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Pacific Business Group on Health Receives \$18 Million from Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative Award

Collaborative Network Will Join Federal Government and Other Partners in Supporting Large-Scale Health Care Transformation among California Clinician Practices

SAN FRANCISCO, (September 29, 2015) – Pacific Business Group on Health (PBGH) and its California Quality Collaborative (CQC) are one of 39 health care collaborative networks selected to participate in the Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative, announced Tuesday by Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell. PBGH will receive up to \$18.4 million to provide technical assistance support to help equip clinicians in the state of California with tools, information, and network support needed to improve quality of care, increase patients’ access to information, and spend health care dollars more wisely.

“Supporting doctors and other health care professionals change the way they work is critical to improving quality and spending our health care dollars more wisely,” said Secretary Burwell. “These awards will give patients more of the information they need to make informed decisions about their care and give clinicians access to information and support to improve care coordination and quality outcomes.”

As a Practice Transformation Network, Pacific Business Group on Health will support 16 provider organizations and some 4,800 clinicians to expand their quality improvement capacity, learn from one another, and achieve common goals of improved care, better health, and reduced cost. The network will provide collaborative peer-based learning for health system leaders, and fund practice coaches and data feedback systems to help participating clinicians measurably improve patient care.

“We are honored to be named a partner in this transformational initiative to improve care for millions of Californians and prepare clinicians for a future where value-based payments spur innovation in quality and affordability.” said David Lansky, PhD, President and CEO of the Pacific Business Group on Health.

PBGH and CQC will work in tandem with the Integrated Healthcare Association (IHA), the Center for Care Innovations (CCI), and 16 public and private provider organizations to drive improvements for an estimated three million Californians. The provider organizations in California include medical groups, community-based clinics and hospital systems.



“Working with PBGH and CQC in this endeavor represents a unique opportunity for public and private delivery systems to work together to improve care for all Californians” said Veenu Aulakh, Executive Director at CCI. “We’re proud to be a part of this work,” added Jeff Rideout, MD, President and CEO of IHA, “we’re especially looking forward to building a platform to convert data on cost and quality normally used for public reporting into useful information for improving patient care.”

“The CQC and its partners will offer integrated support to thousands of practices to apply principles of practice improvement, such as panel management, care coordination and team-based care,” said Diane Stewart, Senior Director of the California Quality Collaborative. “We applaud the CMS for their desire to engage local partners to transform clinical practice, and we’re pleased to be a part of that process.”

These awards are part of a comprehensive strategy advanced by the Affordable Care Act that enables new levels of coordination, continuity, and integration of care, while transitioning volume-driven systems to value-based, patient-centered, health care services. It builds upon successful models and programs such as the Hospital Value-Based Purchasing Organization Program, Partnership for Patients with Hospital Engagement Networks, and Accountable Care Organizations.

For more information on the Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative, please visit:
<http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Transforming-Clinical-Practices/>

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About Pacific Business Group Health

PBGH is a non-profit business coalition focused on improving the quality and affordability of health care. The group represents 60 large health care purchaser members with more than 10 million employees, retirees and dependents in California. www.pbgh.org Follow us on twitter at https://twitter.com/PBGH_updates

About California Quality Collaborative

California Quality Collaborative (CQC) is a San Francisco-based healthcare improvement organization dedicated to advancing the quality and efficiency of the health care delivery system in California. CQC, housed at the Pacific Business Group on Health, is sponsored by Anthem, Blue Shield of California, CAPG, HealthNet and United Healthcare. The CQC will generate scalable and measurable improvement in care delivery in ways important to patients, purchasers, providers, and health plans. Led by national experts in the field, CQC offers a range of healthcare improvement programs, including, Healthcare quality improvement training programs which engage California physician group and hospital leadership teams to manage change across their organizations to achieve evidence-based, patient-centered care and Topic-specific collaboratives which offer access to national experts and leading physician peer group leaders to facilitate the adoption of best practices in patient satisfaction, clinical care, and efficiency. For more information, visit: <http://www.calquality.org/>