

**Clinical Guideline for Secondary Prevention of Coronary Artery Disease
Carle Clinic/Health Alliance Medical Plans
2000 Acclaim Award Honoree**

The Secondary Prevention of Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) Clinic guideline was the first guideline developed by Carle Clinic's Clinical Outcomes Management Program. The clinic dedicated staff time to the project, created new positions, and included all affected physicians in the guideline development process using total quality management techniques. This project serves as the template for other guideline development initiatives at the Clinic.

Goal

To develop and implement evidence-based medicine for the purpose of improving care of patients with coronary artery disease.

Intervention

Developed and implemented evidence-based guidelines. Tracked compliance through medical record reviews, and sent each provider a report on their patients.

Highlights

- Dedicated staff time and resources to developing the guidelines, compensated physicians for their time on project, commensurately reduced staff member's time spent on other projects to make time for the guidelines, and hired a clinical outcomes coordinator to assist with implementation.
- Providers offered the opportunity (and CME credit) to attend small group presentations to review the guidelines and provide feedback.
- 150 hardcopy draft guidelines were distributed with a short evaluation form to all affected providers.
- Revised measurement review period to six months before and six months after the visit, and recalculated baseline measures after receiving provider feedback.
- Individualized provider reports sent to all PCPs with cover letter identifying areas for improvement.
- Developed quick reference cards for risk reduction and smoking

Results

- 23 percent increase in the percentage of non-smokers.
- 115 percent increase in the percentage of patients with LDL<100.
- 90 percent of providers agreed to the statement, "The clinical guidelines have helped me to improve care of my patients."

Carle Clinic Association, located in Urbana, Illinois, is a multi-specialty group practice of over 300 physicians with over 60 medical specialties and subspecialties. Health Alliance is the largest managed care organization in downstate Illinois, serving more than 240,000 members.