



Valley Integrated Provider Network (VIPN)

What is VIPN?

- VIPN is a clinical integration network (CIN) of independent physicians serving the residents of Bakersfield.
- Clinical integration is a collaborative effort among physicians and hospitals to use evidence-based quality initiatives to improve the quality and efficiency of healthcare while controlling costs.
- VIPN provides independent physicians the opportunity to collectively negotiate with fee-for-service health plans while demonstrating their ability to achieve certain quality benchmarks.

Why physicians join VIPN

- Clinical integration is a proven method to improve the quality and cost of patient care.
- The network provides a support system for private practice physicians facing healthcare reform challenges.
- Independent physicians are able to jointly contract with health plans for commercial patients, with recognition for achievement of quality benchmarks.
- Physicians receive access to business intelligence information technology.
- Physicians also receive visibility across the full continuum of care.

What VIPN isn't

- Capitation
- Led by the hospitals
- Physician employment
- Costly to physicians
- An agreement that will put individual physician fees at risk
- Health plan/payer

Benefits of joining VIPN

Membership in VIPN offers physicians:

- Access to an effective, RN-led care coordination team to help identify and manage their high-risk patients.
- Free, no-risk training ground to collaborate with other physicians to learn to effectively manage patients in the new healthcare environment.
- Collaboration with other physicians who are committed to improve quality care and patient outcomes, as well as the efficiency of care provided.
- MIPS support and education for your staff through regular lunch & learn meetings.
- Membership also provides some credit towards the Improvement Activity (IA) domain of MIPS.

Contract benefits

- New reimbursement terms were recently negotiated with Blue Shield of CA and members of VIPN will receive a 3% increase to their Blue Shield of CA PPO lines of business over the next five years.
- Potential for shared savings.

VIPN management

- VIPN is physician-led. Its Board of Managers is physician-dominated with one hospital representative and one Medicare beneficiary.
- Organizational development funds are provided by the hospitals.

Zero enrollment costs

- There are no enrollment costs.
- There are no ongoing participation fees.

Did you know?

- Membership in VIPN does not interfere with pre-existing health plan contracts or other clinical integration programs, accountable care organizations (ACO), independent practice associations (IPA), physician organizations (PO) or physician hospital organizations (PHO) in which physicians may already participate
- VIPN will focus on new and innovative payer agreements available only through VIPN.
- Each potential payer agreement with VIPN is carefully reviewed by the physician board to ensure it presents a real or potential benefit to physicians.
- Members can terminate their participation any time for any reason upon 60 days' notice.
- All quality initiatives and physician participation criteria are developed by VIPN physicians.
- Any information shared with VIPN is confidential. It is used to measure performance and identify opportunities for improvement, to assist in improving quality scores and for demonstrating the overall performance of VIPN to the community.
- VIPN has formed an accountable care organization (ACO) and is participating in the Medicare Shared Savings Program. Participation in VIPN's ACO requires a separate addendum to your Participation Agreement. CMS has specific enrollment time frames to join an ACO.

How do I sign up and join VIPN?

Complete and submit all enrollment materials.

For additional information

Visit the VIPN website at vipnetwork.org

Contact

Contracting Team at 661-716-7225 or contractingbakersfield@managedcaresystems.com