

A Healthy Perspective

A health care series by John S. Prout

Patient Centered Medical Homes: Good news for all of us.

The Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) health care model really is a win, win, win for everyone. Our local businesses benefit from healthier employees using less sick time, resulting in lower insurance outlays. This helps make Cincinnati a more attractive city for new businesses too. PCMH physicians get to spend more time engaging and coordinating care for their patients, which makes their jobs more rewarding and satisfying. As patients of PCMH, we can expect to make fewer trips to the emergency department, spend less time in hospitals, and live healthier, better quality lives.

TriHealth recognized the benefits of PCMH early on.

Long before the recent \$60 million Medicare grant to Cincinnati and Dayton, TriHealth knew the value of Patient Centered Medical Homes. In fact, we were one of the first health care systems in the U.S. to adopt the model as our Preferred Standard of Care for our primary care physician practices. Did we know something others didn't know? No, but our mission, "to improve the health status of the people we serve," has been our guide since TriHealth was formed. Today, few current models of care fit that better than Patient Centered Medical Homes.

Proactive, not reactive care.

Thanks to a \$6 million grant from Bethesda Inc. two years ago, TriHealth physician owned practices got a head start on creating PCMH. In a Medical Home physicians have a different financial model. Medical Home doctors are more proactive in keeping their patients healthy and are better able to coordinate care for their patients when they are sick.

Why Cincinnati?

Cincinnati and Dayton competed with six other markets to win this Medicare grant. We were selected in part because of the efforts already underway by TriHealth doctors to engage with their patients and because of the systems TriHealth has in place to measure results. At TriHealth, we are extremely proud of our role in helping attract these funds to our community. As an advocate of PCMH, we know that everyone benefits under this model of care.

If you want a deeper look at the benefits of PCMH, please download my free white paper at TriHealth.com.



TriHealth



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