

Providence Medical Group practices chosen for historic public-private partnership that strengthens primary care.

August 31, 2012 — The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced that nine Providence Medical Group primary care practices have been chosen to participate in the Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative (CPCI), a new partnership between select primary care providers and payers from the CMS, state Medicaid agencies, commercial health plans and self-insured businesses. This mutually beneficial partnership will provide improved access to quality health care as it lowers costs.

The nine Providence practices are among the first in the country to participate in this groundbreaking initiative — the Cincinnati/Dayton area is one of only seven regions in the nation chosen to initially participate, and only 75 primary care practices from this region were selected. The Providence practices chosen are:

- Beaver Creek Commons Family Practice — David Apple, DO; Robert Gardner, DO; John Sefton, DO
- Farmersville Medical Center — Lawrence Ratcliff, MD
- Germantown Medical Associates — Bernard Berks, DO
- Lugo Family Practice — Anthony Lugo, MD
- Medway Medical Center — Edward Hubach, DO
- Suburban Family Practice – Barbara Bennett,, DO
- Suburban Family Practice – Joni Koren, DO
- Sugar Creek Family Medicine — James Foster, MD; Lisa Heinemeyer, MD; Michelle Russell, DO
- Waynesville Health Care — Paul Opsahl, MD

Practices were chosen through a competitive process, based on their use of health information technology, participation in practice transformation and improvement activities, ability to demonstrate recognition of advanced primary care delivery by leading clinical societies, and other criteria. According to Dr. Lawrence Ratcliff, one of the initiative's participating physicians, Providence's "patient-centered medical home" approach to patient care dovetails with CPCI goals. Dr. Ratcliff notes, "This initiative demonstrates that we can really deliver on the promise of our primary care model — that proactive, coordinated, patient-first care is the path to higher quality, cost-effective healthcare."

Under the Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative, primary care practices are compensated by the CMS for providing enhanced, coordinated services on behalf of Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries. Simultaneously, participating insurers align payments to primary care practices to support them in providing high-quality primary care on behalf of their members.

For patients, this means these physicians may offer longer and more flexible

hours, use electronic health records, and coordinate care with patients' other health care providers. They can also better engage patients and caregivers in managing their own care, and provide individualized, enhanced care for patients living with multiple chronic diseases and higher needs.

[Download this release.](#)