

ConnectiCare with Connecticut Multispecialty Group, Hartford Medical Group, and Hartford Hospital Launch “Patient Partnership” for Medicare Advantage Patients

Program a Win for Patient, Physician, and Health Plan

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ConnectiCare with Connecticut Multispecialty Group, Hartford Medical Group and Hartford Hospital have launched a patient-centered medical program for the benefit of Medicare Advantage patients. Called the “Patient Partnership,” the pilot program is designed to improve the patient experience through better collaboration between the physician and health plan. To accomplish this goal, the two organizations will work together to encourage patients to participate in free medical support programs provided by the health plan, work to reduce unnecessary hospital readmissions and emergency room visits, and offer more education to patients about treatment choices.

ConnectiCare’s health plan and these physicians will focus their efforts on their Medicare Advantage patients. “We have worked with ConnectiCare for many years and they are good partners to test this model. Our Medicare population will have a better patient experience from our partnership,” said Dr. Kent Stahl, CEO and Medical Director of Hartford Medical Group (HMG).

“This program is a win for the patient, the physician and the health plan. We value their engagement as partners in this pilot to improve the health of the patient,” said Dr. Paul Bluestein, Chief Medical Officer at ConnectiCare.

Patients needing more than basic care have multiple contacts within the health system. Coordination of services and ongoing treatment support are key to making patient outcomes better. An average Medicare Advantage patient will see over seven doctors in a year and use nine different medications.

To improve coordination, ConnectiCare with Connecticut Multispecialty Group and Hartford Medical Group will identify high-risk patients who need additional help and provide data to help coordinate care for these patients.

For instance, ConnectiCare will send timely information to assist physicians in contacting their patients soon after hospital discharge to discuss their care plan. Lowering hospital readmissions is a priority because nearly 20% of all Medicare Advantage patients are readmitted into the hospital within 30 days after leaving.

“The patient has many touch points within the health system. When a member in this new program goes to a specialist they will already have their information at-hand from their primary care physician, this will make the experience better for the patient by strengthening the coordination of care between the members multiple doctors,” says Robert Ferrini, CEO of CMG.

HMG is one of Connecticut's premier primary care medical providers that is owned by the Hartford Healthcare Corporation. Connecticut Multispecialty Group is a Hartford based network of both primary care and specialty physicians that have a longstanding relationship with Hartford Hospital.

Kathy Madden, VP of the health plan network, observes, "This pilot is the first phase of a longer-term strategy to develop an Accountable Care Organization (ACO) with physician groups."

ConnectiCare is a health plan based in Farmington, Connecticut and an [EmblemHealth company](#). ConnectiCare. The company was home-grown in Connecticut and has 500 employees who reside mainly in the Hartford area. Visit our website: www.connecticare.com.

Connecticut Multispecialty Group, P.C. was formed in 1996 when a group of physicians from several specialties came together to explore options for enhancing patient care. CMG was the first physician group in Central Connecticut to convert to an electronic health record (EHR) in 2006. They currently have more than 80 physicians and 25 midlevel providers in primary care and 14 specialty areas. CMG is wholly physician owned and managed. Their Board of Directors is 100% physician controlled and has representation from all departments. CMG physicians have been recognized as "Top Doctors in CT" as reported in CT Magazine, Hartford Magazine, and New England Magazine, and was the recipient of the 2008 and 2009 SureScripts National Award in recognition of outstanding quality prescription services to their patients.

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- High Quality medical care with quantifiable outcomes
- Internal medicine, family practice, pediatrics, urgent care, occupational medicine, and sports medicine practices at ten offices in Greater Hartford. We are a member of the Hartford Health Care Corporation, and affiliated with [Hartford Hospital](#), the cornerstone of Connecticut's finest full-spectrum health care system.

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