

Physician Forum discusses benefits of Christiana Care Quality Partners

In a time of sweeping change, Christiana Care Quality Partners is a leader in innovation. Quality Partners reached out to more than 90 community physicians at a Dec. 4 town hall meeting on health care reform to gain insights and answer questions on the health system's new care delivery model for employees and their dependents.

Christiana Care Quality Partners is a clinically integrated network of physicians, hospitals and other health care providers working to improve collaboration of care, clinical quality and value.

"Quality Partners staff continues to meet with physician practices on a weekly basis," said Doug Azar, Quality Partners executive director, who spoke at the Dec. 4 event. "We want to listen to physician concerns and answer their concerns."

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The Quality Partners team has provided more than 100 presentations, reaching the vast majority of physicians in our community.

Quality Partners is continuing to recruit primary care providers and specialists from the community to partner with the health system as preferred providers. The goal is to ensure a seamless transition for employees and their families when the new network goes into effect in July.

The model enhances primary care through coordination of care and a proactive approach to treating chronic conditions such as hypertension, asthma and diabetes. Quality Partners also will establish meaningful measures in order to evaluate the success of the model.

"The goal is to make high-quality care more convenient for employees and to be proactive in making sure that people who need extra help receive it," said Alan

Greenglass, M.D., Quality Partners CEO. "When people are as well as they can be, everyone benefits."

Community physicians have a leadership role in the model. That is reflected in the recently named Quality Partners board, which includes four community doctors and five members who are leaders at Christiana Care, three of whom are physicians.

The model also includes enhancements for community physicians, such as disease- and case-management nurses who will work with participating practices to provide additional support for patients who would benefit from an extra layer of care.

To administer the plan, the health system is partnering with Geisinger Health Plan, a nationally recognized not-for-profit, value-based health management company. ●

Jared B. Hossack, M.D., MBA, of Mid Atlantic GI Consultants, asks a question at the physician forum.

