

MPRO'S IMPACT ON MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES IN MICHIGAN: 2008-2011

Prevention

About MPRO:

MPRO, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for the state of Michigan, contracts with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) in three-year contract cycles. Our 9th Scope of Work contract with CMS began on August 1, 2008 and ended on August 1, 2011.



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Health Information Technology Improves Cancer Screening and Immunization Rates

With early detection, breast and colon cancer are among the most treatable, while the availability of vaccinations has made influenza and pneumonia among medicine's most preventable diseases. That's why primary care providers from around the country participated in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) Prevention Initiative.

In Michigan, MPRO recruited primary care physicians to document metrics for these diseases using Health Information Technology (HIT)/Electronic Health Records (EHR). As a result, related cancer screenings and vaccination rates improved dramatically with rates ranging from 100 to more than 1,500 percent among participating providers.

MPRO's Prevention Team worked with 41 practices and more than 200 physicians. "It's encouraging that this effort is supported so well by physician practices across the state," says

Jackie Rosenblatt, RN, BSN, PhD, CPHIMS, Director, Ambulatory Quality Improvement. "There are many other technology programs out there and unlike many of them, this effort does not offer a financial incentive."

"We are sensitive to the amount of time and effort this program

Additionally, the team provided educational materials for the participating practices including e-newsletters, a web portal, and clinic-based educational materials such as posters and calendars.

Debbie Mays, office manager for the Family Tree Medical Associates in Hastings, Michigan, confirms MPRO's personalized support.

"They helped our entire practice improve preventive care..."

– Debbie Mays, Office Manager, Family Tree Medical Associates Hastings, MI

requires and appreciate the providers' commitment to quality care delivery," continues Rosenblatt.

MPRO's Prevention Team made regular site visits to provide one-on-one technical assistance and offered HIT/EHR workshops.

"They helped our entire practice improve preventive care such as immunizations, mammograms, and colonoscopies. They put a critical eye on our process not only from the ordering of these services, but all the way through the proper entry into our EMR (Electronic Medical Record) so it can be reported."

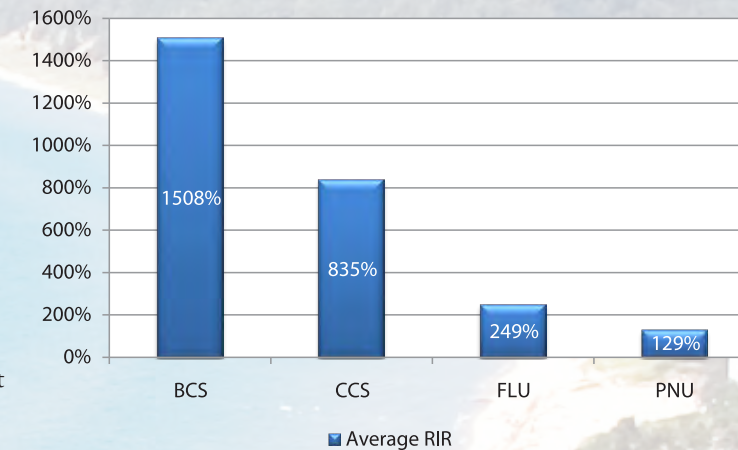
"It has increased the validity of our data, and when that is in question we now know how to problem solve," adds Mays.

Family Tree's use of technology also extends to encouraging patients to take greater responsibility in managing their health by providing secure access to medical records through the practices' website.

And other providers such as **Dr. Marc Weisman** of the Preferred Medical Group in Madison Heights, Mich. say, "Due to the ease of finding a patient's current immunization status with EHR, we have found it much easier to comply with immunization recommendations, including influenza and pneumonia."

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Average Relative Improvement of Participant Provider from Baseline (July 31, 2009) - Remeasurement (June 30, 2011)



Data Source: The data was collected from participant providers as measures for breast cancer and colon cancer screening and influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations.