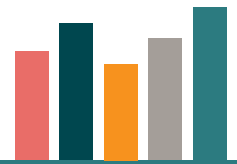


MEASUREMENT MINUTE

News from MN Community Measurement



COLLABORATE | EMPOWER | IMPROVE

March 2021

Letter from MNCM President and CEO Julie Sonier

As winter turns into spring and we pass the one-year mark of the COVID-19 pandemic, there are hopeful signs on the horizon. It has been a long and difficult year for many, if not most people, and it's encouraging to see signs of an ability to return to "normal" life ahead even though we know that normal is likely to be changed forever.

In some ways, that is a good thing. In health care, we have demonstrated the ability to make change on a much more rapid scale than most of us previously thought possible. Many of the panel discussions at MN Community Measurement's Annual Conference in February touched on the lessons we've learned that can help us move forward to improve health care and health outcomes for everyone, especially for people who are part of groups that have historically been disadvantaged. It was inspiring to be a part of these conversations, and MNCM is excited about playing a role in making this vision of better, more equitable health care a reality.

As always, we are grateful to you and all the people and organizations participating in this important work. Please read on for important updates about recent news and upcoming opportunities to engage with our work.

Best,



MNCM Board of Directors Welcomes New Members

MNCM is pleased to welcome five new members to its Board of Directors in 2021:

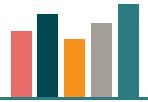


Abdirahman Abdi, MHA, is chief financial officer at Hennepin Health where he is responsible for accounting and finance, health economics, data analytics, and provider relations. Abdi was previously the director of finance and analytics at Fairview Health Services where he worked on population health management.



Molly Clark, PharmD, MHA, is vice president of safety, quality, and population health at Allina Health. She oversees patient safety, quality, clinical programs, infection control, and accreditation, and has been leading Allina's journey to Zero Preventable Harm through the implementation of high reliability. Molly's career in patient safety and quality was preceded by work as a clinical pharmacist.

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MNCM Board of Directors (cont.)



Patrick Courneya, MD, is chief health plan medical officer at HealthPartners. In this role, Dr. Courneya provides senior medical leadership in quality and utilization management, health and medical management, health initiatives, and customer business units.

Throughout his career, Dr. Courneya has served as a medical leader in various roles at medical group, hospital, and health plan levels, and he has 24 years of experience in active clinical practice.



Jodi Morris, MBA, leads global benefits at Graco Inc. In this role, she focuses on strategic direction, management, and oversight of programs that deliver value, improve well-being, and enhance the employee experience. Jodi brings more than 20

years of human resources expertise to her current role with experience in building and executing strategies. Previously, Jodi has served in human resources positions with organizations in the financial services and health care industries.



Greg Hanley, MBA, FACHE, CPHQ, is the vice president of quality management and population health for UCare where he provides oversight and direction for the Quality and Population Health Program, Quality Improvement, Star Ratings, NCQA Accreditation,

appeals and grievances, provider credentialing, and Disease Management and Health Services analytics. Prior to joining UCare, he was the midwest regional director of quality improvement at Coventry Health Care in Kansas City, MO. As such, he oversaw Coventry's credentialing, NCQA Accreditation, CAHPS and quality of care program, as well as its quality committees and all quality improvement projects.

MNCM Announces Free Webinar Series

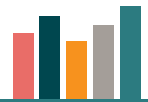
MNCM is offering two free spring webinars highlighting projects that have brought the community together to learn from one another and increase the community's understanding on approaches to care that advance improvement. Please save the dates and register today!

» **Improving Outcomes Through Care Coordination: *Minnesota Care Coordination Effectiveness Study (MNCARES) Brings Community Together to Discover New Insights***

Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 9–10 a.m. | [Register](#)

» **Improving Together: *Advancing Mental Health Outcomes in Minnesota***

Tuesday, May 11, 2021, 9–10 a.m. | [Register](#)



MNCM Seeks Workgroup Volunteers for Obesity Measure Development

MN Community Measurement in collaboration with the Endocrine Society (ES) is excited to announce a new measure development project for patients with obesity. This project includes evaluating measures created previously during the Obesity Care Management Collaborative¹ and potentially redesigning these measures or recommending new measure specifications for pilot testing and use.

MNCM will work with a group of clinical experts, Specifications Engineering Group (SEG), who will review details of the measure construct and draft measure specifications in preparation for feedback from a larger multi-stakeholder Technical Expert Panel (TEP).

We are seeking volunteers for members of both groups. The SEG will be composed of physicians with specialties of endocrinology, internal medicine, and family medicine, who are passionate in the care and treatment of patients with obesity. To provide continuity, the SEG are also members of the TEP. To round out the multi-stakeholder TEP membership, we are looking for representatives from the following areas: patients, data analysis, clinic administration, quality improvement specialist, health plan/payer, employer/purchasers, and additional clinicians.

The TEP meetings (2) will occur virtually, based on best availability via poll in August and October. Follow these links to learn more about [MNCM](#) and the [SEG/TEP](#) measure development process.

If you are interested in volunteering for the SEG and/or TEP, please complete an application using this [survey link](#). After completing an application expressing interest, you will be sent MNCM's conflict of interest policy and a declaration form for completion in DocuSign, which also must be completed for consideration for the SEG/TEP. **Deadline for application is Friday, April 23.**

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Collette Cole at cole@mncm.org. Thank you for your interest!

¹Castellucci, M. New Care Model Helps Primary-Care Practices Treat Obesity Modern HealthCare 2/11/2021

Data Submission Update for the 2020 Measurement Year

Data submission for the 2020 measurement year is closing and final validation is being completed. Statewide results will be shared with medical groups in April for a final review before data is approved. Thank you to all participating medical groups for your timely submissions and response to validation requests. If you have questions about data submission, please contact MNCM at support@mncm.org.

MNCM continues to plan for data collection of the orthopedic and oncology measures in its new data submission system and will provide an update on these measures in June.

Correction – December 2020 Measurement Update

In the article for NQF re-endorsement of the Optimal Vascular Care measure, the blood pressure component was expressed incorrectly as a target at or below 140/90. Corrected statement as follows:

Of note, both MNCM's OVC measure and National Committee for Quality Assurance's (NCQA's) Controlling High Blood Pressure measure were re-endorsed with blood pressure targets below 140/90.

The blood pressure component for this measure remains unchanged at **less than 140/90**.

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In Case You Missed It

MNCM ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT RECAP

MNCM's 2021 Annual Conference, Building Bridges to Better Health, was held virtually on February 17 and 18. The event included a special pre-conference summit on mental health, designed to fuel conversation about community collaboration to improve mental health care and outcomes. The two-day event convened 207 participants interested in finding new ways to collaborate to advance and accelerate improvement.



The mental health summit included national leaders who delivered powerful messages underscoring the need for continued collaboration to improve outcomes and highlighted resources available to support this work. One of the featured sessions was Strategies for Success: Minnesota Providers' Experiences in Improving Depression Care. Dr. Angeline Carlson and Deb Krause shared new information gathered through a best practices study of Minnesota clinics and care systems, funded by a Eugene B. Washington Community Engagement award from the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). Presenters highlighted key findings regarding clinical practices, enablers of success, challenges to address, and opportunities for collective action. Quotes from clinic representatives brought the concepts to life and sparked robust conversation among summit attendees. The session recording and slides can be accessed [here](#).

On February 18, MNMCM's Annual Conference kicked off with an in-depth look at challenges and opportunities resulting from COVID-19. The first panel discussion explored the impacts of COVID-19 on care delivery and health care quality in 2020 and was followed by a panel specifically focused on strategies to reduce health care disparities and improve health equity. The afternoon included national and local experts sharing their experiences in improving affordability and value in health care, including how to harness lessons learned during the pandemic to drive health care system improvement into the future.

RECENT REPORTS RELEASED BY MNMCM

» *Minnesota Health Care Quality Report: Results for Care Delivered in 2019*



This report, released on March 9, includes data on measures for preventive care, care for chronic conditions like diabetes and heart disease, depression care, and other measures. An appendix to the report includes detailed quality information for 159 medical groups and 891 clinics in Minnesota and neighboring states. [Learn more.](#)

» *Minnesota Health Care Disparities Report by Insurance Type: Results for Care Delivered in 2019*



This report, released on March 25, was prepared for the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) and examines differences in quality indicators between patients covered by Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) MCOs and other types of health insurance. For the first time, the report includes data on differences in outcomes by preferred language and country of origin within MHCP; it also includes analysis by race and ethnicity, as in prior years. [Learn more.](#)