



CASE STATEMENT

Our Mission

AMGF supports and disseminates research on organized delivery systems in order to encourage and promote the delivery of high quality, cost-effective patient care. The Foundation also supports educational programs to enable all stakeholders – providers, payers, policymakers and patients – to translate the evidence of what works best into everyday practice.

Case Statement

The Foundation has until now relied primarily on industry sponsors to support its activities. However, at a time of dynamic health system change, that funding model is no longer adequate. As a result, the Foundation has established a vehicle that will enable it to broaden and deepen its research into the value of organized delivery systems and ensure that the results have the greatest possible visibility with, providers, payers, policymakers and other critical audiences.

Our Work

To date, the Foundation has focused primarily on identifying innovative best practices in chronic care, which affects nearly half of all Americans and the number is growing exponentially.

For instance, our Foundation has initiated programs to develop best practices in diabetes care and managing hypertension. These programs provide grants to selected members to further develop their initiatives in these areas. In addition, the grantees and other member organizations participate in learning collaboratives and contribute to published case studies that highlight these new models of excellence and share results and strategies. To date, 36 case studies of best practices have been published and AMGA's Best Practices in Care Learning Collaboratives have already led to several innovative, low-cost, and efficacious treatments that positively affect the delivery of quality patient care and the management of the bottom line.

A recent Medicare Physician Group Practice (PGP) Demonstration showed that 10 participating physician groups improved performance on the delivery of preventive care and care for patients with chronic illness including diabetes, congestive heart failure, coronary artery disease, hypertension, and cancer screening, generating at least \$32.3 million in savings for the Medicare program in year 3 of the CMS demonstration project. Nine of the ten groups were AMGA members.

Another key research project is the Health Buddy Project under Medicare's Care Management for High-Cost Beneficiaries Demonstration. The three-year project that started in 2006 at AMGA medical groups in Wenatchee, Washington, and Bend, Oregon, was recently extended to 2012 due to its initial positive outcomes and will involve additional medical groups. This project demonstrated during its first phase that care teams based in organized systems of care, such as multi-specialty medical groups, and integrated delivery systems, supported by technology can improve the lives and reduce the costs of Medicare's highest-cost beneficiaries. The Actuarial Research Corporation, contracted by CMS to evaluate the results of this program indicated in its 9th quarter monitoring report that the project is on course to surpass its primary performance goals: generating 5 percent savings plus recoupment of fees for the intent-to-

treat population. The analysis further indicates the project will realize savings of \$42 million beyond fees to the project, or a net savings percentage of about 12 percent.

In order to pursue its expanded mission the Foundation is planning to broaden and deepen its research on organized delivery systems. In particular:

- Payment models that reward quality and efficiency
- Expanding access to primary care
- Patient/Physician Collaborative care models
- Effective use of technology to expand access to care

By working together, we can help ensure that millions of patients receive the cost-effective, high-quality care they need when and where they need it. We appreciate your consideration of the American Medical Group Foundation.

AMGF Testimonials

“AMGA’s collaborative meetings are invaluable and provide members with the framework to meet the challenges of mining the best of the best that health care has to offer. And, each meeting is better than the last – the learning is so invigorating, the physician interest is truly remarkable, and the energy these collaboratives generate commands success.”

Connie L. Koch, CMPE; Manager, Center for Healthcare Research, Billings Clinic

“Being a member of the Hypertensive Collaborative has been very valuable to us in several ways. One of the most stimulating and useful aspects of the Collaborative is the networking with other members, resulting in the sharing of ideas and tools.”

Virginia L. Hood, M.B.B.S., M.PH, Professor of Medicine and Suzanne Lapointe, R.N., Staff Specialist, Renal Services, Fletcher Allen Healthcare

“AMGF’s Hypertension Collaborative helps us raise awareness and support activities that will lead to new understandings about best practices in kidney disease care. In doing so, we create a foundation for working together in preventing the progression of kidney disease. And, most importantly, your contribution helps us educate and create a more hopeful future for thousands of patients in southeast Michigan.”

Nancy M. Schlichting, President and CEO, Henry Ford Health System

“AMGA is the most effective voice for the multispecialty medical group model of coordinated care delivery, and the value our physicians receive from AMGA-supported education, research, and collaborative is immeasurable. It is imperative that we support the Foundation’s revitalized efforts.”

Albert W. Fisk, M.D., M.M.M., Medical Director, The Everett Clinic