The American Medical Association and its “Collaborative Agreement” from the Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative

The Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (TCPI) is designed to assist clinicians in achieving large-scale health care transformation. The initiative will support more than 140,000 clinicians over the next four years in sharing, adapting and further developing their comprehensive quality improvement strategies. The initiative is one part of a strategy advanced by the Affordable Care Act to strengthen the quality of patient care and spend health care dollars more wisely. The TCPI selected the American Medical Association as one of 39 health care collaborative networks to participate.

As a Support and Alignment Network (SAN), the AMA will receive a Collaborative Agreement of more than $650,000 a year for four years to support the efforts of the TCPI. This will fund technical assistance to our nation’s physicians to improve the current quality of care, increase patients’ access to information and assist physicians in moving through the phases of practice transformation.

Through the Collaborative Agreement, as well as in collaboration with the Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services (CMS), the AMA will:

- Promote the TCPI’s goals to the broader health care community
- Use the AMA STEPS Forward™ platform to develop and digitally host educational activities for TCPI participants
- Accelerate the maturation of clinical data registries
- Conduct annual collaborative events to elevate the capabilities of Practice Transformation Networks (PTN) and SANs

The AMA plans to employ a variety of national channels, in addition to its own members, to communicate about TCPI aims, network projects, change methodologies and success stories. By featuring TCPI-related content to the AMA’s multi-channel audience 12 times per year, 19 million opportunities will be created to reach physicians, ultimately resulting in greater awareness, interest, participation and support.

The role of the AMA STEPS Forward platform

The AMA’s recently launched STEPS Forward platform will play a vital role in assisting physicians to achieve large-scale health transformation. Over the span of four years, the AMA will develop and digitally host 20 CME-eligible educational modules targeting the 140,000 TCPI clinicians, and will serve as support systems for PTN practices as they matriculate through the five phases of transformation.

To accelerate the maturation of clinical data registries, enable practices to initiate quality improvement programs and adopt quality-based payment models, the AMA will coordinate resources and tools required to continue maturation at a pace consistent with the goals of the TCPI. Working with the National Quality Registry Network®, the AMA will increase access to—and participation in—qualified clinical data registries by clinicians.

The AMA will also develop content and provide nationally recognized adjunct faculty for four annual collaborative learning events, totaling 16 events over the four-year partnership. Additional live events and online activities will influence more clinicians and practices, thereby affecting more patients and helping to improve the health of the nation.

Learn more about the Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative and visit STEPSforward.org for the latest strategies to revitalize practices and improve patient care.


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