

# BRIDGES TO EXCELLENCE

## CLINICIAN AND PRACTICE RECOGNITION

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### WHAT IS BRIDGES TO EXCELLENCE?

Bridges to Excellence (BTE) programs recognize and reward clinicians who deliver superior patient care. BTE programs measure the quality of care delivered in provider practices. BTE places a special emphasis on managing patients with chronic conditions, who are most at risk of incurring potentially avoidable complications.

BTE recognitions cover all major chronic conditions and a real Medical Home measurement scheme to promote comprehensive care delivery and strong relationships between patients and their care teams.

Physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants who meet BTE performance benchmarks can earn a range of incentives, sometimes including substantial cash payouts. Insurers and employers fund these payouts from the savings they achieve through lower health care costs and increased employee productivity.

### CLINICIAN BENEFITS OF RECOGNITION

- ▲ Clinicians can demonstrate to the public and to their professional peers that they meet the standards of care assessed by the program by issuing a press release, as well as having their recognition achievements posted on BTE's Inquire healthcare website and communicated to both health plans and employers.
- ▲ Clinicians may use the BTE Recognition to demonstrate that they meet the standards of care assessed by the program when contracting with health organizations and purchasers of health services.
- ▲ Clinicians can identify areas of their practice that vary from the performance criteria and take steps to improve quality of care.
- ▲ Where applicable, clinicians can establish eligibility for pay-for-performance bonuses or differential reimbursement or other incentives from payers and health plans.

### PATH TO RECOGNITION

#### Step 1: Decide which programs to participate in

We sponsor programs for conditions like asthma, cardiac care, diabetes, and more. Your eligibility is based, in part, on how many patients you treat with that condition. In addition, you should check to see whether your contracting health plans offer incentives for particular programs; many plans use our programs in their internal pay-for-performance initiatives.

#### Step 2: Choose your path to recognition

BTE Recognition is based on clinical data from your records, which you will submit for scoring. Submissions may be made directly to the BTE Web Portal or via any one of our EMR/Registry Systems partnerships or NCQA.

#### Step 3: Apply for recognition

Depending on the pathway you have chosen, how you apply for recognition varies.

#### Step 4: Recognition maintenance

BTE recognitions are valid for 2 years, however if you would like to receive a higher recognition rating, you may do so after 90 days from your last submission.



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