



PHG Update: November 17

Dear Valued Providers

Premier Health Group (PHG) has experienced some recent changes over the past few months. Therefore, we would like to take this opportunity to reintroduce PHG.

PHG is responsible for development and execution of strategies that both improve the quality, as well as the cost and efficiency of health care delivered to the patient communities we serve, through value-based care contracting and operations. Value based care is a delivery model that aligns providers and payers with reimbursement that rewards improved quality and a lower total cost of care. We are passionate about developing initiatives that will bring ease of access to patients across the system as well as enhancing the network, care transitions and ease of business for our provider members.

Our goal is to increase engagement with providers and to be a resource in implementing strategies that will deliver ease of access for patients and ease of doing business for providers all the while improving quality of care and elevating the patient experience.

I look forward to working with you.

Matthew S. Reeves, DO, MBA
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Updated Visitor Restrictions

Effective on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 7 a.m., due to rapid spread of COVID-19 in our region, visitor restrictions will be adjusted to accommodate our patients and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The updated visitor restrictions will be in effect for Premier Health's outpatient, ambulatory, emergency department, and hospitalized patients. [Click here to view all the guidelines.](#)

COVID/Flu Testing Sites

We want to ensure patients obtain their COVID/flu test as timely as possible. For this to occur, please be sure your patient has a **provider's order** and **schedules an appointment online** at the testing location of their choice. The only collection site patients may arrive without an appointment is the OnMain location (formerly Montgomery County Fairgrounds), located on Main St. across from Miami Valley Hospital. [Click here to view the flier that contains the eleven-collection sites.](#)



PHG Board Meeting Recap

On November 5, 2020 PHG held its board meeting. We would like to share the items that were discussed.

- **Financial**
 - All obligations are met, and operations are appropriately funded
- **Frontline Health Demo**
 - Frontline Health uses a data-driven approach in support of value and focuses on growth, improvement and visualization. It uses data to gauge contract performance by utilizing contract-level views with surface cross-population comparisons as well as individual population deep dives that create consistent visibility to performance of at-risk contracts, track trends over time and identify variation to benchmarks. The analytics provide individual provider and physician group-level views which summarize attributed primary care provider and procedure-specific variation in cost / utilization, enable peer-to-peer comparisons, and highlight outliers in performance.
- **2021-2023 Strategic Plan**
 - There has been positive growth of our market share. The 2023 Strategic Plan is designed to improve upon that growth and to improve upon Premier Health's meaningful progress over the last three years. The positive shift in commercial share with continued growth was reported for 2019.
- **Clinically Integrated Network (CIN) Updates**
 - The CIN recruitment has seen a positive reception with several primary care physician and specialist offices signing participation agreements.
- **BPCI-A Update**
 - Hospital based BPCI-A committees were developed to engage each facility in identifying opportunities and the impact initiatives have on operations. A skilled nursing performance network was established. Quantitative and qualitative data was used to identify facilities, along with an on-site inspection. This network will work with the BPCI-A program on care redesign. Bundle selection for model year 4 (CY2021), will take place in 4Q2020 using CMS historic data. CMS acknowledges the impact that COVID may have on the BPCIA program. They have provided organizations options to reduce or remove the financial risk of the program.
- **New Members Welcomed**
 - The board welcomed a new member, Dr. Jeff James and for Quality committee, Dr. Mark Oxman.
 - **Jeffrey A. James, DO**, received his medical degree from Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2012. Dr. James completed a Family Medicine residency at TriHealth Bethesda in 2015 and completed a Primary Care Sports Medicine Fellowship at TriHealth Bethesda in 2016. Dr. James is board certified in Family Medicine. Dr. James is a Credentialed ImpACT® Consultant trained in treating concussions as well as administering and interpreting the ImpACT® test. Dr. James also offers patients regenerative medicine treatments including prp (platelet rich plasma) injections and stem cell therapy.



Premier Health Group Quality Committee Responsibilities

Part of the quality committee is to develop pathways for care. Pathways are a model to address the activities of care management, quality improvement and utilization management for specific conditions.

Clinical pathway is a structured multidisciplinary plan of care used to translate guidelines or evidence into local structured intervention that detail the steps in a course of treatment or care into a plan of actions aimed to standardize care for a specific population.

PHG Pilot Clinical Pathway - Steps to Develop a Clinical Pathway

1. Select and define the clinical condition (e.g UTI)
2. Define the patient population (e.g. Adult patients seen in ambulatory care clinic)
3. Define the target outcomes and goals (TBD)
4. Build the multidisciplinary team (PHG Quality Committee)
5. Review the evidence-based literature and guidelines
6. Map the clinical pathway (Next Steps)
7. Pilot the pathway (perform in volunteer office setting)
8. Evaluate the pathways effectiveness based on goals (TBD)
9. Implementation (Offices of CIN Partners)
10. Ongoing evaluation and monitoring (TBD)

Mapping the Clinical Pathway - Care Categories

- Evaluation of the patients' multidimensional needs
- Planning and execution of diagnostic testing
- Planning and execution of interventions or procedures
- Activation of specialty consultations
- Education of patient and families
- Management of pharmacological therapy
- Management of nutrition
- Management of activities and patient safety
- Planning of patients' pathway through the system

COVID-19 Update

United States:

- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the United States has had more than 11.5 million positive tests; the positivity rate is 7%.

Ohio*:

- Cases across Ohio have trended up fairly significantly over the past three weeks. We've had an unprecedented spike in hospital admissions.
- According to the [Ohio Department of Health](#), Ohio has had more than 252,000 confirmed cases.
- Our West Central region of Ohio has seen an increase in cases. Since November 3, our region has had more than 240 positive cases per day, hitting a new regional peak of 278 COVID hospitalizations on November 9.
- *Information released on November 12.



COVID-19 Update Continued

Premier Health:

- Has seen more than 1,930 patients with COVID-19 at Premier Health hospitals; this includes patients who were admitted to inpatient or observation status.
- We reached a new peak in the total number of patients admitted across Premier Health who were positive for COVID-19.

Flu and COVID

- Influenza activity remains very low across the United States at this time. Premier Health has had fewer than five patients hospitalized who tested positive for the flu. Please continue to encourage your patients to receive the influenza vaccination.

Eye Protection

- The Centers Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recommend that **eye protection is worn by health care personnel working in facilities in areas with moderate to substantial community transmission.** Health care workers are more likely to encounter asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection. The CDC recommends eye protection be worn during patient care encounters.
 - **Here are some guidelines to keep in mind:**
 - Eye protection should cover the front and sides of the face to protect against splashes and sprays. Goggles or face shields are preferred.
 - Prescription glasses are not considered eye protection.
 - You should take care not to touch your eye protection. If you touch or adjust your eye protection you should immediately perform hand hygiene.

As a reminder, patient encounters are low risk if you are more than 6 feet apart, less than 15 minutes in duration, and while wearing a mask or facial covering.