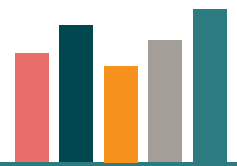


MEASUREMENT MINUTE

News from MN Community Measurement



COLLABORATE | EMPOWER | IMPROVE

June 2021

Letter from MNCM President and CEO Julie Sonier

Greetings, and happy summer!

As the possibility of returning to life resembling what we knew as “normal” before 2020 draws ever closer, we also know there are some things that should never go back to the way they were before. An example is the potential of telehealth to permanently change the landscape of health care delivery, and the opportunity we have to be intentional and data-driven in ensuring that we reap the gains and avoid potential pitfalls that could reduce quality or increase cost in the long run. Measurement and data will play important roles in finding the path forward for telehealth, continuing the transition toward value-based payment, and making progress in improving health equity.

The role that MNCM plays as a neutral source of comprehensive, objective information will be important to these and other efforts. Importantly, MNCM is not just a source of data – we also seek to actively support the success of health care providers, health plans, and others in achieving the goals of high-quality, affordable, and equitable health care.

To that end, MNCM’s Board of Directors has recently adopted a new strategic plan for 2021 to 2025. I invite you to learn more about it by reading my recent [blog post](#) on the plan.

Below, you’ll find updates on a variety of activities and projects that are underway at MNCM as well as links to new reports and webinar recordings since the last edition of *Measurement Minute*.

Best,

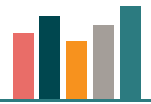


Measurement and Reporting Update

The Measurement and Reporting Committee (MARC) met at the beginning of June and welcomed five new members:

- » Kate Hust, MD of Hennepin Health
- » Craig Johnson of Therapy Partners, Inc.
- » Jodi Morris, MBA of Graco Inc.
- » Reetu Syal, MD of Premier ObGyn of Minnesota
- » Abbie Zahler of Hennepin County Public Health

The committee previewed preliminary results from the 2020 measurement year (2020 dates of service) and provided additional input on the factors that may have contributed to the difference in measurement outcomes for care delivered in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, MNCM will be releasing a special spotlight report as well as individual measure briefs in early August, which will summarize and display the impact of COVID-19 on quality measurement for care delivered in 2020.



CHIRP Pilot Project Recruitment Notice

MNCM is inviting organizations to participate in pilot testing of the Common Health Information Reporting Partnership (CHIRP) standards. This is a collaborative effort aimed at creating efficiencies, reducing duplication, and streamlining the exchange of clinical and claims information between payers and providers. Ultimately, this effort seeks to improve care coordination and patient health and well-being.

Benefits of participation in the pilot include having the opportunity to provide input and shape the standards, ensuring that they are implemented in a way that meets the expressed needs (e.g., timely and more up-to-date information, ease of combining data from multiple entities, reduced variation in data requests). In order to have a representative and informative pilot, we need payers and providers to volunteer to participate!

MNCM is seeking two payers and two provider groups to participate in the pilot. If your organization is interested in participating or would like more information, please feel free to reach out to Collette Cole (cole@mncm.org). **Deadline for indicating interest in the pilot testing is July 16.**

MN Clinics Onboard to New PIPE System for Data Submission – Congratulations to PIPE Early Adopters

MNCM is continuing to onboard clinics into the new data collection and measure calculation technology known as PIPE (Process Intelligence Performance Engine). PIPE will replace the older system known as DDS (Direct Data Submission) to reduce provider reporting burden and increase the availability of timely and actionable data for clinics to use in their improvement efforts.

Both systems will be available for the next two reporting cycles with the goal of moving all clinics statewide to PIPE by the end of 2023. MNMCM will be rolling out a plan for statewide onboarding this fall and scheduling implementations over the next two years. Please watch for more information or contact support@mncm.org if you have any questions.

MNCM would like to congratulate the following medical groups that have adopted PIPE and completed their 2021 annual quality reporting using the new system:

- » Community Memorial Hospital
 - » Mayo Clinic
 - » Mayo Clinic Health System
-

MNCARES Portal Now Open for Data Submission

MNCM has been working in collaboration with HealthPartners Institute and the Minnesota Department of Health on the *Minnesota Care Coordination Effectiveness Study (MNCARES)* and has completed development of the MNCARES data portal to receive data from Minnesota Health Care Home (HCH) clinics participating in the study.

Because COVID-19 disrupted care coordination for many patients, two patient cohorts (pre- and post-COVID-19) will be studied for comparative effectiveness analysis. The Historical patient cohort will include patients enrolled in care coordination before COVID-19 impact, while the Primary patient cohort will include patients enrolled in care coordination after COVID-19 impact. The first data submission for the Historical cohort is open now through August 15. The Primary cohort will be submitted in the spring of 2022.

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A total of 329 clinics across 48 organizations have agreed to participate – 85% of eligible HCH clinics in Minnesota. Participating clinics can find more information about submitting data on the [MNCARES Information Page for Clinics](#).

Save the Date: MNCM 2022 Annual Conference

Please save the date for the MNCM 2022 Annual Conference, which will be held April 27, 2022. The event will be offered in person at the Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West. MNCM is excited to present a full day of educational programming focused on strategies to advance health care quality, equity, and affordability – with opportunities to network and reconnect with others working to make progress on common goals. Please mark your calendars and watch for more information in the next issue of Measurement Minute.



MNCM Welcomes Data Analysis Intern Carlin Youthe

MNCM is pleased to welcome Carlin Youthe, RN, BSN, to the MNCM staff. Carlin joined the team in May as an intern for health care and data analysis, providing support for the Advancing High Value Care pilot project. Carlin is pursuing his master's degree in health informatics at St. Catherine University.

In Case You Missed It

RECENT MNCM BLOG ARTICLES

Since the last issue of Measurement Minute, one new article has been posted on the MNCM blog:

» President's Blog | [Improving Minnesota Health Care Quality, Affordability, and Equity: Strategic Priorities for 2021 to 2025](#)

RECENT REPORTS RELEASED BY MNCM

» [Minnesota Health Care Disparities Report by Race, Ethnicity, Language, and Country of Origin: Results for Care Delivered in 2019](#)

This report features information on health care outcomes in several areas, including Optimal Diabetes Care, Optimal Vascular Care, Optimal Asthma Care for Adults, Optimal Asthma Care for Children, Colorectal Cancer Screening, and more. Results for these measures are stratified by race, Hispanic ethnicity, preferred language, and country of origin (RELC) and reported at statewide and regional levels.



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MNCM SPRING WEBINARS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ONLINE

- » In April, MNMCM hosted a webinar, **Welcome to MNCARES! A Study to Inform Care Coordination Strategies**, that introduced the community to a study led by the HealthPartners Institute, in collaboration with the Minnesota Department of Health and MN Community Measurement. The three organizations were awarded funding from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) to study the effect of care coordination on patient outcomes. The purpose of MNCARES is to compare two approaches to care coordination for patients with complex health and social issues. This webinar highlights progress made in preparation for the official launch of the study activities in spring of 2021, and discusses how Minnesota Health Care Home Clinics, health plans, and patients will be engaged with the study. The *webinar recording, slides, and Q&A summary can be accessed [here](#).*
- » MNMCM hosted a webinar during May 2021 as part of Mental Health Awareness Month, **Improving Together: Advancing Mental Health Outcomes in Minnesota**. During the webinar, Dr. Angeline Carlson and Deb Krause shared highlights from a project funded by a prestigious Eugene B. Washington Community Engagement Award from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). The project used a Mixed Methods approach to engage diverse stakeholders, including Minnesota Department of Health, employers, health plans, providers, and nonprofit organizations. The presenters highlighted key findings regarding clinical practices, community perspectives, and opportunities for collective action. In addition, resources were shared to educate stakeholders and empower action. The *webinar recording and slides can be accessed [here](#).*