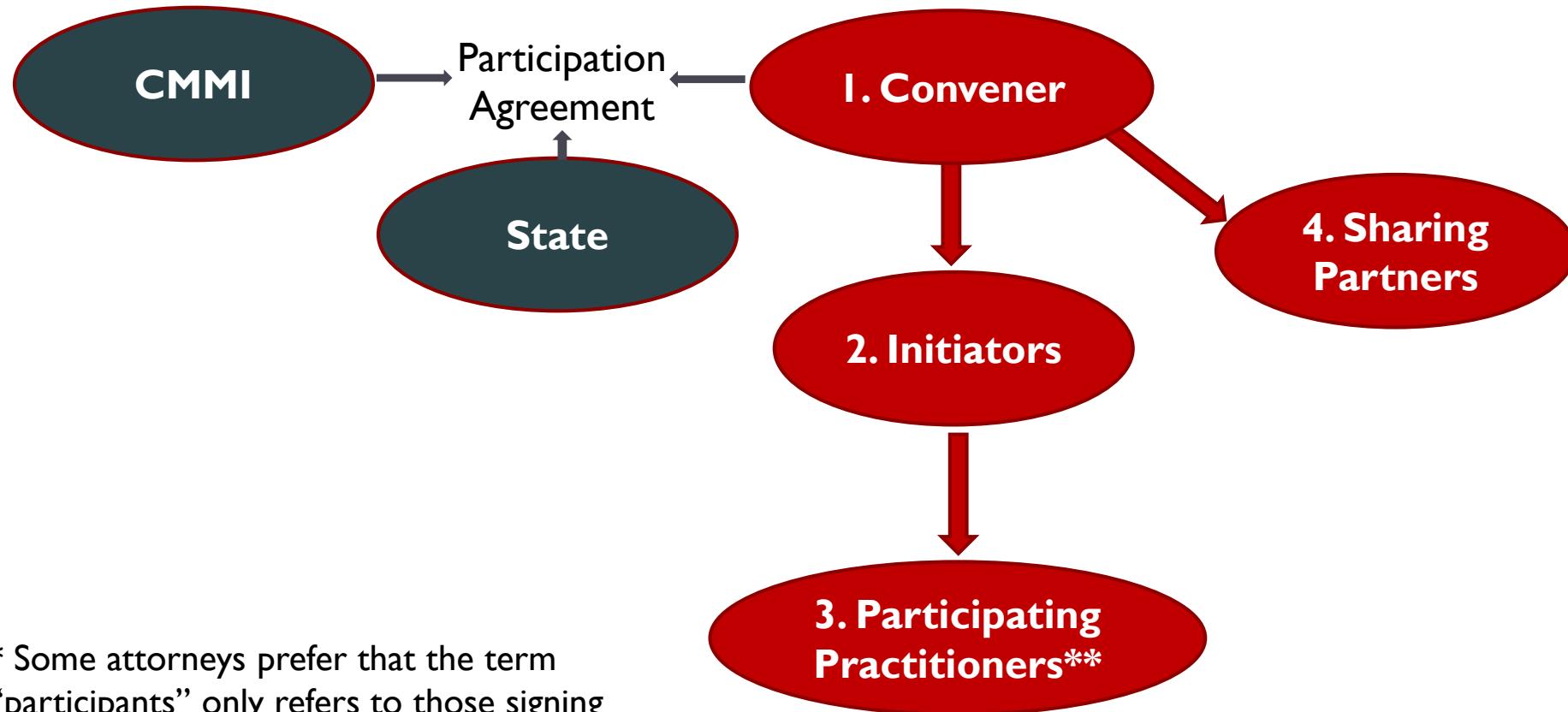
- ▶ Episode Quality Improvement Program (expected start date January 2021):
  - ▶ Which clinical categories of episodes?
- ▶ Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP started January 2019)
- ▶ Also, CMMI permitting Maryland providers into newest proposed kidney models (ETC, KCF, CKCC)

# Episode Quality Improvement Program (EQIP): Overview and goals

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- ▶ EQIP is episode-based payment program designed for non-hospital providers to:
  - ▶ Include more providers in a value-based payment framework
  - ▶ Include more episodes than in CMMI models
  - ▶ Broaden access to Medicare's 5% Advanced APM opportunity
  - ▶ Encourage multi-payer alignment
- ▶ As with all TCOC Model programs (except for MDPCP), participants (Conveners in EQIP context) must accept more-than-nominal downside risk
  - ▶ Episode Initiators (e.g., physician participants) can participate through a Convener and agree on risk/reward arrangement
- ▶ Targeted start date of January 2021, with RFA Spring 2020

# EQIP's Types of “Participants”\*



\* Some attorneys prefer that the term “participants” only refers to those signing the Participation Agreement (PA). In EQIP, that would be only Conveners, plus CMMI and the State.

► 27      \*\* Only needed if (1) the Initiator is a PGP or Facility, and (2) that Initiator wants to share payments with their practitioners.

# EQIP's Types of Participants: 1. Conveners

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## I. Episode Conveners

- ▶ APM Entity that bears the risk
- ▶ Legal entity like an ACO, CTO, or a Participant in BPCI-A
- ▶ Respond to Request for Applications (RFA), sign Participation Agreement (PA), and submit Implementation Protocol (IP)
- ▶ Expecting no more than a couple dozen Episode Conveners (but no State/Federal restriction on number)
- ▶ Enter into agreement with Episode Initiators
- ▶ Provide their Episode Initiators with resources and support, for example:
  - Technical assistance, outreach and education, enrollment support
  - Care management resources
  - Episode management and analytics

# EQIP's Types of “Participants”: 2. Initiators

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## 2. Episode Initiators

- ▶ Do not sign PA with CMMI and State
- ▶ Medicare suppliers and providers (e.g., doctors) that:
  - Initiate clinical episodes,
  - Implement care intervention plans,
  - Treat patients
- ▶ Enter into agreement with Convener
  - CMMI and State not a party
- ▶ NPIs like those on:
  - ACO list,
  - MDPCP practice roster, or
  - CRP Certified Care Partner list

# EQIP's Types of “Participants”: 3. Participating Practitioners 4. Sharing Partners

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## **3. Participating Practitioners**

- ▶ If the Initiator is a PGP or a facility, they may want to share payments with their individual downstream practitioners

## **4. Sharing Partners**

- ▶ The Convener may want to share incentive payments with non-Initiator organizations (e.g., with a PAC facility that is helping reduce readmissions and TCOC but is not an Initiator)

# EQIP Track Components

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- I. Episode(s) description, including:**
  - ▶ Triggering Service identifiable through claims
  - ▶ Duration of Episode
  - ▶ Qualifications: Eligible Medicare providers
  - ▶ Medicare spending included/excluded (e.g., above 99<sup>th</sup> percentile)
  - ▶ Care interventions, as specified in EQIP Track Template
- 2. Reconciliation Payment Methodology (target prices & quality adjustments)**
- 3. Risk Component (e.g., 3% discount factor before upside payment)**

# EQIP: Simplified hypothetical example

## Actual details TBD

- ▶ Convener elects to take responsibility for Medicare TCOC for:
  - ▶ Triggered by [CPT code(s)]
  - ▶ For spending over [90] days
- ▶ The Convener's average Medicare TCOC is \$10,000 per beneficiary
  - ▶ CMS wants its 3% savings – Discount Factor → \$9,700 target
  - ▶ Across the Convener's patients, if the Convener's average per beneficiary spending falls below \$9,700 (assuming certain quality metrics are met), Convener receives payment from Medicare
  - ▶ On the other hand, average Medicare TCOC above \$\_\_\_\_\_ will require a payment from the Convener
- ▶ Because Maryland hospitals operate under a global budget, reductions in Medicare hospital utilization do not produce a one-for-one savings to Medicare
  - ▶ Performance on hospital spending will be discounted by ~50%

# ORTHOPEDIC BUNDLED PAYMENT MODEL

Section 1: Submitter Information	
Name	Dr. Nicholas Grosso
Title	President
Organization or Affiliation	The Centers for Advanced Orthopaedics
Email	ngrosso@cfaortho.com
Phone Number	443-520-5770
Date of submission	September 2019
Section 2: Payment Model Idea Overview	
Name	Orthopedic Bundled Payment Model
Description of Idea	Establishes an episode of care payment model for patients receiving certain orthopedic services. Payment structure incentivizes evidence-based practices that can lead to better care quality and reduced costs. Would fit in State's proposed Episode Quality Improvement Program (EQIP).
Objective	<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of disease burden <input type="checkbox"/> Provision of alternative clinical services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Streamlining of available services (i.e. improved patient choice) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce per capita cost <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce total cost of care (TCOC) <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Section 3: Payment Model Idea Details	
Target Population	Medicare beneficiaries that receive certain orthopedic services. Patient attributed to provider when select CPT and/or ICD-10 codes are triggered in Medicare Part B claims for participating physician or physician practice.
Description of Intervention(s)	<p>Using claims-based trigger codes to identify Medicare beneficiaries, an episode payment model will be created to pay providers treating patients receiving certain orthopedic services. Consistent with SIG and CMMI requirements, the model would have two-sided risk, would qualify as an Advanced APM, and would make payments retrospectively based on performance.</p> <p>The specific orthopedic services are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hip Replacement &amp; Hip Revision</li> <li>2. Knee Arthroscopy</li> <li>3. Knee Replacement &amp; Knee Revision</li> <li>4. Low Back Pain</li> <li>5. Lumbar Laminectomy</li> <li>6. Lumbar Spine Fusion</li> <li>7. Osteoarthritis</li> <li>8. Shoulder Replacement</li> <li>9. Anterior cervical discectomy and fusion (ACDF)</li> </ol>
Duration of Performance Period	Consistent with EQIP, performance period will be annual, beginning January 2021.

	Within that performance period, the episode begins with the operation and extends to a 90 day post-discharge period.
Quality Impact	<p>Measures that apply, consistent with CMMI's BPCI-Advanced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Process:</b> Advanced Care Plan (NQF #0326)</li> <li>• <b>Patient outcome:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ THA/TKA complication rate (NQF #1550);</li> <li>◦ All-cause Hospital Readmission Measure (NQF #1789);</li> <li>◦ Perioperative Care: Selection of Prophylactic Antibiotic: 1st or 2nd Generation Cephalosporin (NQF #0268)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Patient experience or satisfaction:</b> CMS Patient Safety Indicators (PSI 90)</li> </ul> <p>These measures are currently calculated by the State/CRISP in the hospital-convened Episode Care Improvement Program (ECIP). We recommend that the quality adjustment be applied similar to ECIP and BPCI-Advanced: The Episode Initiator-specific Composite Quality Score (CQS) for the above measures would be applied to reconciliation payments (capped at <math>\pm 10\%</math>). Performance is determined by ranking Initiators relative to their peers, and observing their improvement relative to peers over the baseline period.</p>
Downside Risk Requirement for TCOC Accountability	<p><b>Entity bearing risk:</b> In EQIP, Episode Conveners bear the risk. Physician group practices (PGPs) can be an Episode Convener. Or, PGPs and individual Medicare providers and/or suppliers (Episode Initiators and/or Participating Practitioners) could sign up under another organizational Episode Convener (e.g., Fusion 5). Arrangements for incentive/risk sharing between the Convener and downstream partners will be decided in advance of the performance year. Consistent with BPCI-Advanced, a 3% discount/savings threshold (Target Price) must be met before payments are made to conveners. Medicare Total Cost of Care (TCOC) spending in the episode above the Target Price must be repaid by the Convener (and potentially by downstream partners, depending on their risk arrangement). These TCOC and Quality requirements ensure Conveners can be considered Advanced Alternative Payment Models (Advanced APMs) participants by CMMI, under the MACRA law.</p>
Financial Methodology	<p>Methods for calculating ROI for these areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Program sustainability:</b> Participants will follow the State's approach for EQIP.</li> <li>• <b>Total cost of care impact:</b> The episode savings will be calculated with a pre/post analysis that compares the actual episode costs with the baseline costs, trended forward by an inflation factor, providing Medicare with TCOC savings based on the 3% discount factor. Inclusions and exclusions in Medicare TCOC would generally follow BPCI-Advanced (e.g., exclusions for an admission for organ transplants, major trauma, cancer-related care, ventricular shunts).</li> </ul>
<b>Anticipated Resource Requirements</b>	
Funding Requirements	Source of funding for development, implementation, and operations:

# EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT UTILIZATION



# MARYLAND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

*OPPORTUNITY FOR INNOVATION*

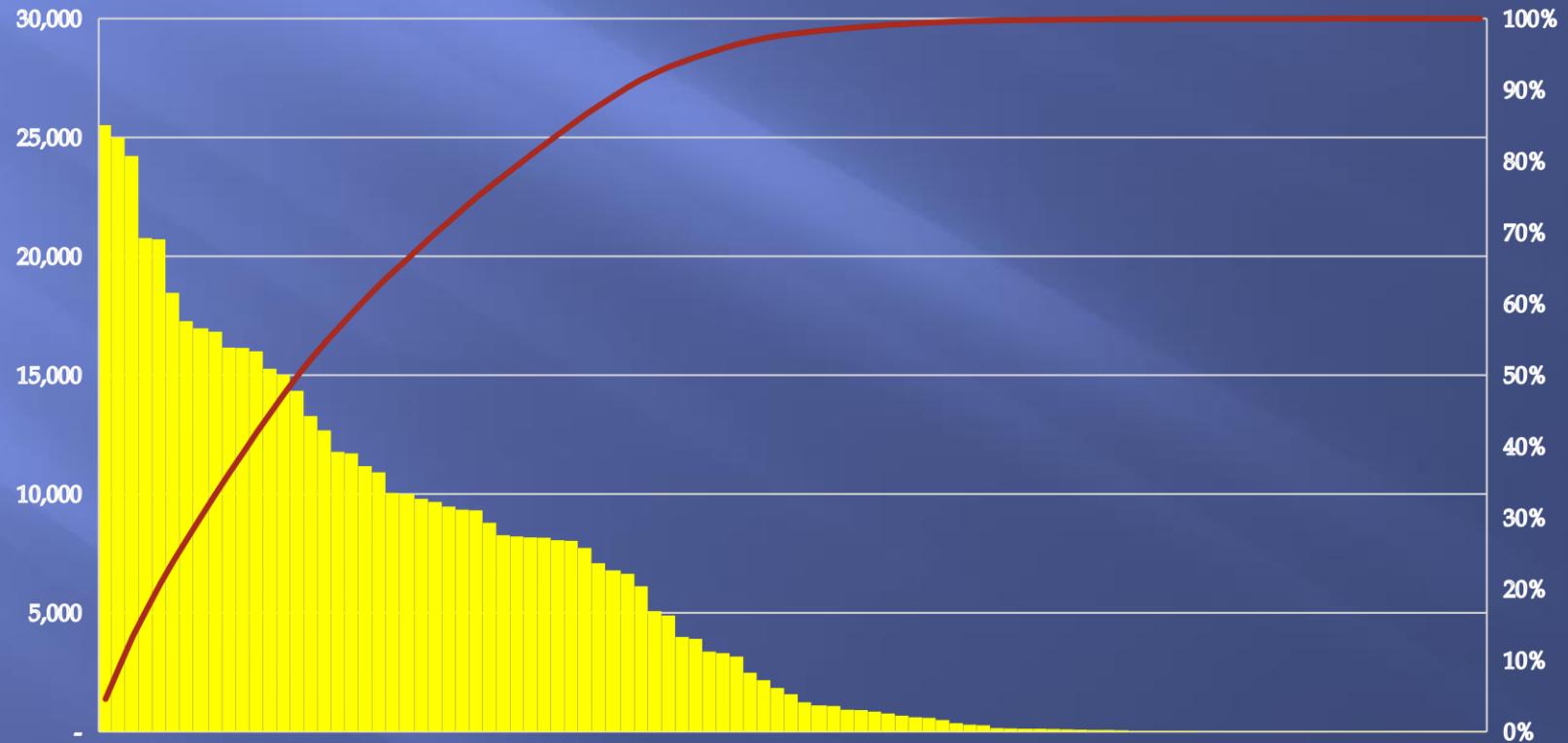


Stakeholder's Innovation Group  
October 22, 2019

# 2018 EMS Patient Transports

1.2 million EMS responses; 583,000 patient transports

EMS Patient Arrivals per Hospital (101)



CHATS County/Hospital Alert X +

miemssalart.com/chats/Default.aspx?hdRegion=3

 CHATS Region III - County/Hospital Alert Tracking System

Hospitals

Monday, September 16, 2019 8:27:56 PM

[Region I, II, IV](#) [Region III](#) [Region V](#)

[Hide Alert Descriptions](#)

**Hospitals** **Counties** **Reports**

**Yellow Alert**  
The emergency department temporarily requests that it receive absolutely no patients in need of urgent medical care. Yellow alert is initiated because the Emergency dept is experiencing a temporary overwhelming overload such that priority II and III patients may not be managed safely. Prior to diverting pediatric patients, medical consultation is advised for pediatric patient transports when emergency departments are on yellow alert.

**Red Alert**  
The hospital has no ECG monitored beds available. These ECG monitored beds will include all in-patient critical care areas and telemetry beds.

**Mini Disaster**  
The emergency department reports that their facility has, in effect, suspended operation and can receive absolutely no patients due to a situation such as a power-outage, fire, gas leak, bomb scare, etc.

**ReRoute**  
An ALS/BLS unit is being held in the emergency department of a hospital due to lack of an available bed. (This does not replace Yellow Alert.)

**Trauma ByPass**  
The hospital's ability to function as a trauma center has been exceeded. (This decision is at the discretion of the facility.)

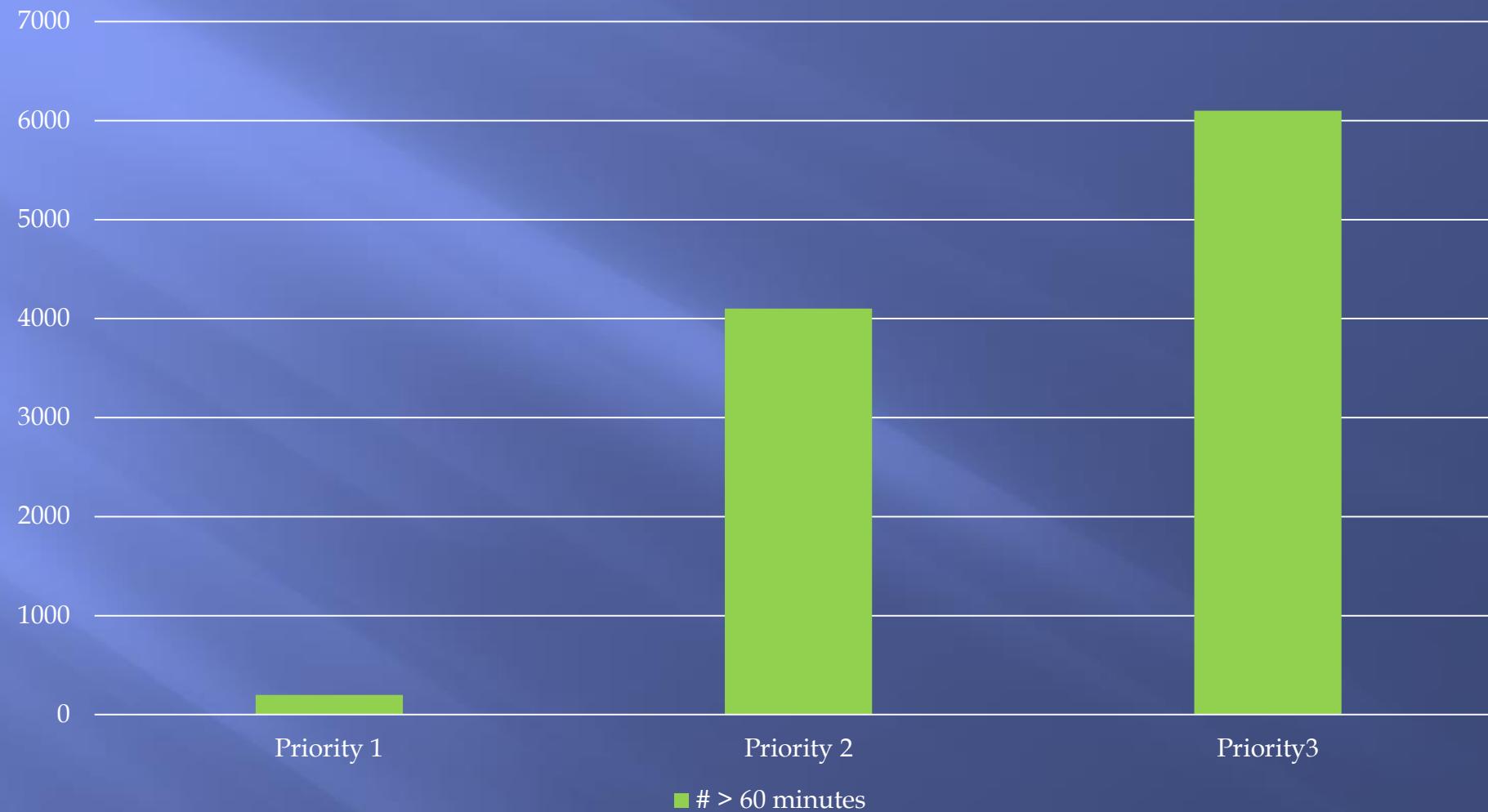
**Capacity**  
The hospital's capacity has been exceeded.

Hospital	Yellow Alert	Red Alert	Mini Disaster	ReRoute	Trauma ByPass	Capacity
Anne Arundel Medical Center	02:29			00:12		
Baltimore Washington Medical Center	01:14					
Bon Secours Hospital						
Carroll Hospital Center	20:27					
Franklin Square (MedStar)	00:36			00:22		
Good Samaritan Hospital (MedStar)	04:55	03:58				
Greater Baltimore Medical Center	02:49					
Harbor Hospital (MedStar)						
Harford Memorial Hospital (UMUCH)	03:48					
Howard County General Hospital (JHM)						
Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center	06:12					
Johns Hopkins Hospital	01:48	13:57				
Johns Hopkins Hospital (Pediatric ED)						
Mercy Medical Center	06:31					
Midtown (UM)	05:22					
Northwest Hospital	07:44			00:21		
R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center						
Sinai Hospital of Baltimore	20:27					
St. Agnes Hospital	05:50					
St. Joseph's (UM)	05:34					
Union Memorial Hospital (MedStar)	04:33					
University of Maryland Medical Center	02:07	02:07				
Upper Chesapeake Medical Center (UMUCH)	08:11					

Posted times reflect the elapsed time since the initiation of the current alert.  
This website will automatically refresh every 60 seconds.

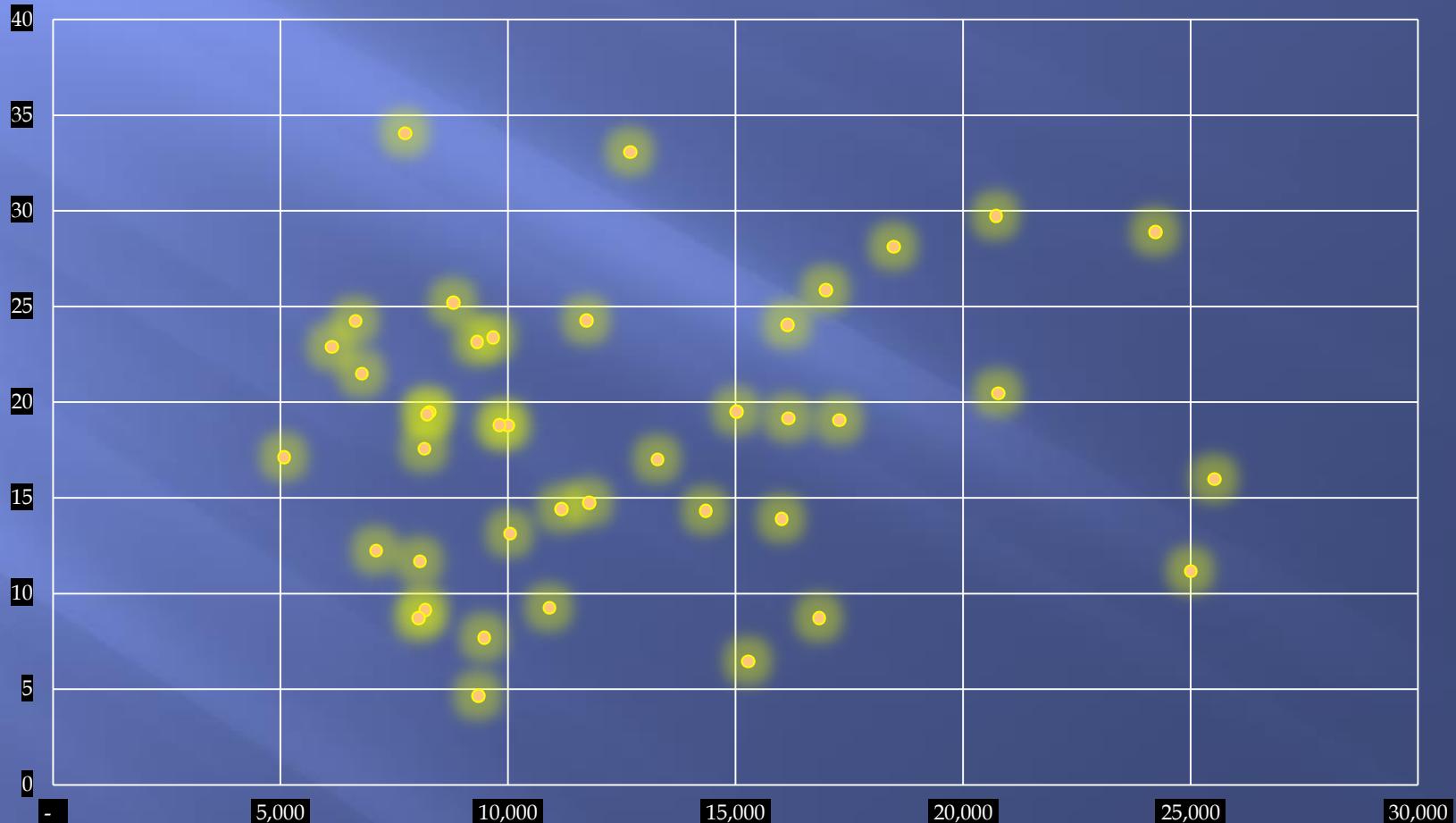
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## EMS to ED Patient Transfer Interval (November 2018 - April 2019)



# EMS - ED Transfer Variability

EMS-ED Transfer Interval vs. EMS Patient Arrivals



# MARYLAND HOSPITALS / EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS STRUGGLE

- Far under-perform as indicated by CMS efficiency metrics
  - ED\_1b: Median Time from ED Arrival to ED Departure for Admitted ED Patients
  - ED\_2b: Admit Decision Time to ED Departure Time for Admitted Patients
  - OP\_18b: Median Time from ED Arrival to ED Departure for Discharged ED Patients

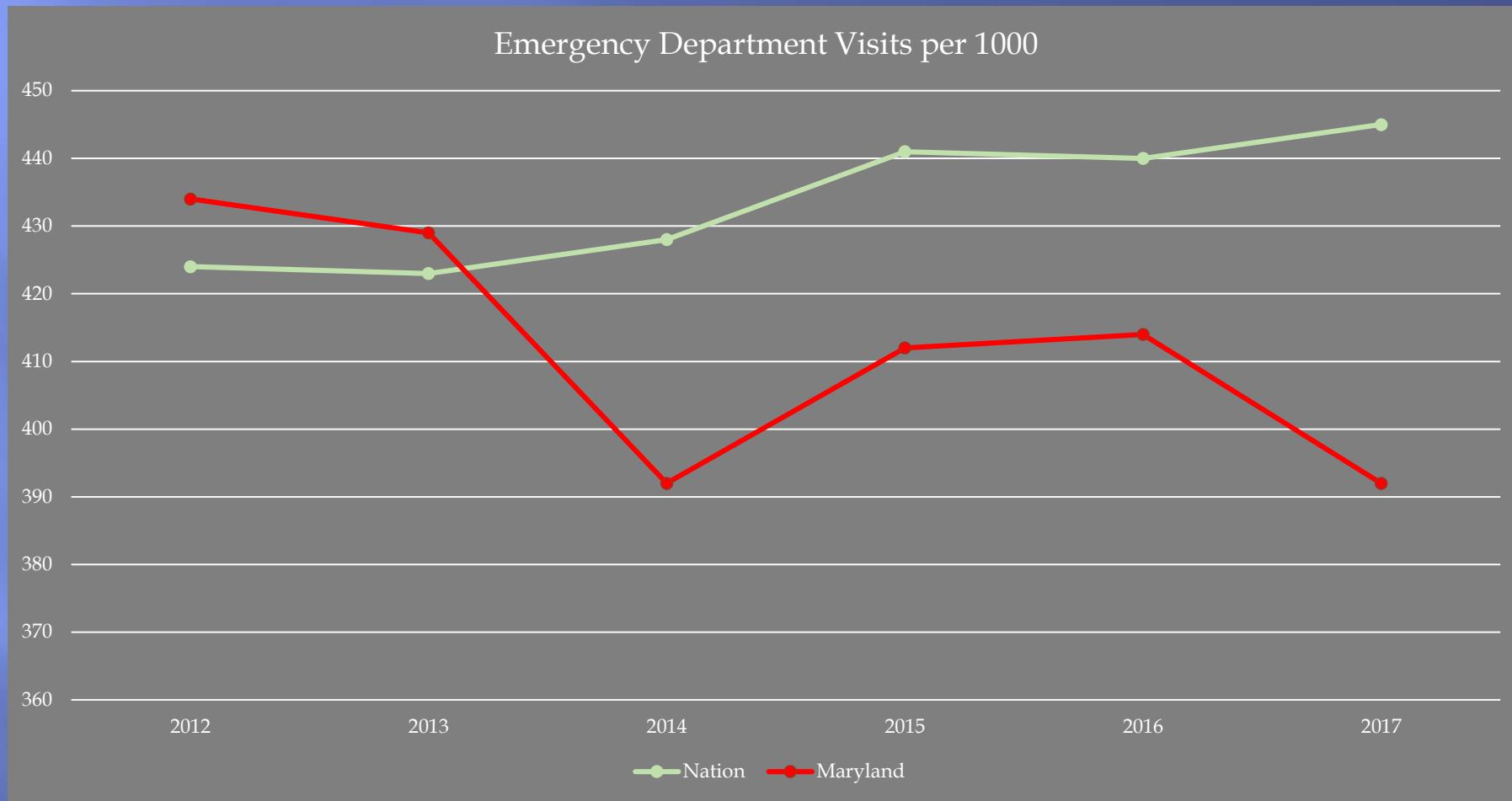


TRENDS IN MARYLAND  
HOSPITAL EMERGENCY  
DEPARTMENT UTILIZATION:  
*An Analysis of Issues and Recommended  
Strategies to Address Crowding*

Report of the Joint Work  
Group on Emergency  
Department Utilization

Maryland Health Care Commission  
Health Services Cost Review Commission

APRIL 2002



EMS Transports to ED: 5% increase past 4 years



Emergency  
Department

IMAGINE...



# What we know:

- Some callers to 9-1-1 don't really need EMS at all.
- Some EMS patients could be treated right there.
- Some EMS patients are best treated not at the ED.
- Some proactive effort could avert the 9-1-1 call.

# ET3

## Evaluation, Triage, Treatment & Transport

- Five-year program through CMMI to expand Medicare EMS reimbursement for FFS patients
  - EMS transportation to a non-ED destination
  - Treatment (by a qualified practitioner) and no EMS transport
- Two-year agreements for 9-1-1 centers to establish triage capabilities

# ET3 Goals

- ❑ Provide person-centered care so beneficiaries receive appropriate level care at the right time and place while having greater control of healthcare.
- ❑ Encourage appropriate utilization of services to meet healthcare needs (e.g., avoid unnecessary transports to EDs)
- ❑ Increase efficiency in EMS system to more readily respond to and focus on high-acuity cases (e.g., heart attacks and strokes)

# Estimated Medicare Savings - \$500M

## *1. Quality-adjusted payments for EMS innovations*

- Provide new payment options for transport and treatment in place following a 911 call
- Tie payment to performance milestones to hold participants accountable for quality

## *2. Support for aligned regional markets*

- Make cooperative agreements available to local governments, its designees, or other entities that operate or have authority over one or more 911 dispatches acting on their behalf in regions where selected model participants operate
- Focus funding on the establishment of medical triage lines to ensure appropriate use of EMS resources and advance multi-payer adoption to support overall success and sustainability

## *3. Enhanced monitoring and enforcement*

- Build accountability through the monitoring of specific quality metrics and adverse events
- Include robust enforcement to ensure patient safety and program integrity

# MARYLAND EMS INNOVATION MODELS

- #1: Treat and Release!
- #2: Alternative [to ED] Destinations!
- #3: Mobile Integrated Health!

# EMS Treat & Release

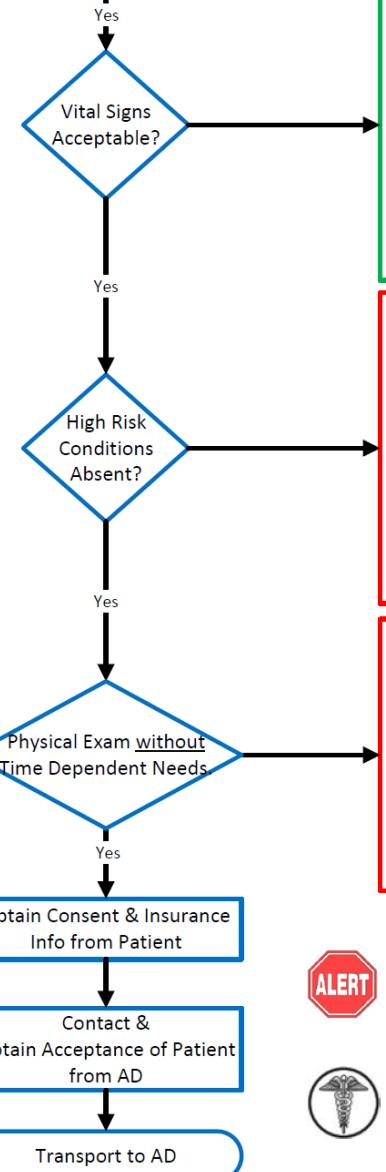
- EMS clinicians identify potential patient
- Obtain consent
- Establish audio/video connection with qualified healthcare practitioner
- Facilitate definitive care without transport
- Current state: HCP paid; not EMS
- Goal: HCP and EMS compensated

# Alternative Destinations

- Not every EMS patient needs an ED
- May not even be ideal or desirable

## Alternative Destination (AD) Protocol

- Low Acuity / Priority 3 Patient
- Patient is 18 years of age or older
- Able to Communicate with EMS
- Understands Consent Form/Process
- Agrees to be transported to AD



### ACCEPTABLE VITAL SIGNS

- Respirations: 10-20
- Pulse: 50-120
- Pulse Ox: >92%
- Temperature: 96-102 F
- Blood Glucose: 70-300

### ACCEPTABLE BLOOD PRESSURES:

- Urgent Care/PCP:  
Systolic 100-160 & Diastolic 60-100
- Stabilization/Crisis Center:  
Systolic 80-220 & Diastolic 50-120

### High Risk Conditions

- Abdominal Pain, Unexplained
- Altered Mental Status
- Back Pain, Unexplained
- Chest Pain
- Dyspnea/Shortness of Breath
- Focal Neurological Deficits (Acute)
- Seizures
- Sepsis, Suspected
- Syncope
- Requires more than minimal assistance to walk
- Unable to Cooperate with History and Exam

### Physical Exam/Time Dependent Needs

- Airway
- Breathing
- Circulation (Including to Extremity)
- Disability (Deficit) or Deformity
- Severe Tenderness with Palpation/Exam
- Significant Head or Truncal Trauma
- Uncontrolled Bleeding
- Require ALS Monitoring or Interventions
- Concern for Potential Deterioration in Condition



IF ANY HIGH RISK CONDITIONS OR PHYSICAL EXAM/TIME DEPENDENT NEEDS, EMS SHALL TRANSPORT TO CLOSEST APPROPRIATE ED/FEMF



IF PATIENT IS EXCLUDED BASED ON VITALS ALONE,  
TRANSPORT TO CLOSEST APPROPRIATE ED/FEMF UNLESS  
MEDICAL DIRECTION FROM APPROVED BASE STATION  
AUTHORIZES TRANSPORT TO ALT DESTINATION

# ETHAN

## <Emergency Telehealth and Navigation>

- Houston
  - 2.3 million people
  - 250,000 EMS calls per year
- ETHAN
  - 4 years
  - Diverted 20,000 patients from ED
  - Savings: >\$20million

# Alternative Destinations

- Current state: EMS not compensated
  - Financial incentive to go to ED
- Goal: EMS compensated for transport to appropriate non-ED destinations

# MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH (MIH)

- EMS collaborates with healthcare partners
  - Proactive
  - Decrease 9-1-1 calls
  - Decrease hospital re-admissions
  - Improve overall health
- Focus
  - Frequent 9-1-1 callers
  - High ED utilizers
  - High risk hospital discharges
- Facilitate access to available services/resources

# MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH (MIH)

- Current state
  - No dedicated funding
  - Grant supported
  
- Goal
  - Sustainable funding
  - Long-term
  - Performance-based

# FUTURE OF NEW EMS MODELS

(Senate Bill 682 Report, 2019)

- ❑ New EMS models of care need long-term sustainable funding solutions to continue ...
- ❑ Reimbursement for the three EMS care models must be financially and practically viable for all system participants, including payers.

# FUTURE OF NEW EMS MODELS

(Senate Bill 682 Report, 2019)

- Reimbursement for the three EMS care models should include all private and public payers to avoid cost-shifting between payer types and to ensure equitable treatment of consumers, regardless of insurance source.
  
- EMS reimbursement changes must dovetail with Total Cost of Care Model.

# Recommendations

(Senate Bill 682 Report, 2019)

#7 HSCRC and the Stakeholders Innovation Group should consider these models of EMS care in the process of developing proposals for CMS for new tracks for the Care Redesign program for Medicare funding under the TCOC model.

#10 HSCRC should continue to identify and consider EMS care delivery financing models that occur outside of Maryland for possible proposals to CMMI at CMS for approval under the TCOC Model, including any future EMS-focused models developed by CMMI.

# FACILITATING EMS INNOVATION MODELS IN MARYLAND

- Acknowledge: The ED is not always needed.
- Recognize: EMS can be part of a solution.
- Develop: Hospital & EMS collaborations to create innovative approaches.
- Adopt: Statewide goal of implementation of innovative EMS care models (i.e., not dependent upon ET3 participation).
- Identify: Sustainable long-term funding strategies.

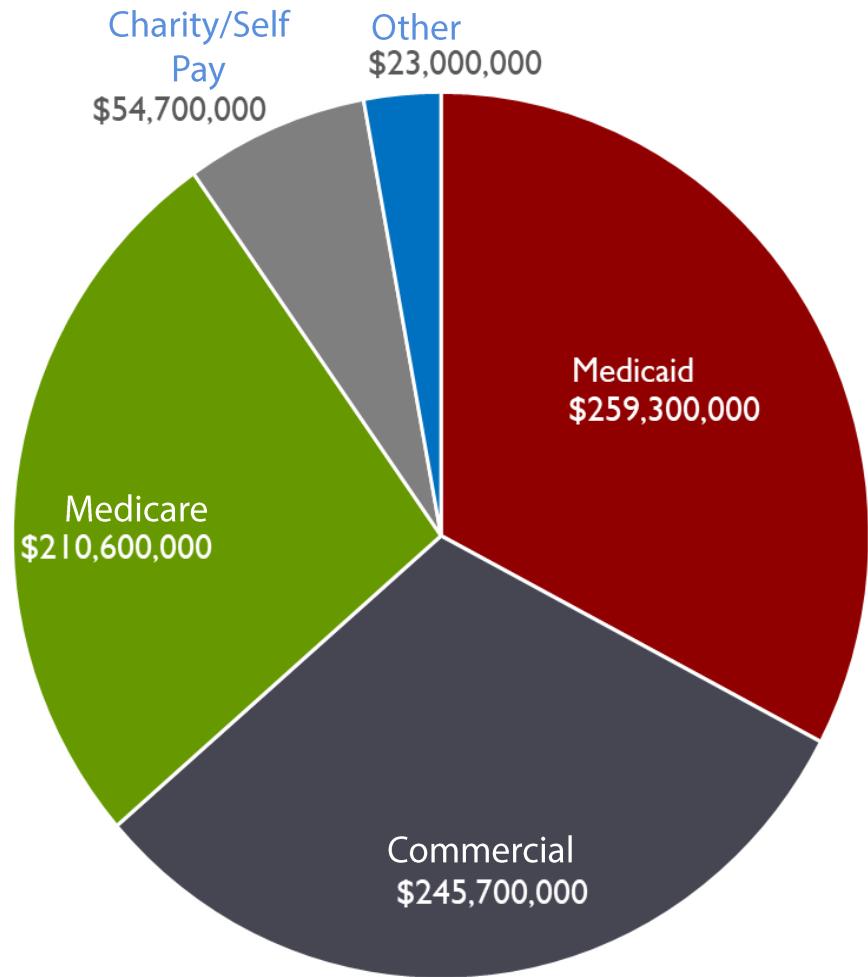
WHAT'S THAT  
NUMBER FOR  
911 AGAIN?



# ED UTILIZATION OPPORTUNITY ANALYSIS

- HSCRC staff analyzed the statewide Emergency Department (ED) utilization in response to previous SIG discussions/Submissions
  - Emergency Department Improvements in Care Transitions (EDICT)
  - CMMI ET3 Model and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Opportunities to implement mobile-integrated health and alternative destination
- Avoidable ED utilization was identified using the NYU algorithm which identifies non-admitted patients who fall into two categories:
  - Primary Care Treatable, and
  - Non-emergent conditions that could be treated in Urgent Care or other community settings
- Overall ED spending and episode spending initiated at the ED was also assessed

# POTENTIAL SAVINGS IN UNNECESSARY ED UTILIZATION



**\$793,300,000** was spent on Emergency Department Utilization that could have been treated at a **primary care setting** or **was not emergent**

33.8% of total ED utilization  
4% of total hospital revenues  
27% attributable to Medicare



**37.5%** of ED utilization across all payers can be attributable to patients who have **3+** visits annually.

In **avoidable costs statewide** from frequent utilizers that could have been treated at a primary care or non-emergent setting

# MEDICARE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT EPISODE SPENDING IS CONCENTRATED IN OUTPATIENT AND PHYSICIAN SERVICES

326,305 Episodes of Care\*  
Started in the ED in 2018

Average Episode Total Cost: \$2,477\*

Outpatient: \$1,454

Physician: \$696

Inpatient: \$286

SNF, Hospice, ESRD: \$40

100% had Outpatient Spending  
99.2% had Physician Spending

Outpatient Spending Ranges:  
\$768 - \$3,657 (1st-9th decile)

Physician Spending Ranges:  
\$466 - \$1,467 (1st-9th decile)

3% had  
Inpatient  
Spending

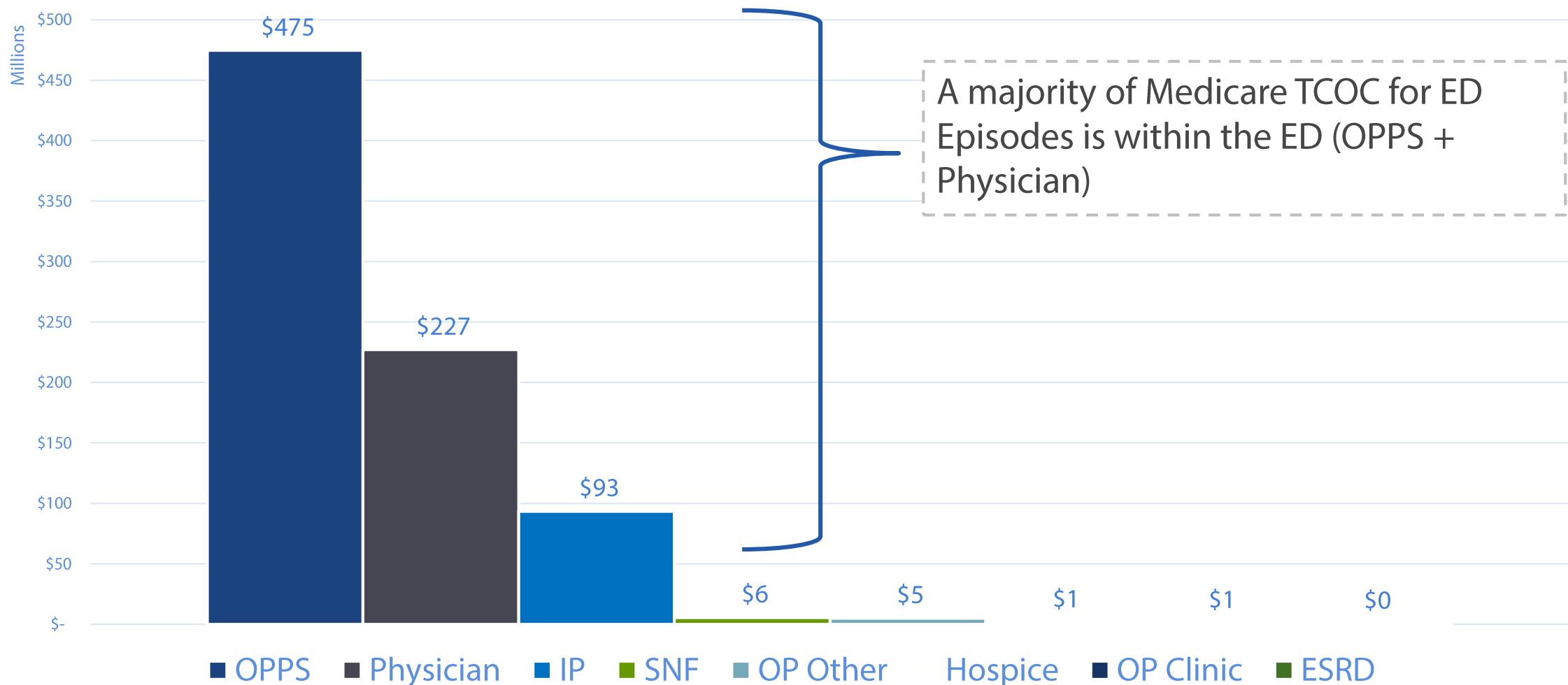
0.7% had  
Skilled Nursing  
Spending

0.4% had  
Hospice  
Spending

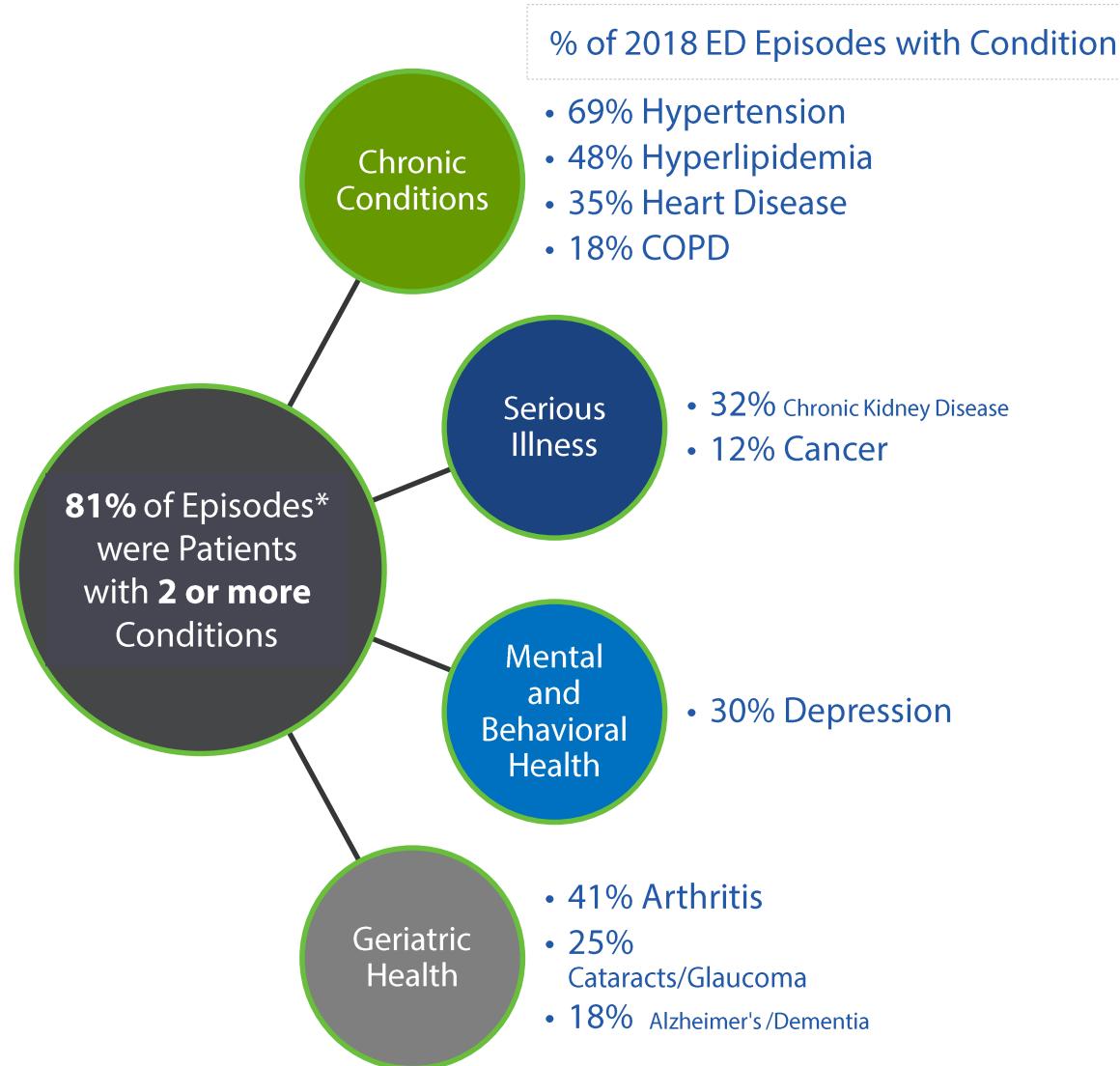
0.2% had ESRD  
Spending

\* Based on 15-day episodes in 2018 that included some form of utilization

# COSTS OF ALL MEDICARE ED EPISODES\*



# MULTIPLE COMORBIDITIES DOMINATE ED EPISODE CONDITIONS



Interventions that could help to reduce avoidable utilization for Medicare beneficiaries with these conditions:

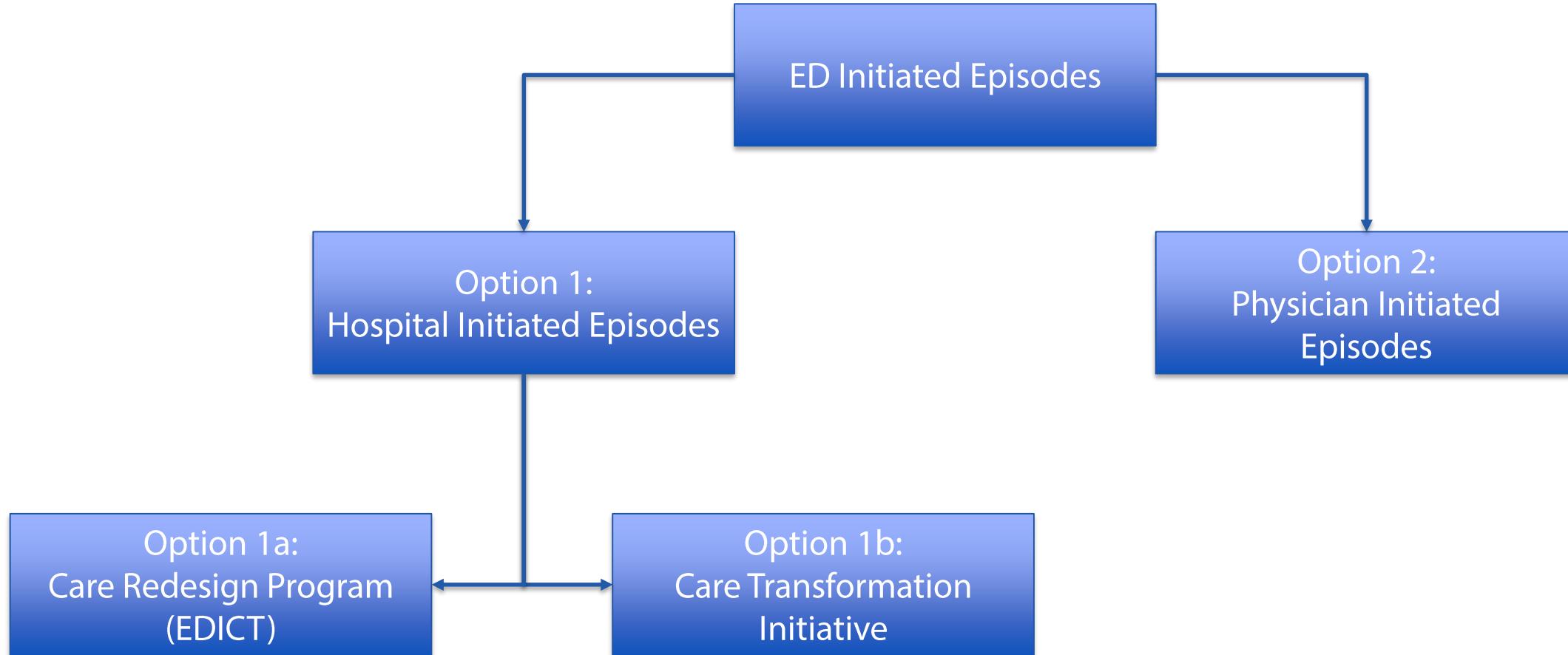
- Care Management and Coordination
- Community-based access to unscheduled care
- Disease-specific interventions and care protocols

\* Based on 15-day episodes in 2018, Medicare beneficiaries only.

# OPPORTUNITIES IN EDICT

- Emergency Department Improvements in Care Transitions (EDICT) provides a model to address unnecessary ED use and reduce TCOC
  - Interventions: telehealth visit, in-home evaluation, communication with primary provider
  - TCOC Savings calculation: 7-day spending in observed vs. previous performance period
  - ED Physicians receive care management payments for managing payments
- Next steps for EDICT:
  1. **Hospitals:** build a CTI or CRP (enable incentive and resource sharing) for the opportunity to build an ED bundle
  2. **Physicians:** build a track in EQIP for the opportunity to build an ED bundle

# POTENTIAL OPTIONS FOR ED EPISODES



# COMPARISON OF OPTIONS FOR ED BUNDLES AND EDICT

- **Option 1a:** EDICT under a Care Redesign Program
  - Hospitals would receive reconciliation payments for savings in ED Episodes.
  - Hospitals would pay the care management fees to ED physicians (and other care partners) out of their global budgets or reconciliation payments.
- **Option 1b:** ED Episode under a Care Transformation Initiative
  - Hospitals would receive reconciliation payments for savings in ED Episodes
  - Not care management payments to ED physicians would be made
- **Option 2:** ED Episodes included in EQIP
  - Physicians would receive reconciliation payments for savings in ED Episodes
  - Physicians would receive care management fees from CMS
  - Physicians would have downside risk.
- Options 1 and 2 are not mutually exclusive.

# ED SAVINGS ARE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EMS MODELS

- EMS Models and protocols may help to improve ED throughput and utilization for non-emergent needs. Some examples include:

## Emergency Triage, Treat, and Transport Model (ET3)

Medicare only EMS billing for additional services

- **Treatment in place** for beneficiaries who does not meet medical necessity requirements for ambulance transport may still meet medically need healthcare services
- **Transport to an alternative setting** of care for beneficiaries who do not need ED services but does need some healthcare service and could be transported to a location equipped to serve their acuity.

## Medical Triage Line (“Houston Model”)

- **911 line staffed with nurses/appropriate clinical personnel** who help to triage EMS needs and direct low-acuity patients to alternative settings, address needs over the phone or deploy mobile-integrated health teams
- Develops partnership with health **information exchange** (CRISP) so that patient records and correct community providers can be connected to the patient

## Mobile Integrated Health (MIH)

- EMS providers have access via telehealth or a mobile clinician team to clinicians and social services for low-acuity emergency services
- MIH assists EMS personnel in **treating low-acuity needs in place** and determining referral or transport to community-based care