

Director's Message: Next Steps for the Maryland Primary Care Program

In an unprecedented manner, a majority of Maryland primary care providers have voluntarily elected to apply to participate in the [Maryland Primary Care Program \(MDPCP\)](#). These dedicated and hard-working primary care physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and their staff have committed to joining a program and starting a journey that promises to improve the quality of care, reduce the cost of care, and improve the well-being of Marylanders.

The work that needs to be done to achieve these important goals will not be easy or quick. This will be a journey of many changes, over several years, with measured and progressive gains as we go. The journey will be guided by experienced practice transformation experts from our federal partners, by Care Transformation Organizations (CTOs) newly established for this purpose, and by practice coaches from the State. Technical and cutting edge medical informatics will be provided through the Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients (CRISP), the State designated Health Information Exchange, and from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). Generous funding and financial support for the program is provided both from the federal government and the State. If we are successful, all of these supports, together with the focused efforts of our providers, will lead to a new and sustainable model for the delivery and payment of health care in Maryland and a model that could serve the nation. It is a weighty honor to be given the opportunity to serve in this fashion.



As in any long journey, it is well advised to prepare adequately before the start. We are now in that phase of preparation. Over the next several months, participants will review and execute a number of documents including welcome letters, financial documents, Participation Agreements and Arrangement documents between CTOs and practices. In the coming weeks, final selections of practices and CTOs will be made, CTO and practice pairings will be announced, and practice coaches will be making connections with their assigned practices. The MDPCP Program Management Office (PMO) will continue to host weekly webinars on relevant topics for practices and CTOs. The next few months will be busy as we prepare for a January 1 start. For a schedule of upcoming educational events, please see our [event calendar](#). New resources for [CTOs](#) and [practices](#) will be posted on our [website](#).

The State PMO and the CMMI MDPCP team are working together and look forward to joining you on this journey and pledge continuous support to all of our participants across the great State of Maryland.

Howard Haft, MD, MMM, FACPE

Executive Director, Program Management Office



MDPCP Education

The PMO hosts many events to educate stakeholders about the upcoming MDPCP. Events include in-person meetings and online presentations.

Upcoming Events

Educational events being held in the upcoming weeks include:

- Care Transformation Organization (CTO) Update Meeting (for preliminarily approved CTOs only) — Tuesday, Sept. 25, 3 to 4 p.m.
- [MDPCP Program Update: What to Expect Webinar](#) — Thursday, Sept. 27, 5 to 6 p.m.
- [Consumer Health First Symposium Panel Discussion](#) — Friday, Sept. 28, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- [MDPCP Care Transformation Requirements Overview: Access and Continuity Webinar](#) — Thursday, Oct. 4, 5 to 6 p.m.
- [MDPCP Care Transformation Requirements Overview: Care Management Webinar](#) — Thursday, Oct. 11, 5 to 6 p.m.
- [MDPCP Care Transformation Requirements Overview: Comprehensiveness and Coordination Webinar](#) — Thursday, Oct. 18, 5 to 6 p.m.
- [Maryland Rural Health Conference Presentation](#) — Tuesday, Oct. 23, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
- [MDPCP Care Transformation Requirements Overview: Beneficiary and Caregiver Experience Webinar](#) — Thursday, Oct. 25, 5 to 6 p.m.
- [MDPCP Care Transformation Requirements Overview: Planned Care for Health Outcomes Webinar](#) — Thursday, Nov. 1, 5 to 6 p.m.