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Healthcare Quality Watch

January/February 2019

IPRO Awarded State Innovation Model Validation Contract

The Connecticut Office of Health Strategy recently awarded IPRO a contract to serve as the Validation Surveyor for the Community & Clinical Integration Program (CCIP) of its State Innovation Model. CCIP promotes care delivery transformation across accountable physician networks to deliver better care resulting in better health outcomes at lower costs for Medicare, Medicaid, and commercial plan enrollees. IPRO's work focuses on measuring the extent to which participating entities (PEs) are achieving CCIP Core Standards; 2) identifying PE performance gaps with Core Standards; 3) validating PEs' achievement of the standards as a condition of continued participation in Connecticut's Medicaid Person-Centered Medical Home Plus program; and 4) establishing a standardized certification process for PEs.

Machado Appointed IPRO Senior Vice President

Edison A. Machado, Jr., MD, MBA has been promoted to Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer of IPRO. Dr. Machado joined IPRO in 2011, as Chief Quality Officer, with management responsibility for business development, proposal services and internal quality management. In his new role, Dr. Machado will also be responsible for print and web-based communication. Prior to joining IPRO, Dr. Machado was Senior Director for Strategic Partnerships at the National Quality Forum in Washington DC, where he focused on using



performance measurement for payment incentives, public reporting and quality improvement. Dr. Machado previously served as Medical Director and Program Manager for the nationally recognized Bridges to Excellence physician recognition program. Dr. Machado earned his Doctor of Medicine and Masters of Business Administration degrees from Yale University.

IPRO Wins Foundation Grant to Strengthen Voices of Patients

IPRO has been awarded a grant through the New York State Health Foundation's (NYSHealth's) Patients as Partners initiative to strengthen the voices of patients and families in healthcare decision-making. Through this initiative, NYSHealth is supporting projects that seek system improvements, practice innovations, or policy reforms designed to benefit and empower patients and consumers. In partnership with X4 Health, IPRO will offer a revitalized, next-generation approach to Patient and Family Advisory Councils (PFACs), which are created by providers in order to assure consumer input into care delivery. PFACs often flounder due to the expense, travel requirements and logistics surrounding face-to-face meetings with patients and family members. IPRO and X4 Health will test an approach that involves virtual as well as in-person patient meetings, while offering much-needed technical support to participating medical practices.

IPRO Joining NQF Leadership Consortium

IPRO Assistant Vice President Jennifer Edwards, DrPH, MHS will represent IPRO on a national panel aimed at enhancing healthcare performance measurement and quality improvement strategies. The National Quality Partners™ (NQP) Leadership Consortium consists of National Quality Forum (NQF) member organizations recognized as influencers and champions of health and healthcare quality, all committed to collaborative action-oriented strategies to advance health and healthcare priorities. The NQP Leadership Consortium's primary role is to provide strategic direction across NQP initiatives and to prioritize future topics for action. NQP Leadership Consortium members have the opportunity to connect with other leaders in healthcare quality to identify priorities for action based on the current policy environment and a shared agenda for change.

CMS Quality Conference: A Major Success

IPRO, along with an estimated 3,300 healthcare professionals attended the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Quality Conference in Baltimore MD, January 29-31. This annual event brings together patients, advocates, providers, researchers, and thought leaders to develop and spread solutions to some of America's most pervasive health system challenges. This year's event, titled "Innovating for Value and Results" was the most expansive yet, with both new and existing participants from programs across CMS, Health and Human Services, and community stakeholders. Key topics included Value Based Care, Interoperability, Patients Over Paperwork, Managing Complex Chronic Conditions and Opioid Reduction and Patient Safety. For more information, visit www.cmsqualityconference.com.

IPRO Co-Sponsoring Population Health Conference

IPRO is a co-sponsor of an all-day Population Health Summit to be held in Albany on February 28. Organized by the University at Albany School of Public Health in collaboration with the New York State Public Health

Association, the Summit will address social determinants of health as well as racial, ethnic and socioeconomic health disparities. Other co-sponsors include the Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS), the NYS Department of Health, the New York Academy of Medicine and the United Hospital Fund. A poster session will be held in conjunction with the event. For more information, visit the New York State Health Foundation at <https://nyshealthfoundation.org/#>

IPRO Pharmacy Expert Co-Authors Journal Article

IPRO Quality Improvement Pharmacist Teresa Lubowski, PharmD, is the co-author of a new journal article that examines antibiotic selection and antimicrobial resistance among therapies used to treat acute uncomplicated cystitis in outpatient settings across New York State. Among the conclusions is the finding that providers shouldn't rely on overall antimicrobial susceptibility percentages when selecting therapeutic agents, but should review age, sex and prior urine culture results "in an effort to promote use of narrow-spectrum antibiotics where possible." "Antimicrobial Susceptibility Trends Observed in Urinary Pathogens Obtained From New York State" is available for download free of charge from the journal *Open Forum Infectious Diseases* at <https://academic.oup.com/ofid/article/5/11/ofy297/5185202>.



IPRO is a non-profit organization that works with government agencies, providers and consumers to implement innovative programs that bring policy ideas to life. For over 30 years we've made creative use of clinical expertise, emerging technology and data solutions to make the healthcare system work better.



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