

Sixth National ACO Summit

Friday, June 19, 2015

Track Nine

9:30–11:00

Specialty Care Challenges and Approaches

AM

Norman B. Kahn Jr., MD, Executive Vice President and CEO, Council of Medical Specialty Societies (Moderator)

1. **Daniel J. Durand, MD**, Director of Accountable Care, Johns Hopkins Healthcare, LLC
2. **Patrick Twomey, MD**, Chief Medical Officer, Essentia Health
3. **Ronald Walters, MD, MBA, MS**, Associate Vice President of Medical Operations and Informatics; Professor of Clinical Medicine, Non-Tenured, Department of Breast Medical Oncology, Division of Cancer Medicine; Medical Director, Managed Care Programs, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
4. **W. Douglas Weaver, MD**, Past Vice President and System Medical Director, Heart and Vascular Services, Henry Ford Health System; Director, Navigant Consulting, Inc

Panel Overview

While ACOs have traditionally focused on primary care, integrating specialty care into the ACO model is critical to ensuring patients receive the full spectrum of care necessary to achieve better health outcomes. Integration of specialty care can include a number of different approaches, ranging from including specialists in preferred referral networks to directly integrating specialists into the governance or structure of the ACO. ACOs are increasingly recognizing the value of these efforts, however there are many challenges to such integration, including developing new financial arrangements, ensuring effective communication between primary care and specialty providers, and keeping patients connected to all members of the care team. This panel will focus on some of the considerations and challenges for integrating specialty care in ACOs and discuss strategies being used to maximize the value of such care in ACOs and other alternative payment models. Panelists will discuss their experiences and perspective on these efforts and share lessons learned for other organizations to undertake similar efforts.

Core Questions

- What are some of major challenges for integrating specialty care and specialists into accountable care arrangements?
- What approaches have organization used to overcome these challenges and ensure patients receive high value care across the care spectrum?
- What strategies have ACOs and other delivery systems used to improve the sharing of data and coordination of care across multiple care settings?
- What have been the greatest benefits of more effective specialty care integration and use by ACOs?
- What lessons can ACOs and other delivery systems learn for their own efforts at integrating specialty care?
- What are shared issues/considerations across specialties? What challenges have been unique to each specialty?

9:30 AM
Focus

Norman B. Kahn Jr., Council of Medical Specialties (*Moderator*)

Norman will provide an overview of the topic and discuss the role of the nation's specialty societies in helping to facilitate a culture of performance improvement, including endorsement of the national quality strategy. He will also highlight how societies and are working together on registries and the development of more sophisticated alternative payment models; considerations for aligning quality improvement with regulatory requirements; and potential criteria for integrating specialists into ACOs through specific examples.

9:50 AM
Focus

Daniel J. Durand, Johns Hopkins Healthcare, LLC

Daniel will focus his remarks on the role of imaging in improving quality for ACOs, particularly through initiatives such as Choosing Wisely. He will also reflect on his experiences as Director of the Johns Hopkins ACOs and their efforts to better integrating specialty care, including considering how to include not just ambulatory care providers, but also those based at the hospital.

9:55 AM
Focus

Ronald Walters, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Ronald will discuss the role of oncology in improving care within an ACO and the kinds of unique challenges, incentives, and disincentives that exist for integrating cancer care into accountable care arrangements. He will also highlight how MD Anderson has worked to improve cancer care and the ways in which their structure, geography, and other organizational factors impact their initiatives.

10:00 AM
Focus

W. Douglas Weaver, Henry Ford Health System and Navigant Consulting, Inc

Doug will discuss strategies that Henry Ford Health System has used to better integrate and improve cardiology care, diagnostic testing and communication with primary care physicians. He will discuss the unique challenges of improving cardiology care in accountable care arrangements, and how bundled payment initiatives in other institutions have provided a means for greater integration and opportunities to improve the value of care provided.

10:05 AM
Focus

Patrick Twomey, Essentia Health

Patrick will discuss the importance of specialists, like primary care physicians, being focused on the Triple Aim in order to ensure improve quality and not just reduced costs. He will highlight the importance of pathologists collaborating with other specialists ad primary care physicians in order to develop team-based approached to care and improves the patient experience, as well as the need for robust and insightful analytics to help focus care to the right areas.

10:10 AM

Q&A