

GLOSSARY

1) Advanced Medical Home (AMH)/Patient-Centered Medical Home (PC-MH) – A model described in previous ACP position papers that offers the benefits of a personal physician with a whole person orientation who accepts overall responsibility for the care of the patient and leads a team that provides enhanced access to care, improved coordinated and integrated care, and increased efforts to ensure safety and quality. The American Academy of Family Physicians has proposed a similar model called the personal medical home. AAFP and ACP have adopted a joint statement of principles that uses the patient-centered medical home as a common descriptor for both models. The American Academy of Pediatrics has also promoted the concept of a medical home for children with special needs. For the purposes of this paper, the patient-centered medical home (PC-MH) will be used and should be considered to be interchangeable with the AMH as described in other ACP position papers.

2) Bundled – A single comprehensive payment for a group of related services.

3) Care coordination – coordination of specialist care, including systems that monitor whether recommended referrals take place; prompt feedback of specialist consultation reports to primary care physicians and patients; information about the availability and quality of specialty services and community resources; systems to prevent errors that occur when multiple physicians or sites are involved in care; post-hospital follow-up and support; tracking of tests, test results, procedures, and the filling of prescriptions to monitor patient adherence to mutually agreed-upon diagnostic and treatment plans; and communication among health care providers who care for a patient, but do so in different geographic locations or at different times.

4) Health Information Technology – the application of information processing involving both computer hardware and software that deals with the storage, retrieval, sharing, and use of health care information, data, and knowledge for communication and decision making.

5) Prospective payment (or reimbursement) – any method of paying health care providers for a defined period (usually one-year) according to amounts or rates of payment established in advance.

6) RBRVS – resource-based relative value scale –payment structure based on the resource costs of providing physician services. Has served as basis for Medicare Part B services since 1992.

7) S-CHIP – State Children's Health Insurance Program – a federal matching funds program with the states that provides insurance coverage to “targeted low-income children” who are uninsured and not eligible for Medicaid.

8) Weighted payments – physicians who successfully participate in programs that have the greatest impact on quality and cost would receive greater bonus payments than those who do not participate, or who participate in programs that will have a lesser impact on quality and cost. This is fundamentally different from the current “one size fits all” transitional Medicare pay-for-reporting program, which will pay physicians the same percentage bonus payment for as few as three measures regardless of the impact of the measures on improving quality and reducing costs.

Definition sources:

1) American College of Physicians. The Advanced Medical Home: A Patient-Centered, Physician-Guided Model of Health Care. 2006. Accessed at www.acponline.org/hpp/adv_med.pdf on 3 March 2006.

The American College of Physicians and The American Academy of Family Physicians. Concept specifics defined by The Commonwealth Fund.

2) Accessed at www.futurehealth.ucsf.edu/cnetwork/resources/glossary/gloB.html

3) Stille J, Jerant A, Bell D, et al. Coordinating care across diseases, settings, and clinicians: A key role for the generalist in practice. *Annals of Internal Medicine*. 2005; 142:700-708.

Medicare Payment Advisory Commission. Care Coordination-Physician Involvement. Transcript of Public Meeting, October 2005.

4) Brailer D, Thompson T. Health IT Strategic Framework. Washington, DC: Dept. of Health and Human Services; 2004.

5) Accessed at <http://www.futurehealth.ucsf.edu/cnetwork/resources/glossary/gloP.html>

6) Medicare RBRVS: The physicians guide. AMA, 2005

7) Kaiser Family Foundation State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) at a Glance. Accessed at <http://www.kff.org/medicaid/upload/7610.pdf>