

A dark blue silhouette of the state of Arkansas is centered on a background of three horizontal color bands: red on the left, teal in the middle, and purple on the right. The text "Health Care Payment Improvement Initiative" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font across the map outline.

**Health
Care
Payment
Improvement
Initiative**

Building a healthier future for all Arkansans

Joseph W. Thompson, MD, MPH

Surgeon General, State of Arkansas

Director, Arkansas Center for Health Improvement

Arkansas Landscape

- With ~ 3M citizens, Arkansas is 32nd in population
- Urban center (Little Rock) but many rural areas
- >50% of adult population with \geq one chronic disease
- Over 60% of physicians in practices of 5 or fewer
- Increasingly fragmented health care system resulting in difficulty for citizens to navigate in times of need
- Private insurance premiums doubled in past 10 years with growing numbers of uninsured
- Medicaid budget projecting unsustainable growth





Overall State Vision

Objective

- Improve the health of the population
- Enhance the patient experience of care
- Reduce or control the cost of care

Care delivery strategies

Population-based care delivery

- Medical Homes
- Health Homes



Episode-based care delivery

- Acute conditions, defined procedures

Enabling initiatives

Payment innovation

Health care workforce development

Consumer engagement and personal responsibility

Health information technology adoption

Expanded coverage for health care services

Coordinated Multi-payer Leadership

Value of working together recognized
by payers with close involvement from
other stakeholders

Arkansas
Medicaid

QualChoice®
HEALTH INSURANCE


Arkansas
BlueCross BlueShield
An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association


CENTERS for MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

- **Consistent incentives** and standardized reporting rules and tools
- **Change in practice** patterns as program applies to many patients
- Enough scale to justify investments in **new infrastructure** and operational models
- **Motivate patients** to play larger role in their health and health care

Significant Input from Providers and Patients

500+

- **Providers, patients, family members**, and other stakeholders who helped shape the new model in public workgroups

20+
17

- **Public workgroup meetings** connected to 6–8 sites across the state through videoconference
- **Public town hall meetings** across the state

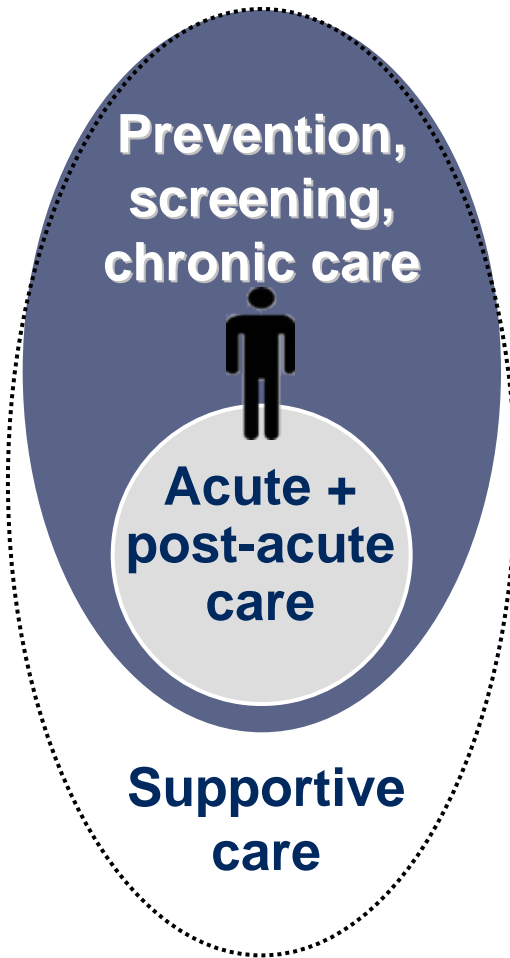
24

- **Months of research**, data analysis, expert interviews and infrastructure development to design and launch episode-based payments

Monthly

- **Updates with Arkansas provider associations** (AHA, AMS, Arkansas Waiver Association, Developmental Disabilities Provider Association)

Overlapping Models in Arkansas Approach: Medical Homes, Health Homes, and Episodes



Patient populations (examples)

Healthy, at-risk

Chronic, e.g.,

- CHF
- Diabetes

Acute medical

- CHF
- Pneumonia

Acute procedural

- Hip replacement

Developmental disability

Long-term care

Behavioral health (mental illness/ substance abuse)

Care/payment models

Medical homes

- Care coordination
- Overall health mgmt
- Rewards quality, utilization, total cost

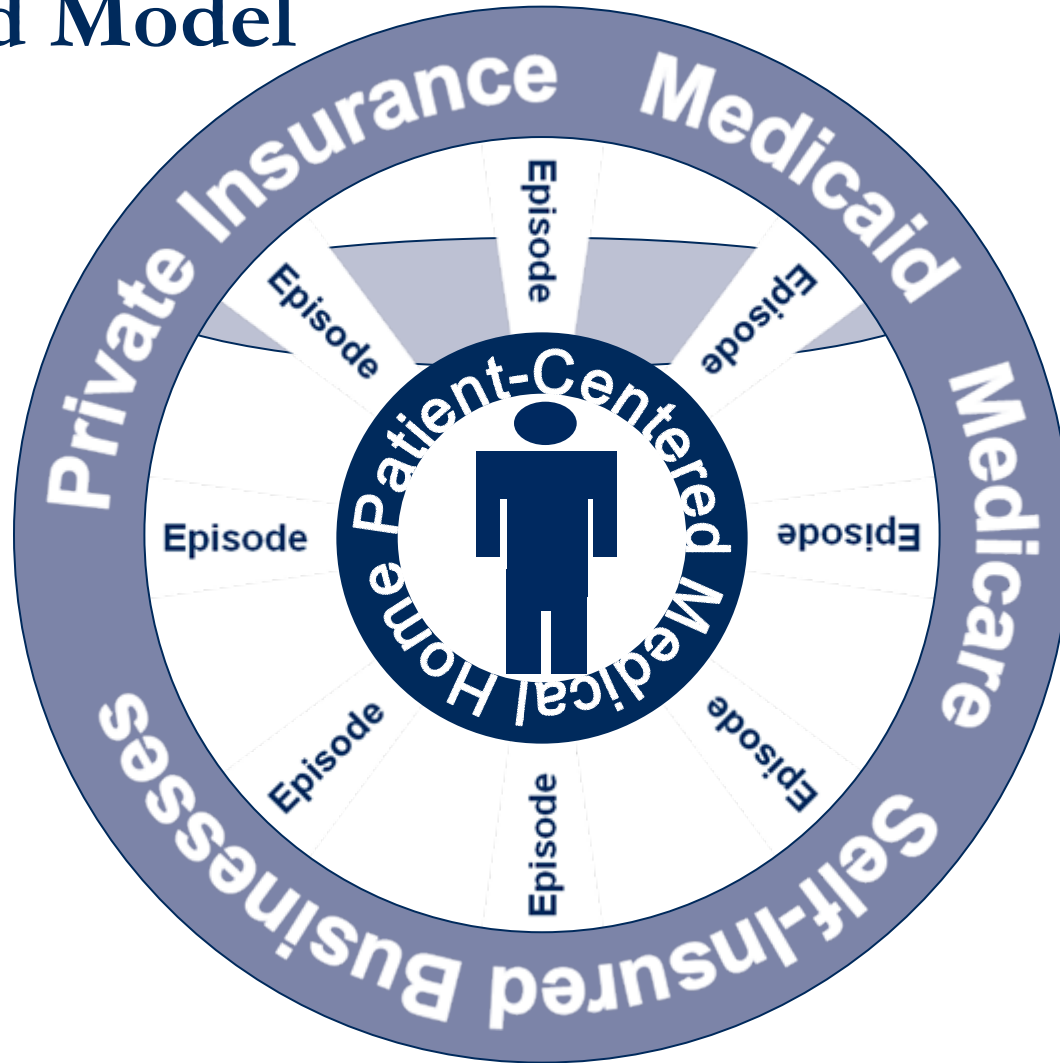
Episodes

- Rewards high-quality, effective care delivery for a specific episode

Health homes + episodes

- Health home: care coordination

Arkansas Payment Improvement Initiative's Integrated Model



Patient-Centered Medical Home: Arkansas Multi-payer Vision

Key attributes

- Providers with responsibility for entire experience of patient panel
- Evidence-informed care
- 24/7 access for all individuals
- Coordinated/integrated care across multidisciplinary provider teams
- Focus on management of chronic disease with avoided progression
- Referrals to high-value providers (e.g., specialists)
- Improved wellness and preventive care

Incentives

- Monthly fees support care coordination efforts and transformation to PCMH
- Shared savings model that rewards providers for controlling costs while maintaining or improving quality



Medical Home: Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative

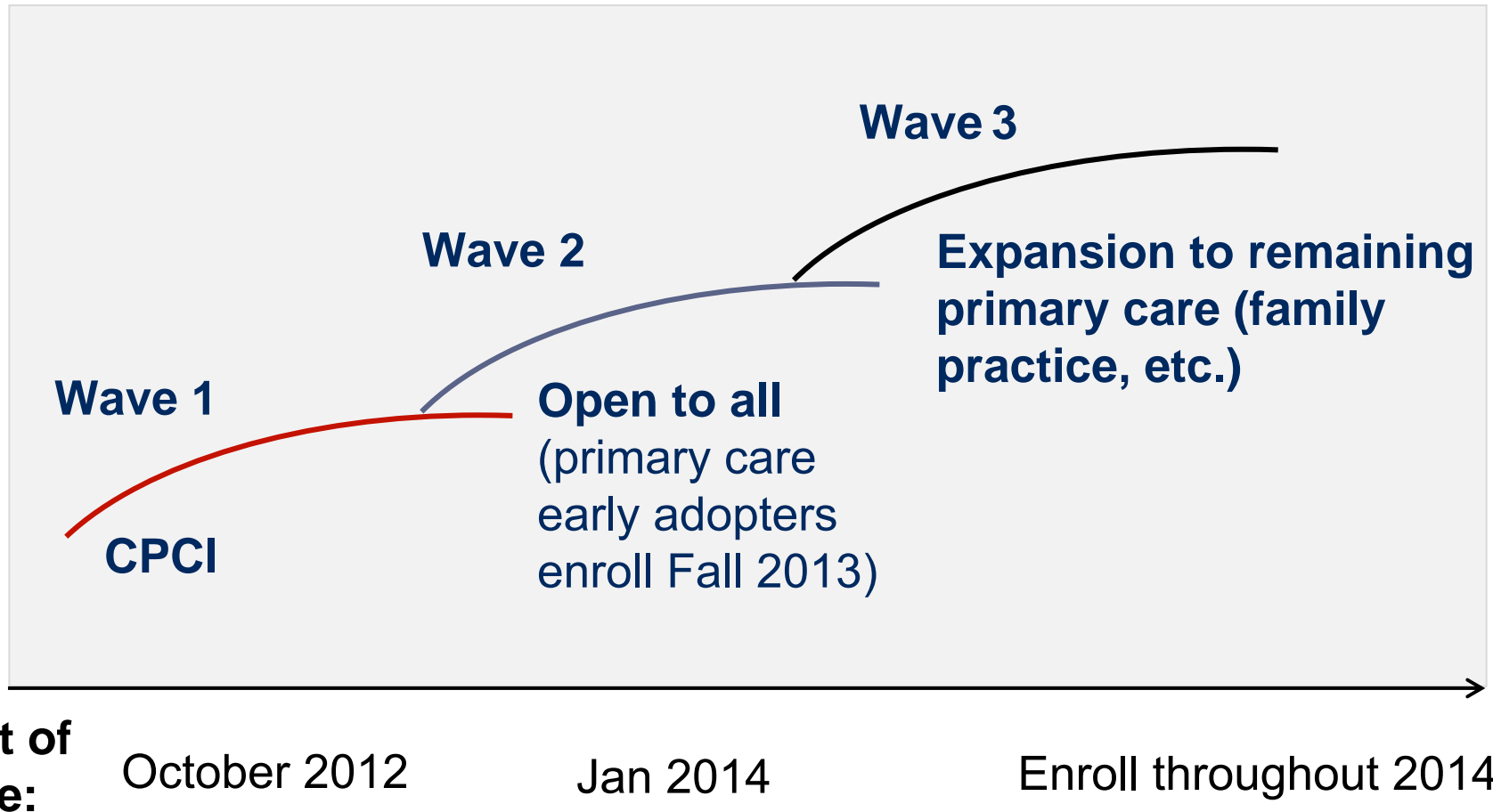


- **69 primary care practices**
 - Receiving FFS + enhanced payments
 - Improving patient experience: care coordination, access, communication
 - Practices responsible for ALL patients
 - Quality, cost, and transformation milestones will be evaluated
- **PMPM began October '12**
 - Medicare \$8–40; risk-adjusted
 - Medicaid +\$3 kids; +\$7 adults
 - Private ~\$5
- **Must meet targets**
 - Quality, performance, transformation
- **Shared savings model yrs 2–4**



Medical Home: Rollout Timeline

PCMH coverage strategy over next several years



Start of wave:

October 2012

Jan 2014

Enroll throughout 2014



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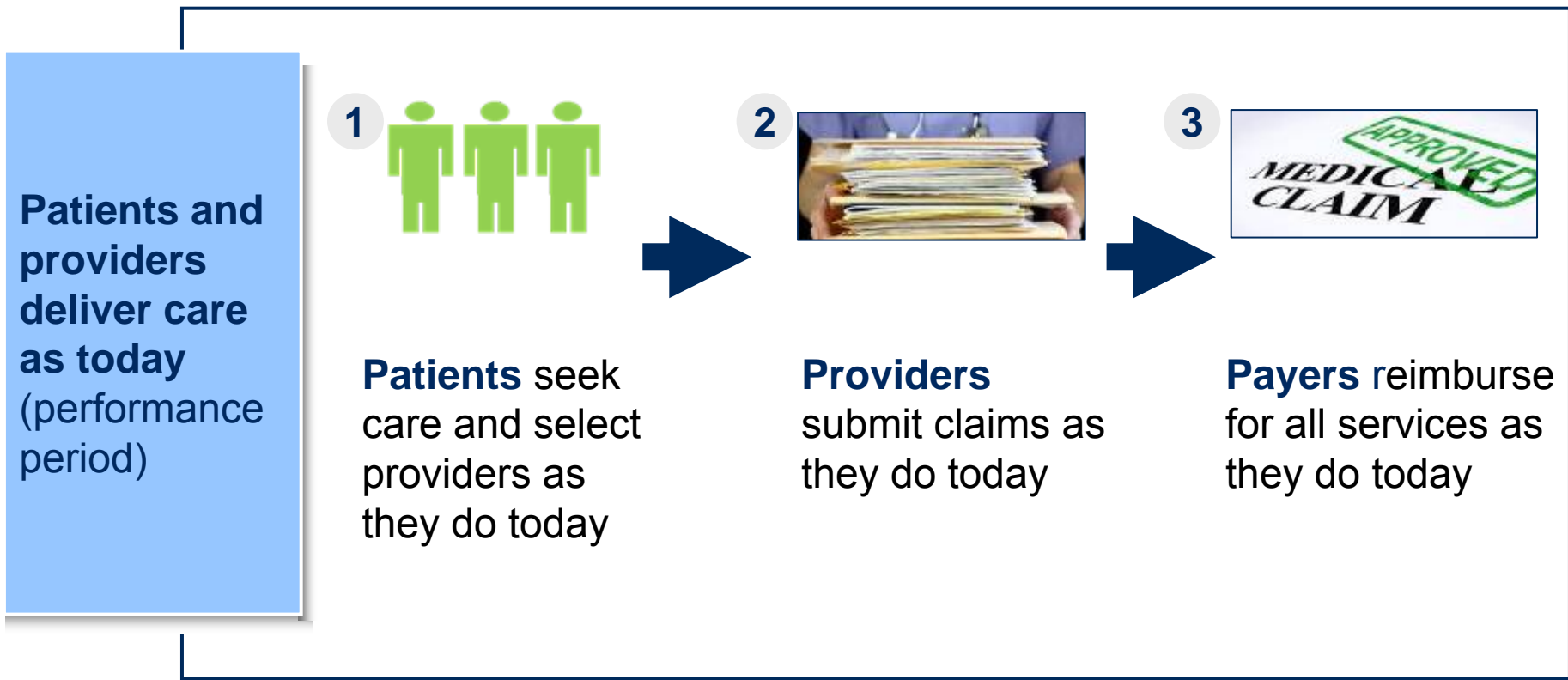
Expanded coverage for health care services

Principal Accountable Providers – Episodes

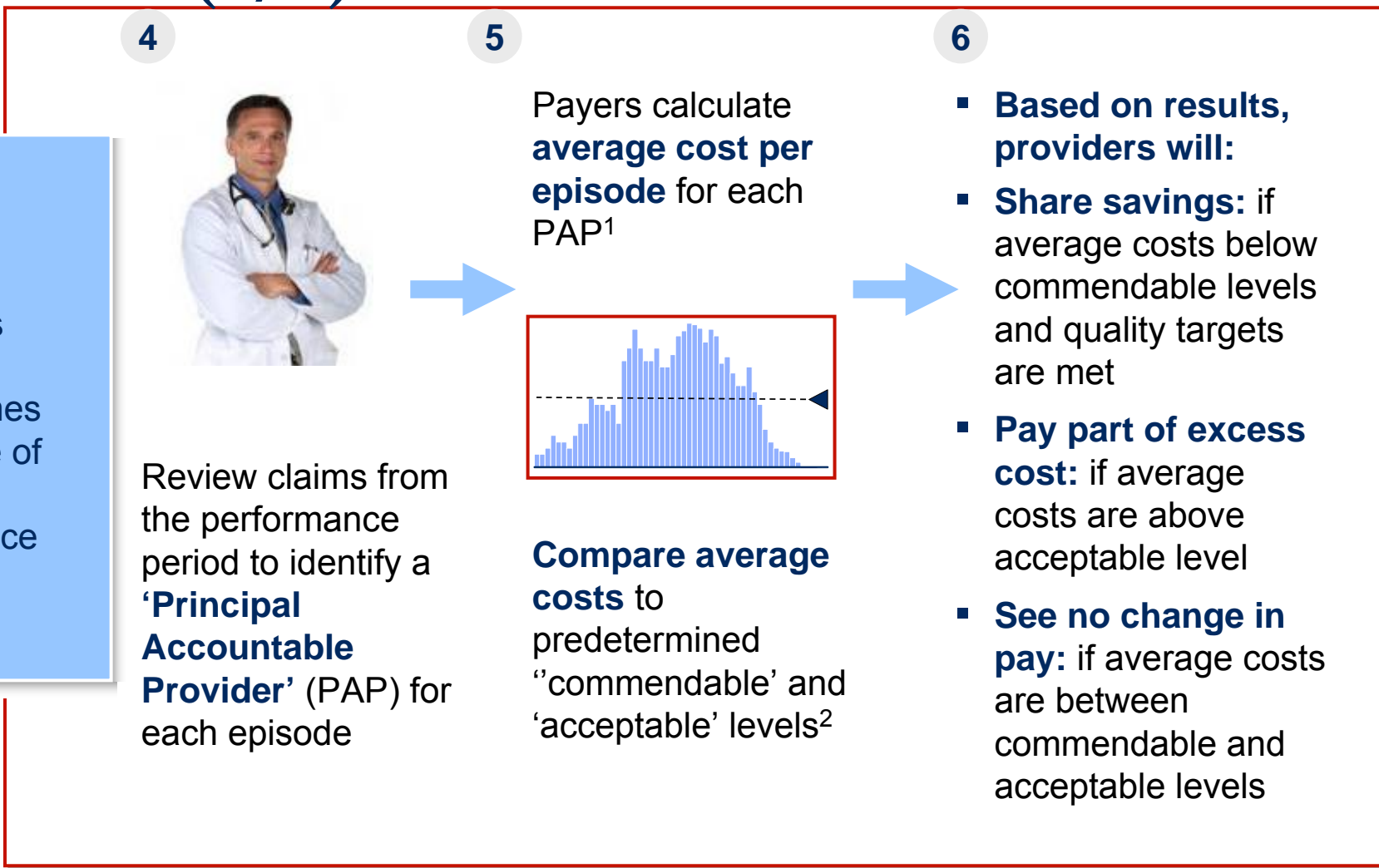
Leads and coordinates services, ensuring quality of care across providers

PAP Selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Payers select PAP based on main responsibility for patient's care
Core Provider for Episode	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physician, practice, hospital or other provider in the best position to influence overall quality, cost of care
Episode “Quarterback”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leads and coordinates the team of providers• Helps drive improvement across system
Performance Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rewarded for leading high-quality, cost-effective care• Receives performance reports and data to support decision-making

How episodes work for patients and providers (1/2)



How episodes work for patients and providers (2/2)



1 Outliers removed and adjusted for risk and hospital per diems

2 Appropriate cost and quality metrics based on latest and best clinical evidence, nationally recognized clinical guidelines and local considerations

Wave 1 Episodes

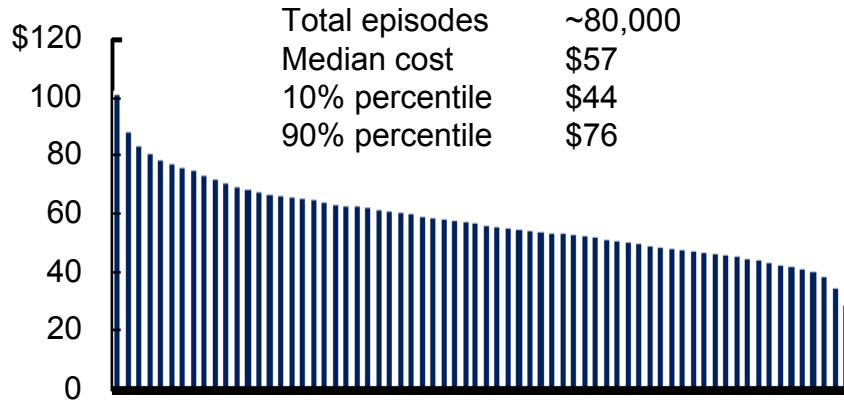
Principal
Accountable
Provider

<p>Total Hip/ Knee replacement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgical procedure plus related claims 30 days prior to 90 days after 	<p>Orthopedic surgeon</p>
<p>Perinatal (non-NICU)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pregnancy-related claims for mother 40 wks before to 60 days after delivery 	<p>Delivering provider</p>
<p>Ambulatory URI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21-day window beginning with initial consultation 	<p>First provider to diagnose patient in-person</p>
<p>Congestive Heart Failure Admission</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital admission and care within 30 days of discharge 	<p>Admitting hospital</p>
<p>ADHD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12-month episode including all ADHD services plus pharmacy costs 	<p>Physician or licensed mental health provider</p>

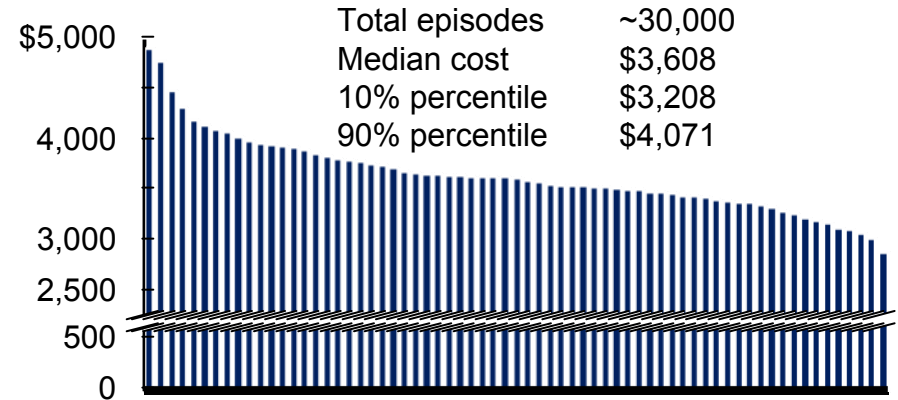
Case for Change

Total average cost per episode post-risk adjustment by Principal Accountable Provider, 2008-2010

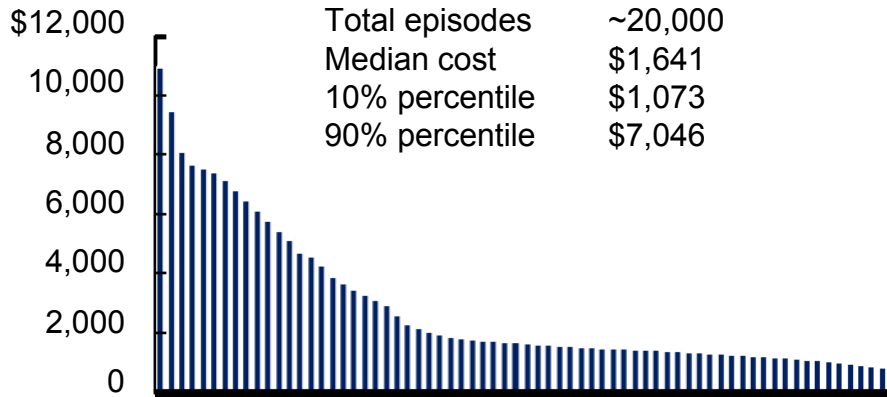
Simple upper respiratory infection¹



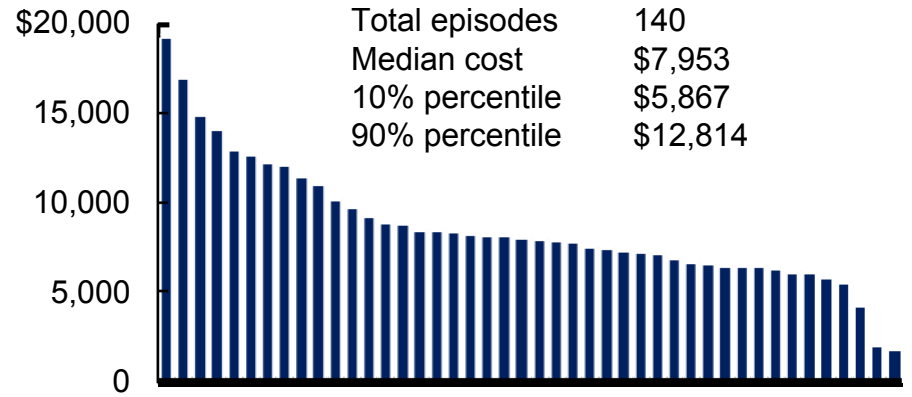
Pregnancy²



ADHD³



Total hip replacement



¹ Episode costs for children less than 10 risk-adjusted by a historically-derived multiplier.

² Individual episode costs risk-adjusted for clinical drivers of severity based upon historically-derived multipliers.

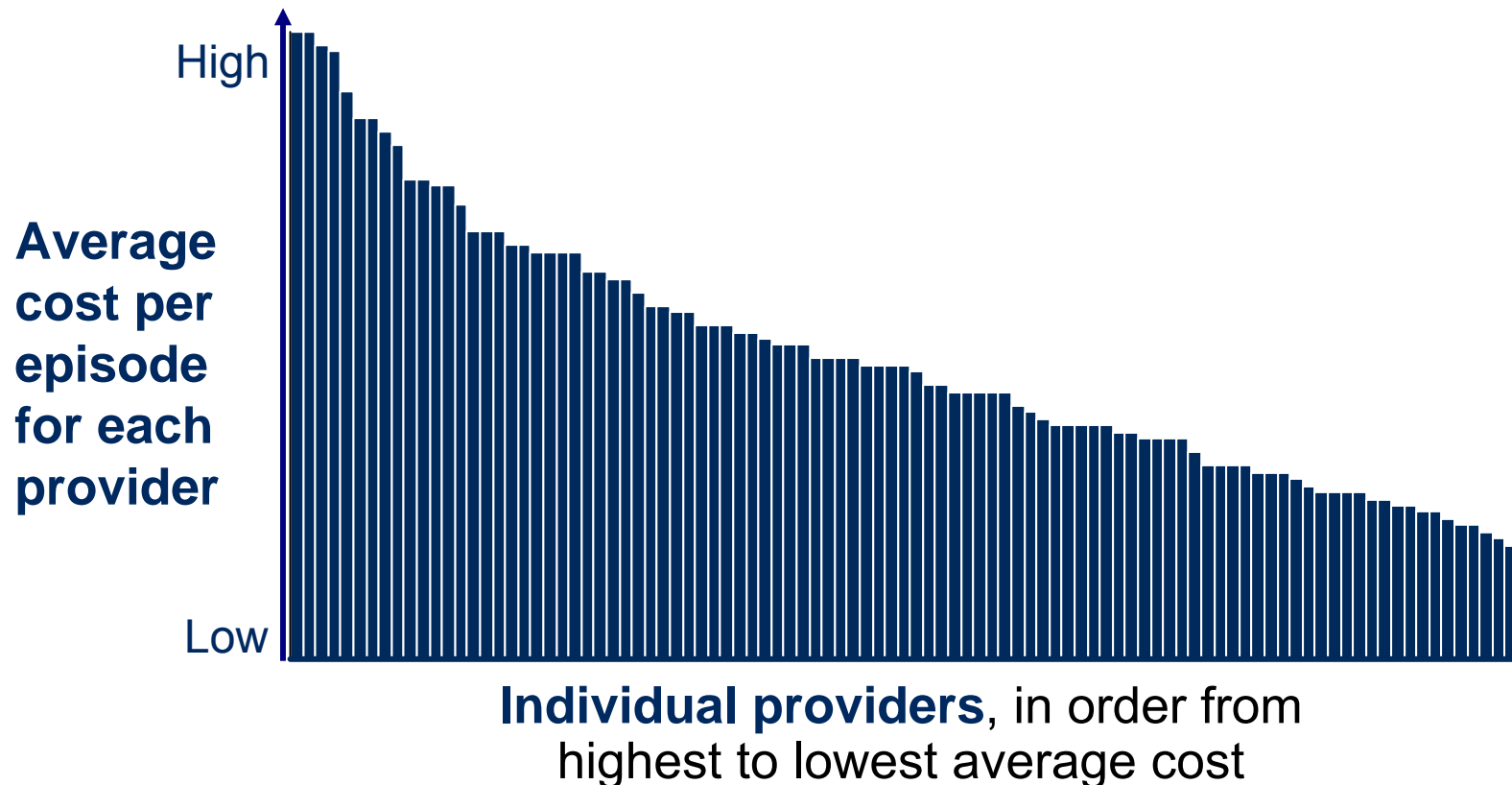
³ Eligible defined as ADHD without comorbidities between ages 6 and 17.

How the Episode Payment Model Works

- **Historic distribution of provider average costs for an episode are assessed**

Year 1 results

■ Year 1 results

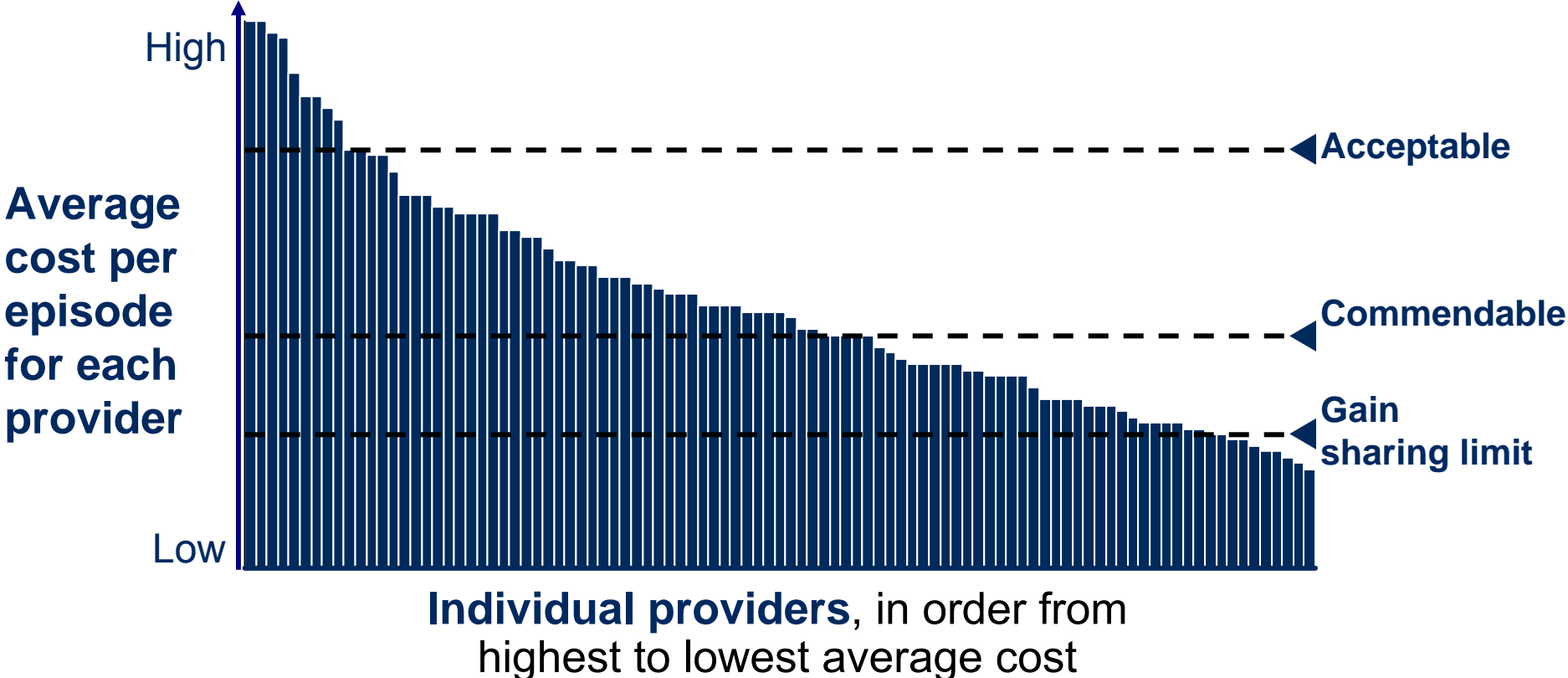


How the Episode Payment Model Works

- **Thresholds are selected to promote high-quality and cost-effective care**

Year 1 results

■ Year 1 results

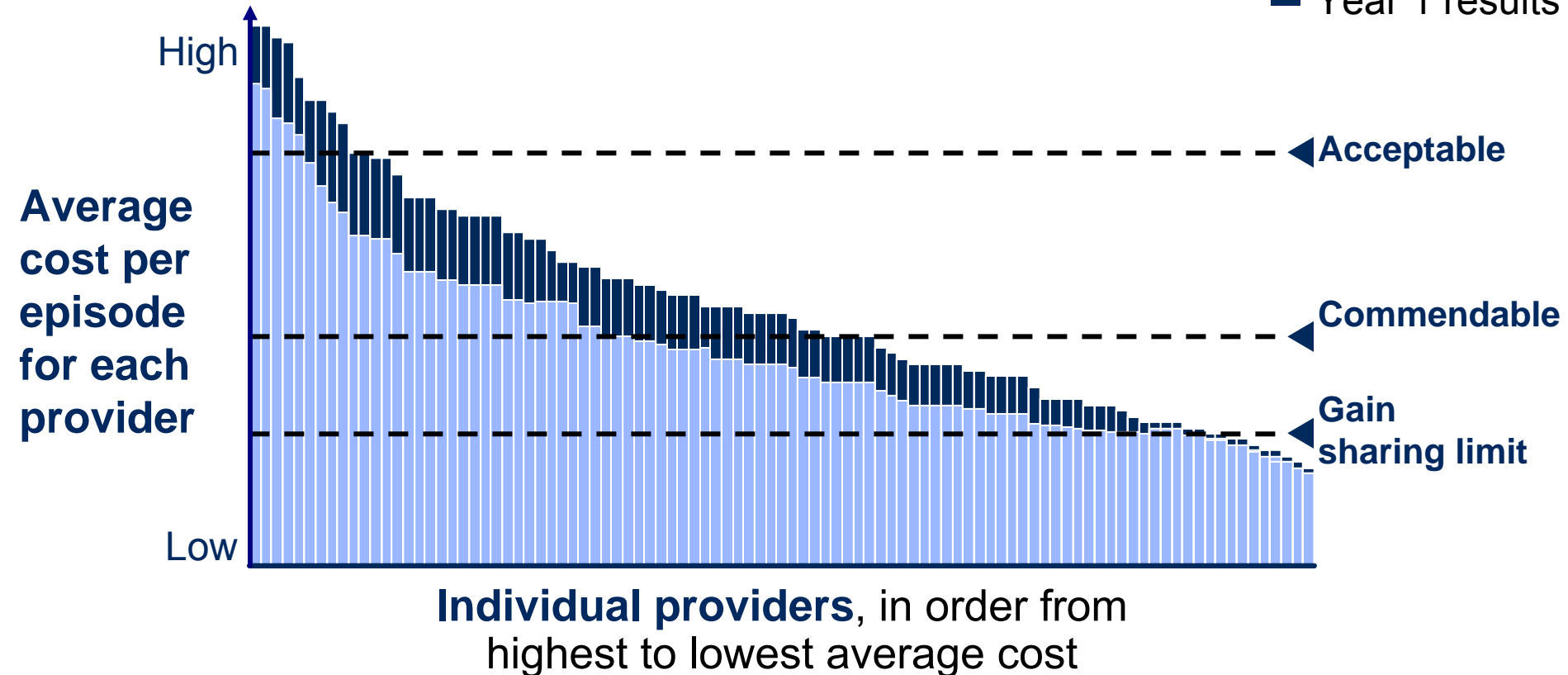


How the Episode Payment Model Works

- **Thresholds remain the same the next year with expectation that cost effectiveness will improve**

Year 2 results

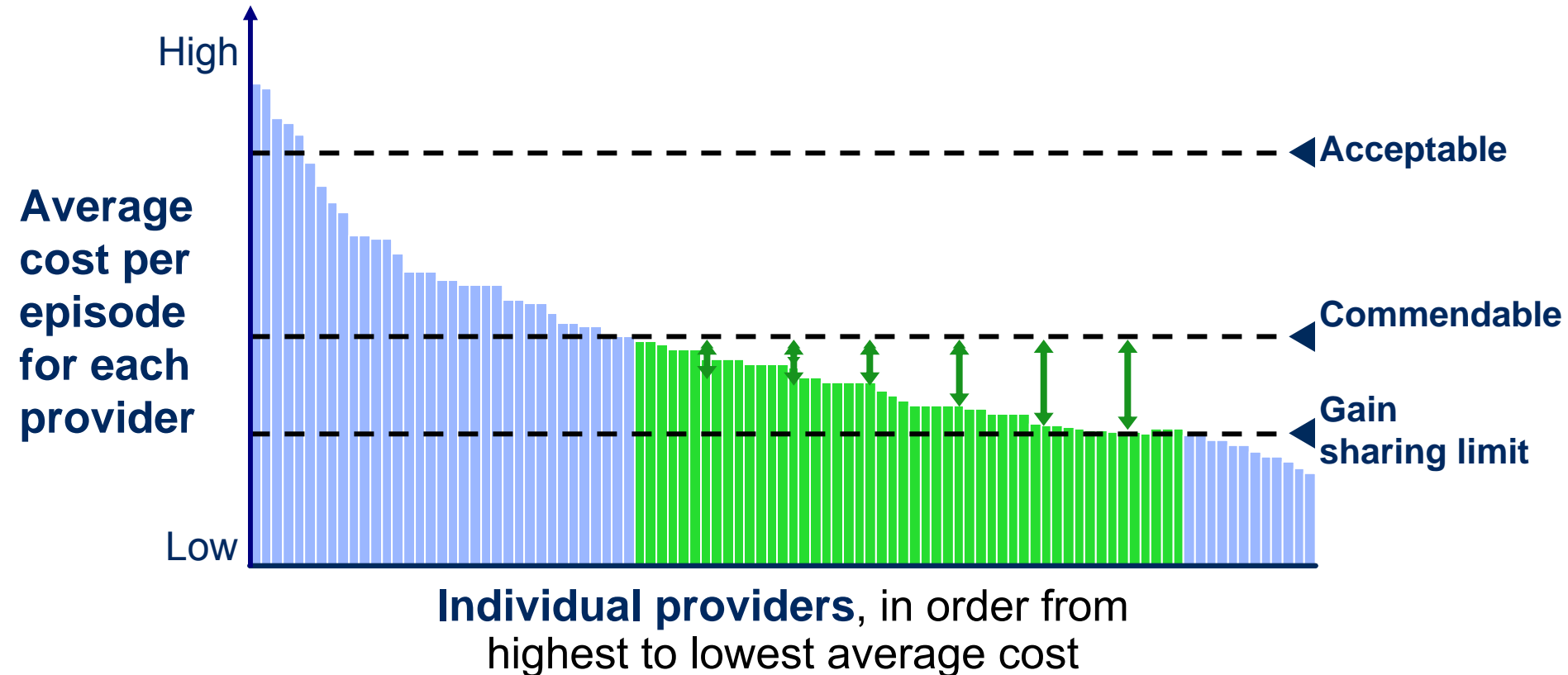
■ Year 2 results
■ Year 1 results



How the Episode Payment Model Works

↕ Shared Savings

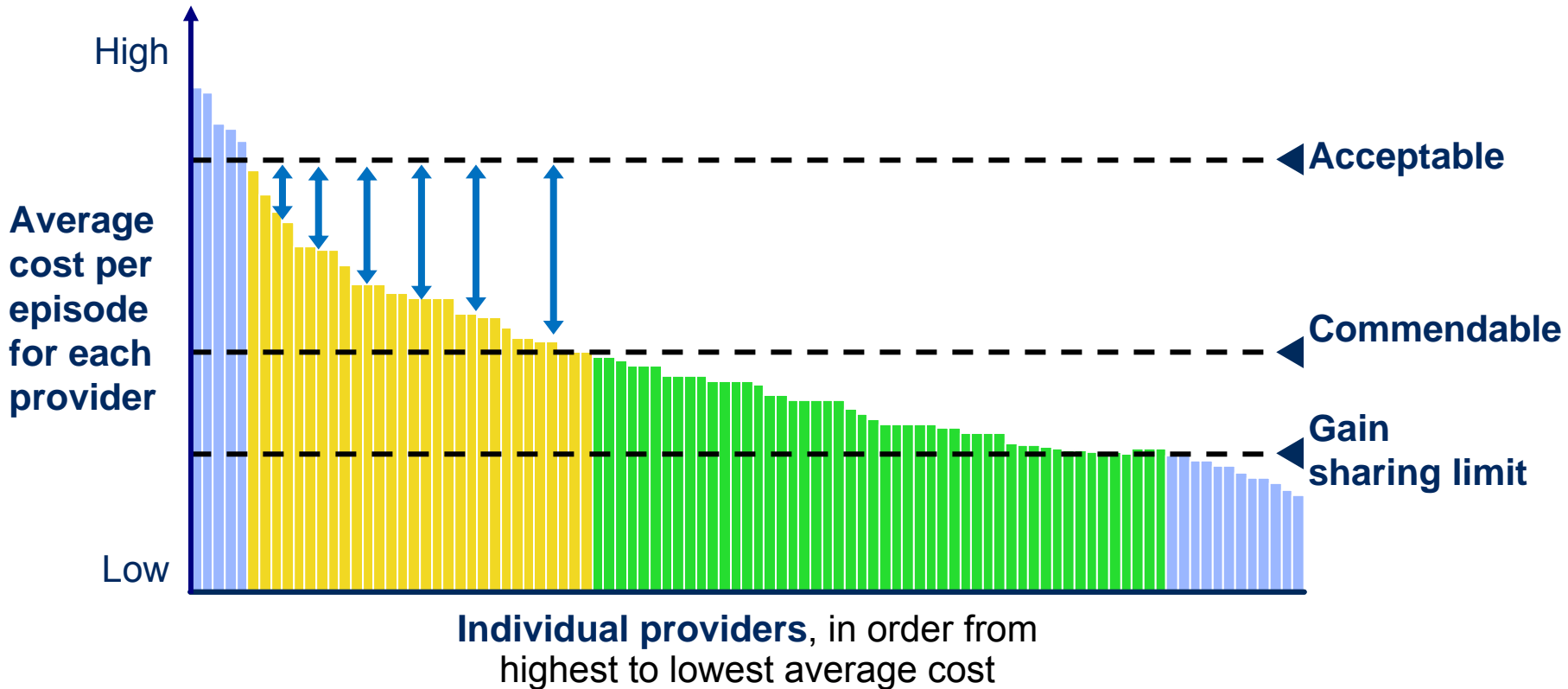
Year 2 results



How the Episode Payment Model Works

↕ Savings/Cost Neutral

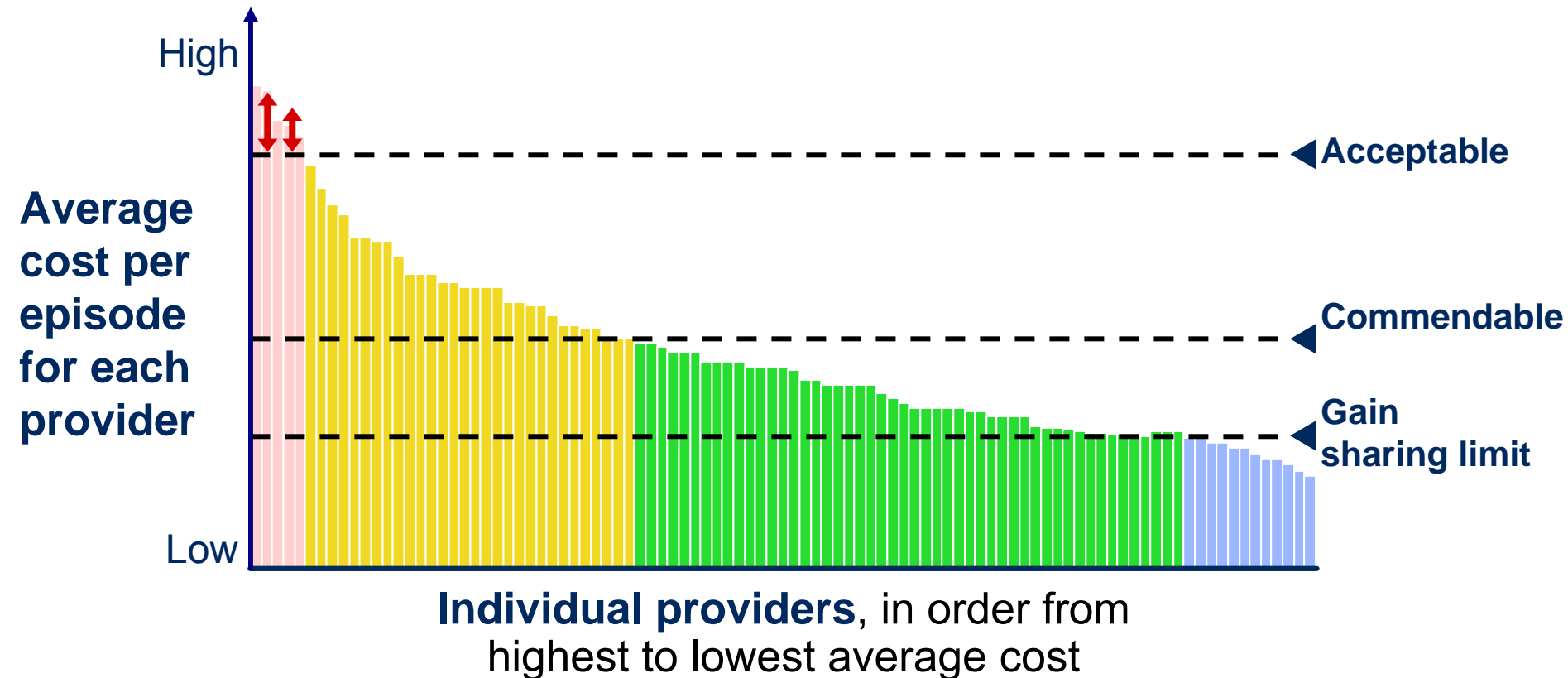
Year 2 results



How the Episode Payment Model Works

↑ Shared Costs

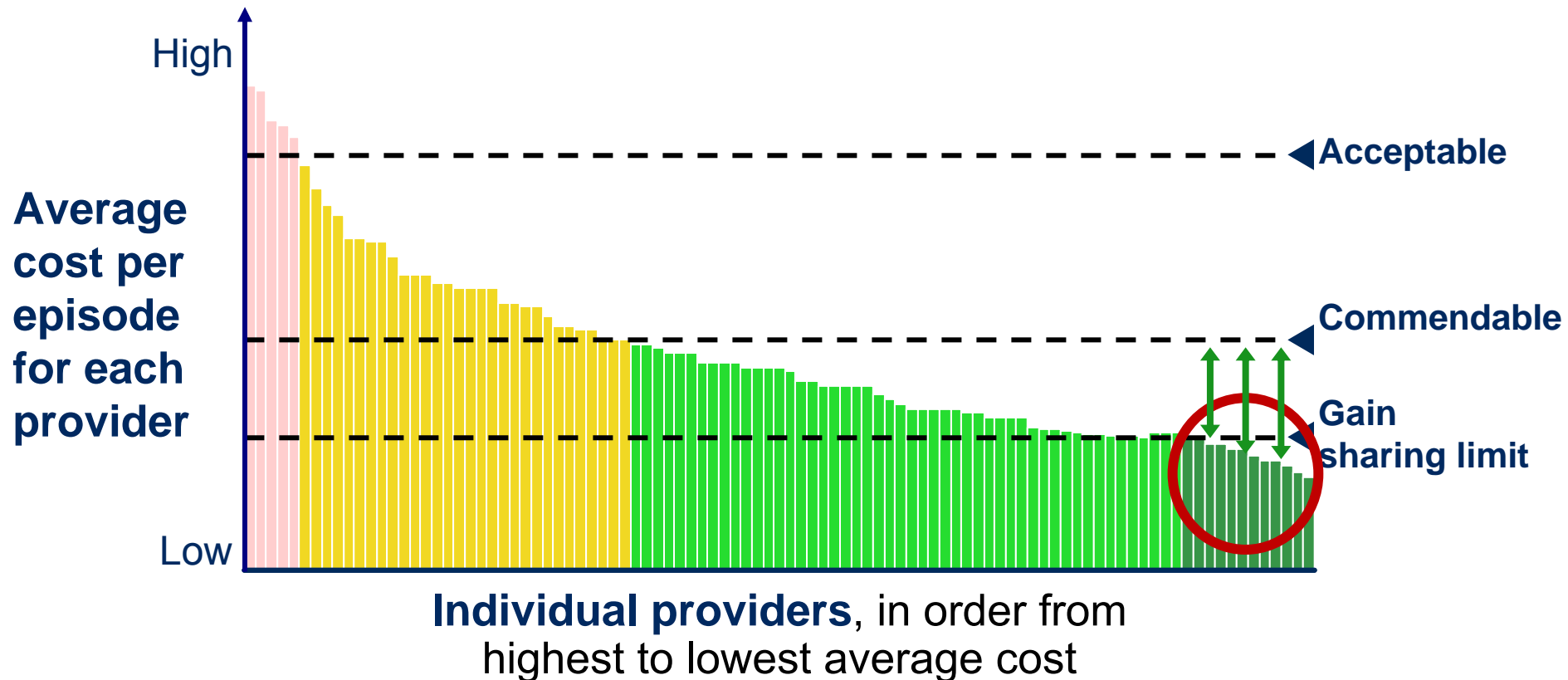
Year 1 results



How the Episode Payment Model Works

- **Quality of care protected by limits on gain sharing and required quality metrics**

Year 1 results



2013 Episodes: Wave 2 Launch

Wave 2a (Summer 2013)

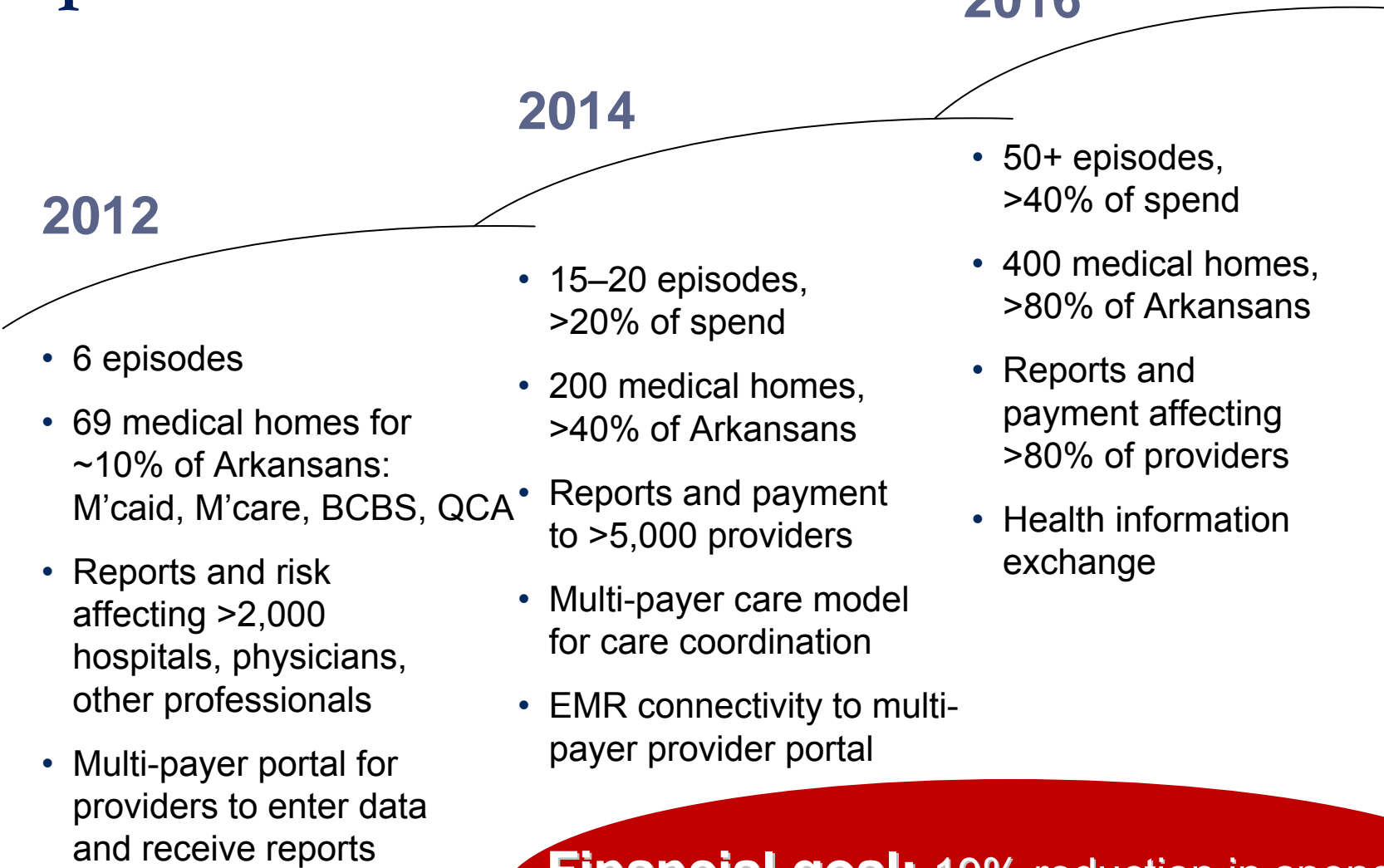
- Tonsillectomy
- Cholecystectomy
- Colonoscopy
- Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD)

Wave 2b to follow (2014)

- PCI & CABG
- COPD exacerbation/Asthma exacerbation
- Neonatal Care
- ODD / ADHD



Scope and Pace of Rollout



Financial goal: 10% reduction in spend by 2017, followed by sustained reduction in trend*

*Reflects goal publicly communicated by Arkansas Medicaid; similar success case for BCBS

Arkansas Act 1498:

The Health Care Independence Act of 2013

- Expansion of Medicaid under PPACA using premium assistance—buying through the insurance exchange

- APII Participation requirements on carriers

Section d) *Health insurance carriers offering health care coverage for program eligible individuals shall participate in Arkansas Payment Improvement Initiatives including but not limited to:*

- (1) Assignment of primary care clinician;*
- (2) Support for patient-centered medical home; and*
- (3) Access of clinical performance data for providers.*

- Effectively results in carrier mandate for APII



What's Evolved, What's Stayed the Same

Stayed the same

- Multi-payer approach
- Aim to cover majority (>80%) of health care spending
- Transfer clinical management and efficiency risk to providers, but retain actuarial risk with payers

Evolved

- From prospective bundles to retrospective payment
- Integration of Patient Centered Medical Home model with episodes
- Voluntary participation to mandatory

Lessons Learned Along the Way

1. Fundamental recognition that the healthcare system is not working and must change
2. Opportunity for the state to convene and lead
3. Multi-payer necessity: public/private, Medicaid/Medicare, fully and self-insured
4. Alignment of incentives for quality/outcomes critical
5. Opportunity to “lead or follow” across payers
6. Tension between fairness, simplicity, and scalability
7. Opportunity to lift up unanticipated champions
8. Focus on real transformation not a demonstration



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