



Department of Public Health and Human Services

Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Bureau ♦1400 Broadway, Room C314B ♦

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Steve Bullock, Governor

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Hypertension, Cholesterol and Diabetes Quality Improvement Projects FY2013-2014

Project Description

Healthcare facilities will use their electronic health record (EHR) and other health information technology (HIT), such as patient registries, to enhance the care and management of patients with high blood pressure, elevated cholesterol, and diabetes. DPHHS will provide funding to Rural Health Clinics, Community Health Centers, other primary care facilities, and larger outpatient care systems through two cooperative agreements with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The funding amounts range from \$5,000 for the clinic-based projects to \$28,000 for the larger outpatient care systems. Project parameters including reporting outcomes to DPHHS will be outlined in the award notices to facilities.

Quality improvement projects must focus on A1C, blood pressure and cholesterol and may include the following components:

- Incorporating a multi-disciplinary team approach in the clinical setting, which may include a nurse, pharmacist, registered dietitian, provider and/or medical assistant.
- Establishing a workflow and action plan for team-based care.
- Developing a hypertension, lipid registry, or diabetes registry such as the Diabetes Quality Care Monitoring System provided by DPHHS.
- Developing/adopting and systematically implementing evidence-based treatment protocols (e.g., hypertension protocol).
- Providing reminders for preventive and follow-up care.
- Promoting self-measured blood pressure monitoring.
- Identifying at-risk patients or those lost to follow-up and conducting outreach.
- Activating the clinical decision support system in the EHR.
- Setting blood pressure or lipid alerts if levels are uncontrolled.
- Improving medication adherence.
- Creating provider- and system-level feedback reports that include trends, comparisons to statewide averages, and benchmarks based upon clinical practice guidelines.
- Collecting National Quality Forum (NQF) blood pressure (NQF 0018) and A1C (NQF 0059) measures.

Technical Assistance

The DPHHS staff will facilitate meetings with sub-awardees, some of which will be in collaboration with the Montana Primary Care Association. The calls/webinars will focus on specific project components as well as provide “real time” feedback related to project plans and outcomes. The meetings also allow time for grantees to share progress and challenges of implementing the projects.