# **Beyond MIH-CP:** *The Transformation Continues*









# What we're gonna do...

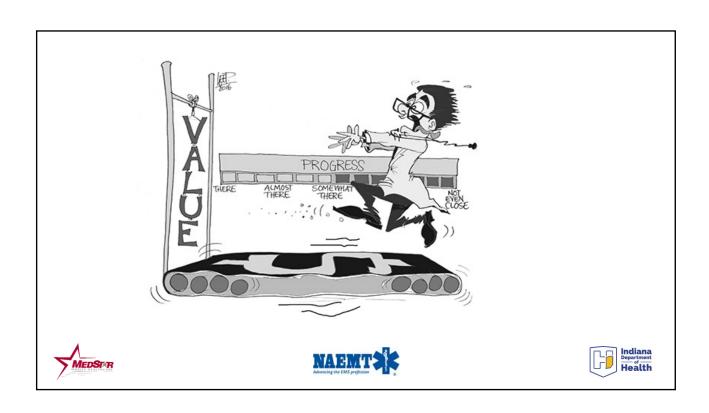
- Understand the ways the role of EMS continues to evolve.

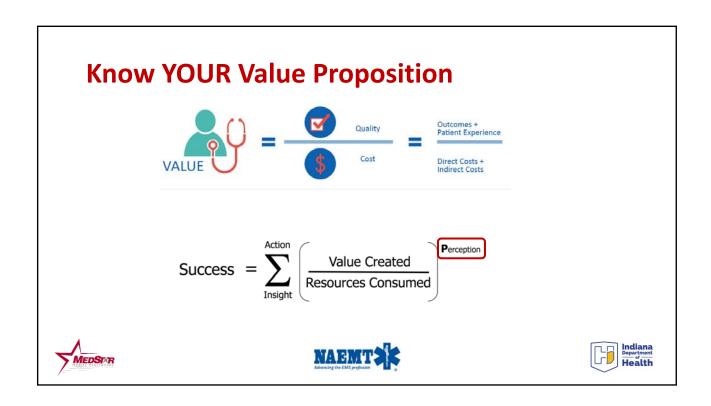
   With a focus on the 'pandemic effect'
- Learn five new programs that have been implemented over the past year.
- Understand the ways value is being determined for these new programs.
- And, learn insights into life under quarantine...



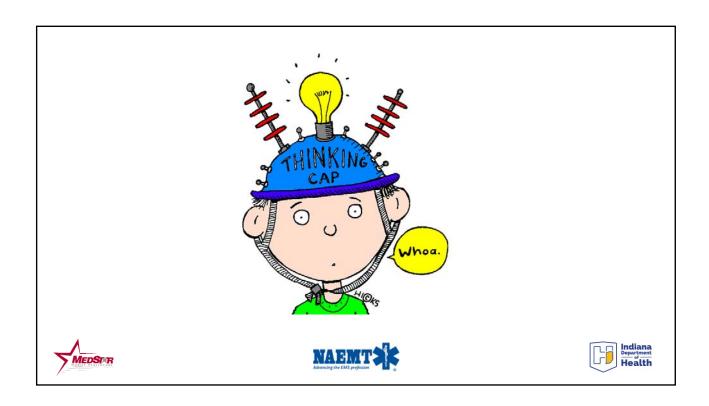












# The Problem – Misaligned Economics/Value

- EMS only paid for transport to an Emergency Department (ED)
  - $\circ$  Results in many patients being transported  $\underline{\it by}$  the highest cost resource  $\underline{\it to}$  the highest cost resource
  - o Even when an alternate disposition may be more appropriate







#### COST & PAYMENT

: 10.1377/hlbhaff.2013.0741 LTH AFFAIRS 32, 12 (2013): 2142-2148 13 Project HOPE— By Abby Alpert, Kristy G. Morganti, Gregg S. Margolis, Jeffrey Wasserman, and Arthur L. Kellermann

#### Giving EMS Flexibility In Transporting Low-Acuity Patients Could Generate Substantial Medicare Savings

Abby Alpert is an assistant professor of economics and public policy at the Paul Merage School of Business,

Kristy G. Morganti is a health policy researcher at the RAND Corporation in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Gregg S. Margolis is directo of the Division of Healthcan Systems and Health Policy, Department of Health and Human Services, in

randorg) is director of RAND Health and vice president of the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, California ABSTRACT Some Medicare beneficiaries who place 9II calls to request an ambulance might safely be cared for in settings other than the emergency department (ED) at lower cost. Using 2005–09 Medicare claims data and a validated algorithm, we estimated that 12.9–16.2 percent of Medicare covered 9II emergency medical services (EMS) transports involved conditions that were probably nonemergent or primary care treatable. Among beneficiaries not admitted to the hospital, about 34.5 percent had a low-acuity diagnosis that might have been managed outside the ED. Annual Medicare EMS and ED payments for these patients were approximately \$1 billion per year. If Medicare had the flexibility to reimburse EMS for managing selected 9II calls in ways other than transport to an ED, we estimate that the federal government could save \$283–\$560 million or more per year, while improving the continuity of patient care. If private insurance companies followed suit, overall societal savings could be twice as large.

"EMS providers regularly encounter patients whose complaints might be better managed in settings outside the ED."

"Bringing patients unnecessarily to the ED places needless demands on an already overburdened system."

#### Conclusion

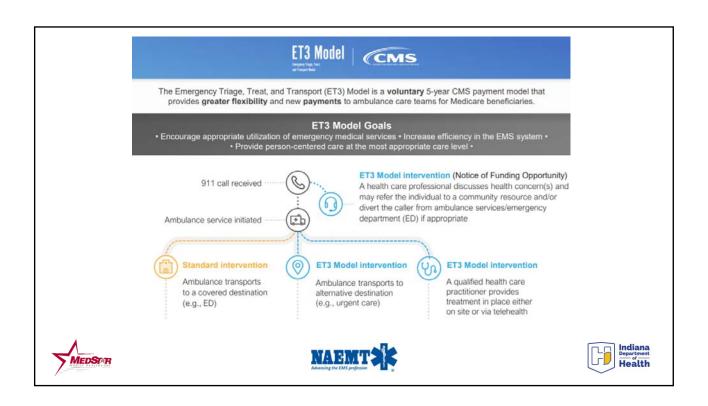
"Giving CMS the flexibility to reimburse EMS services for alternative handling of 911 callers could save Medicare \$283-\$560 million or more per year. If private third-party payers followed suit, the societal savings could be twice as large."

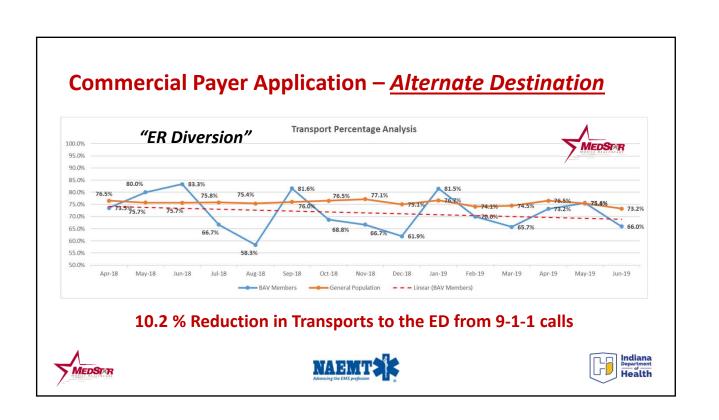
https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24301398/













# Home Health & Hospice Partnerships





#### **VITAS Hospice Program Summary** January 2012 - July 2020 # % Referrals (1) 644 Enrolled (2) 474 Deceased 333 70.3% Active 4 Revoked (3) 49 10.3% **Activity: Emergency Calls** 227 Transports 118 52.0% 14.4% Transports to IPU 17 Transports to ED 101 85.6% **Episodic Requests** 100 Transports 2 Indiana Department of Health NAEMT >

#### **Utilization Outcome Summary**

Home Health Partnership - Rollup

_	#	%
Enrollments by Home Health Agency	2,650	100.0%
9-1-1 calls by Enrolled Patients	1,901	71.7%
ED Transports when CP on Scene	714	72.3%
Home Visits Requested by Agency	454	17.1%
ED Transports from home visits requested by Agency	27	5.9%







As of: Aug. - 20

#### MedStar saves lives.

Membership saves money.

There's no need to worry when trouble strikes because MedStar's industry leading health heroes are always around the corner to swoop in and take care of your urgent medical needs. And now, MedStar can save you from financial healthcare needs.

trauma, too. For only \$350 per year, a MedStar Saver+Plus membership shields you from out-of-pocket costs your insurance does not cover  $\boldsymbol{AND}$ helps you navigate your urgent

> Give your family complete peace of mind in life's emergencies.





Worry-free service



Peace of Mind



#### 2900 Alta Mere Drive Fort Worth, TX 76116

#### StarSaver+PLUS Benefits:

- Physical & medical assessment of the Primary and Secondary StarSaver+Plus Member

  - Identification of any perceived medical or healthcare

  - gaps Medication inventory Documentation of any relevant medical documentation
- Registration in MedStar's Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) Program
- Notification to the Primary and Secondary Member's Primary Care Physician (PCP) of their enrollment into the StarSaver+Plus program
  Specialized protocols used in the MIH program

- Specialized protocols used in the AllFI program.
  Primary and Secondary member tracked in MedStar's 91-1 Dispatch System
  Up to two (2) additional non-emergency in-home visits
  per year at the request of the primary or secondary
  StarSaver Plus Member









From: Gingold, Janelle (CMS/CMMI)

Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:47 AM

To: Asbel Montes; Johnson, Sven; McMullen, Jack; Matt Zavadsky

Cc: Friedman, Rivka H. (CMS/CMMI); Seagrave, Susanne

Subject: Request for meeting re: treat in place

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your previous engagement with CMS on EMS challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly related to reimbursement for treatment in place.

We would appreciate an opportunity to connect with you today or tomorrow to discuss further. As you know, CMS has encountered barriers to identifying a viable pathway for reimbursement. We continue to work to determine whether a path may be possible. While we do this, we would like you to have the opportunity to share with us your thoughts on the value proposition for CMS in providing this reimbursement in the event that one is possible.

Times that would work for us include (30 minutes):

- Today: between 2-3
- Tomorrow: 10-11, 12-1, 2-4

Thank you in advance!

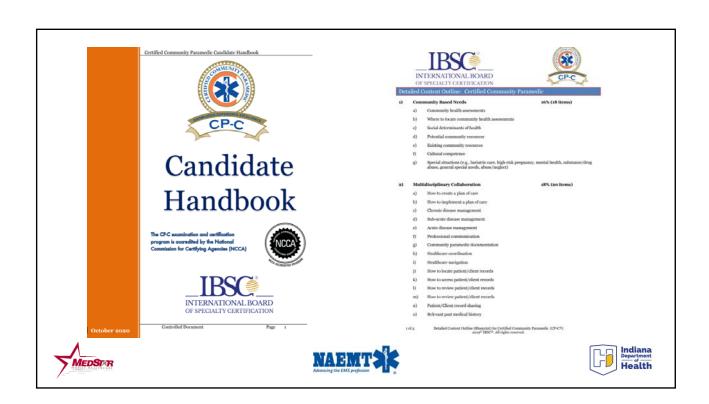
#### Janelle Gingold

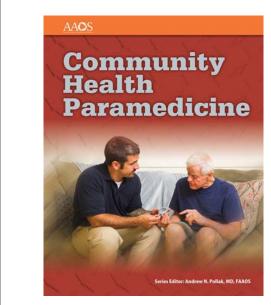
Director, Division of Health Innovation and Integration Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation

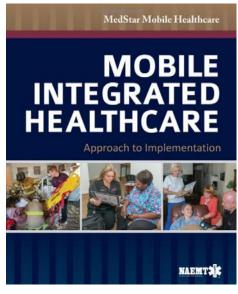








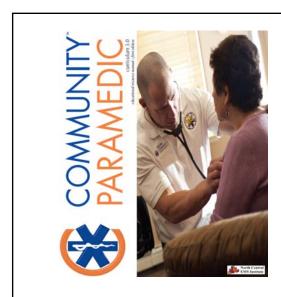




















# Tale of Two 'Times'

BC (Before Coronavirus) AC (After Coronavirus)











# **Before Coronavirus**

- "EMS"
- Paid for Transport to the ED o Supplier vs. Provider
- Public Safety vs. Healthcare
- "So, what does EMS stand for again?"









# **After Coronavirus**

- More than "EMS"
- Paid for care and navigation
- Part of front-line healthcare
- Community recognition











# **Role Innovations:** Alternate Destinations

- Transport to Alternate Destinations
  - o Local urgent/primary care centers
  - o MD offices
  - o Anywhere!









#### Ambulances: CMS Flexibilities to Fight COVID-19

The Trump Administration is issuing an unprecedented array of temporary regulatory waivers and new rules to equip the American healthcare system with maximum flexibility to respond to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Made possible by President Trump's recent emergency declaration and emergency rule making, these temporary changes will apply immediately across the entire U.S. healthcare system for the duration of the emergency declaration. The goals of these actions are to 1) to ensure that local hospitals and health systems have the capacity to handle a potential surge of COVID-19 patients through temporary expansion sites (also known as CMS Hospital Without Walls); 2) remove barriers for physicians, nurses, and other clinicians to be readily hired from the community or from other states so the healthcare system can rapidly expands its workforce; 3) increase access to telehealth in Medicare to ensure patients have access to physicians and other clinicians while keeping patients safe at home; 4) expand in-place testing to allow for more testing at home or in community based settings; and 5) put Patients Over Paperwork to give temporary relief from many paperwork, reporting and audit requirements so providers, health care facilities, Medicare Advantage and Part D plans, and States can focus on providing needed care to Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries affected by COVID-19.







#### CMS Hospital without Walls (Temporary Expansion Sites)

• During the Public Health Emergency (PHE) for the COVID-19 pandemic, we are temporarily expanding the list of allowable destinations for ambulance transports. During the COVID 19 PHE, ambulance transports may include any destination that is able to provide treatment to the patient in a manner consistent with state and local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) protocols in use where the services are being furnished. These destinations may include, but are not limited to: any location that is an alternative site determined to be part of a hospital, CAH or SNF, community mental health centers, federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), physician's offices, urgent care facilities, ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs), any other location furnishing dialysis services outside of the ESRD facility, and the beneficiary's home.







[DISCUSSION DRAFT]	2 1 SEC. 2. PROVIDING PAYMENT FOR CERTAIN TREATMENT-
116TH CONGRESS LI D	2 IN-PLACE SERVICES FURNISHED BY A PRO-
2D SESSION H. R.	3 VIDER OR SUPPLIER OF AMBULANCE SERV-
To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide payment for	4 ICES UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.
certain treatment-in-place services furnished by a provider or supplier of ambulance services under the Medicare program.	5 (a) In General.—Section 1834(I) of the Social Se-
or amoutance services under the medicare program.	6 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(l)) is amended by adding
	7 at the end the following new paragraph:
	8 "(18) Payment for certain treatment-in-
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	9 PLACE SERVICES FURNISHED DURING THE COVID-19
Mrs. Axne introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee	10 EMERGENCY,—
on	11 "(Λ) In general.—In the case of a treat-
	12 ment-in-place item or service (as defined in sub-
	paragraph (B)) furnished to an individual by a
A BILL	14 provider or supplier of ground ambulance serv-
	15 iees during the period beginning on March 1,
To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide	16 2020, and ending on the last day of the emer-
payment for certain treatment-in-place services furnished by a provider or supplier of ambulance services under	17 geney period described in section
by a provider or supplier of amoulance services under the Medicare program.	18 1135(g)(1)(B), such item or service shall be
	19 deemed to be an ambulance service payable
1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-	20 under the fee schedule established under this
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,	21 subsection, regardless of the condition of such
3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.	22 individual or whether such individual is trans-
4 This Act may be cited as the " Act	23 ported by such provider or supplier to any loca-
5 of 2020".	24 tion, if such provider or supplier attests that
3 01 2020 ·	25 such item or service was furnished in accord-
	26 anee with—
NA PARTICIPATION OF THE PARTIC	IMT September 1 September 1 September 2 Se



# **COVID-19 Non-Transport Protocol**

(Patients w/COVID related assessments)

	COVID Potential	COVID Non-
Month	Assessments	<b>Transport Protocol</b>
Mar-20	553	56
Apr-20	2103	152
May-20	1978	79









Summary Data for Dates of Service 3/25 - 7/21/2020				
Total Patients Navigated Under the Protocol Follov	with Phone Number in the ePCR: w-Up Calls Able to be Completed:	330 93	28.2%	
	How are you feeling now?	<b>Better</b> 93 100.0%	<b>Worse</b> 0	Same 0
		Yes	No	Not Indicated
Did you follow the recommendations for follow-up care the MedStar Crew Left You?		89 98.9%	1 1.1%	3 3.2%
No		No		Yes
/		75 89.3%	ER 4 4.8%	<i>PCP/UCC</i> 5 6.0%
			ETOH UTI	DX? Common Cold Mono Sinus Infection Back Pain

Did you get tested for COVID-19? 47 45

51.1% 48.9% Positive Negative

If so, what was the result of the test?

21
24
46.7%
53.3%

One scale of 1 - 5, with 5 being most satisfied, how satisfied were you

with the MedStar experience? 5 4 Other Average 91 1 0 4.99 98.9% 1.1%







MedStar Medicaid 911 *transport* volume last year 17,600 trips

17,600 ED visits by ambulance at \$2,500 \$44 million ED expenditures

15% reduction in transport volume = 2,640 less trips @ \$2,500 \$6.6 million in ED expenditure savings

Current Medicaid transport ratio = 86%

If TIP paid, 14% additional EMS services paid, 2,464 @ \$281 \$692,000

Net savings to Medicaid just for FORT WORTH \$5.9 million if we can alt dispo 15% of the patients

So, for each additional \$1 paid to EMS for TIP, \$8.50 saved







# **State Examples of Payment for Treatment in Place**

- Arizona
  - o Medicaid reimburses EMS agencies for Treatment in Place
- Georgia
  - o Medicaid reimburses EMS agencies for Treatment in Place
- Indiana
  - New law that takes effect July 1st allows payment for procedures performed on scene during PHE
- Minnesota
  - o Medicaid reimburses for 'on-demand' & scheduled community paramedic services
- New Mexico
  - o Medicaid reimburses for 'on-demand' & scheduled community paramedic services







# **State Examples of Payment for Treatment in Place**

- Pennsylvania
  - o Health plans licensed in the state are required to pay for treat and no transport
- Washington
  - o Medicaid reimburses for 'on-demand' & scheduled community paramedic services
- Wyoming
  - Medicaid reimburse for treat and no transport and community paramedic home visits
- Anthem
  - o Pays for treat and no transport in all Anthem states







# **Role Innovation: Mobile Healthcare**

- Home visits
  - o Scheduled & episodic
    - Enhanced training for 'routine' emergencies

      Sutures, medical device troubleshooting









# **Role Innovations: Mobile Healthcare**

- Physician extender role
   Facilitate telemedicine
   Contracts with Physicians
- Healthcare Navigator

  o Episodic and scheduled









[CMS-1744-IFC] RIN 0938-AU31

Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS.

**ACTION:** Interim final rule with comment period.

".... We note that in specifying that direct supervision includes virtual presence through audio/video real-time communications technology during the PHE for the COVID-19 pandemic, this can include instances where the physician enters into a contractual arrangement for auxiliary personnel as defined in § 410.26(a)(1), to leverage additional staff and technology necessary to provide care that would ordinarily be provided incident to a physicians' service (including services that are allowed to be performed via telehealth). For example, physicians may enter into contractual arrangements with a home health agency (defined under section 1861(o) of the Act), a qualified infusion therapy supplier (defined under section 1861(iii)(3)(D) of the Act), or entities that furnish ambulance services in order to utilize their nurses or other clinical staff as auxiliary personnel under leased employment (§ 410.26(a)(5)). In such instances, the provider/supplier would seek payment for any services they provided from the billing practitioner and would not submit claims to Medicare for such services. For telehealth services that need to be personally provided by a physician, such as an E/M visit, the physician would need to personally perform the E/M visit and report that service as a Medicare telehealth service."







Dan Trigub left Uber Health to start a new healthcare venture. Here is what he's working on by Heather Landi

Dec 3, 2020

In his two years at Uber Health, Dan Trigub worked to expand access to medical transportation, and, now, he's focused on building a unique approach to home health.

Trigub and co-founder Inna Plumb have launched MedArrive as a new care management platform that enables healthcare providers and payers to extend services into the home.

The startup bridges the virtual care gap by integrating physician-led telemedicine with hands-on care from a network of trusted EMS professionals, improving patient outcomes while empowering an underutilized segment of healthcare workers, according to the company.

MedArrive taps into a capable workforce of EMS professionals so they can leverage the full scope of their training, earn supplemental income and diversify their day-to-day responsibilities. At the same time, patients using MedArrive are able to access trusted medical expertise from the safety of their homes and within their existing health systems, ultimately resulting in better patient outcomes, a better-utilized healthcare workforce and significant cost savings for patients and providers alike, according to the company.

"Care is moving into the home, but how can we do it cost-effectively? By leveraging EMS and existing players in the market to deliver care in a cost-effective way, we can be active in both rural or urban environments," she said.

 $\underline{\text{https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/tech/dan-trigub-left-uber-health-to-start-a-new-healthcare-venture-here-what-he-s-working}}$ 







#### **Role Innovations: Post Acute & On Demand**

- Safe Transitions
- On Demand Services
  - Hospital in the HomeSNF Avoidance









# CMS Announces Comprehensive Strategy to Enhance Hospital Capacity Amid COVID-19 Surge Nov 25, 2020

Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) outlined unprecedented comprehensive steps to increase the capacity of the American health care system to provide care to patients outside a traditional hospital setting amid a rising number of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) hospitalizations across the country.

Building on CMS's previous actions to expand the availability of telehealth across the nation, these actions are aimed at allowing health care services to be provided outside a hospital setting while maintaining capacity to continue critical non-COVID-19 care, allowing hospitals to focus on the increased need for care stemming from public health emergency (PHE).

Participating hospitals will be required to have appropriate screening protocols before care at home begins to assess both medical and non-medical factors, including working utilities, assessment of physical barriers and screenings for domestic violence concerns.

Beneficiaries will only be admitted from emergency departments and inpatient hospital beds, and an in-person physician evaluation is required prior to starting care at home. A registered nurse will evaluate each patient once daily either in person or remotely, and two in-person visits will occur daily by either registered nurses or mobile integrated health paramedics, based on the patient's nursing plan and hospital policies.

CMS.gov

https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-announces-comprehensive-strategy-enhance-hospital-capacity-amid







# **Role Innovation: Public Health**

- COVID Pandemic
  - o Facility-based & in-home 'testing'
  - o Contact tracing











# **Role Innovation: Public Health**

- Vaccines
  - o Flu, childhood immunizations o "Shots across Texas"
- Opioid Treatment
  - o Suboxone, Narcan
- COVID Vaccines?



Last year, MedStar crews responded to over 1,000 patients with flu like illness... We'd like to help reduce that number this

MedStar is being pro-active by offering mobile flu vaccine clinics for 10 or more people at



Anytime - Anywhere - MedStar on Demand











# Potential EMS Roles in Vaccines and Monoclonal Antibody Infusion









# **Logical Partner**



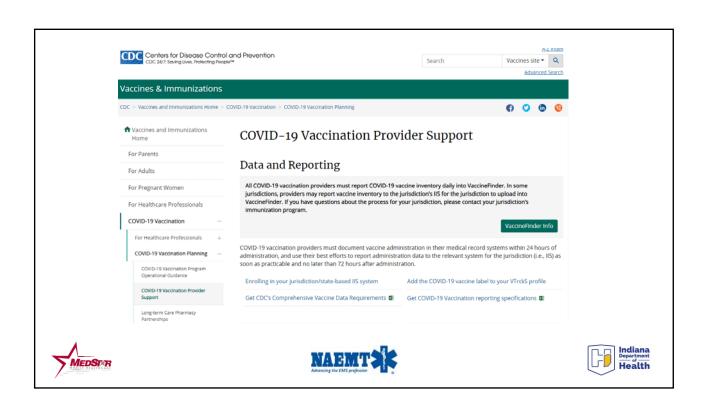


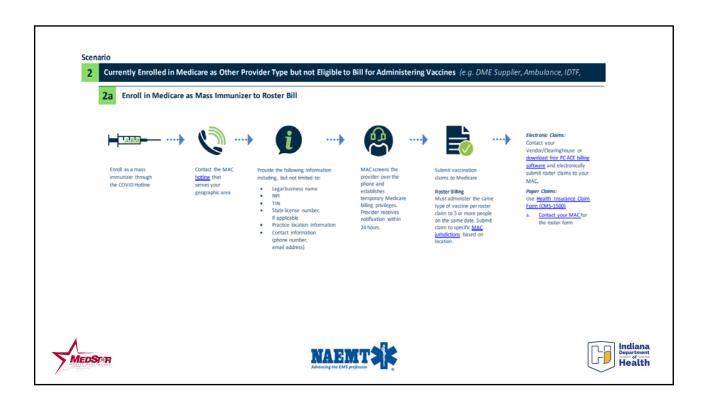


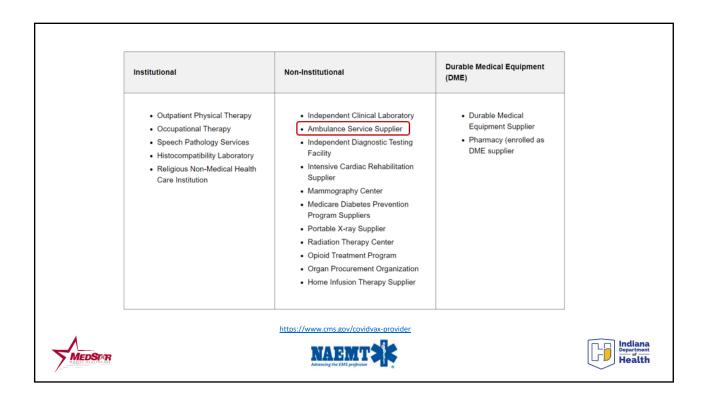












#### FACT SHEET FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS **EMERGENCY USE AUTHORIZATION (EUA) OF BAMLANIVIMAB**

#### AUTHORIZED USE

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to permit the emergency use of the unapproved product bamlanivimab for the treatment of mild to moderate coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in adults and pediatric patients with positive results of direct SARS-CoV-2 viral testing who are 12 years of age and older weighing at least 40 kg, and who are at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization.

#### LIMITATIONS OF AUTHORIZED USE

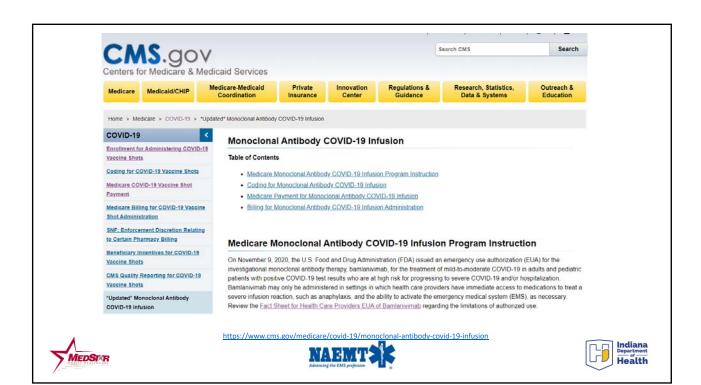
- . Bamlanivimab is not authorized for use in patients:
  - who are hospitalized due to COVID-19, OR
  - who require oxygen therapy due to COVID-19, OR who require an increase in baseline oxygen flow rate due to COVID-19 in those on chronic oxygen therapy due to underlying non-COVID-19 related comorbidity.
- Benefit of treatment with bamlanivimab has not been observed in patients hospitalized due to COVID-19. Monoclonal antibodies, such as bamlanivimab, may be associated with worse clinical outcomes when administered to hospitalized patients with COVID-19 requiring high flow oxygen or mechanical















MEDICARE

12/7/2020

METROPOLITAN AREA EMS AUTHORITY 2900 ALTA MERE DR FT WORTH, TX 76116

Attention: MATT ZAVADSKY

eference: National Provider Identifier (NPI):
Provider Transaction Access Number (PTAN)

Dear METROPOLITAN AREA EMS AUTHORITY:

This letter is written confirmation that you have been granted temporary Medicare billing privileges pursuant to the CMS waiver of certain enrollment and screening requirements during the national emergencies associated with COVID-19. These temporary billing privileges are being established per a phone call on DECEMBER 7, 2020. Temporary billing privileges are being established to provide mass immunization services. Listed above are your National Provider Identifier (NPI) and Provider Transaction Access Number (PTAN).







# **Role Innovation:** Public Safety

- Critical Incident Response Teams
  - Behavioral Health Alternate ResourcesExamples:
    - Fort Worth: Critical Incident Team (CIT)
    - Dallas: Right Care
    - Memphis: Crisis Assessment and Response to Emergencies (CARE)
    - Colorado Springs: Community Response Team (CRT
    - Eugene: Crisis Assistance Helping Out on the Streets (CAHOOTS)
    - Eagle County, CO: The Hope Center









# **EMS Enhanced Services Options for Health Plans**

#### Mirror Recently Announced CMS Emergency Triage, Treatment and Transport (ET3) payment model

- 9-1-1 emergency encounters for Health Plan members are assessed, treated and navigated to the clinically appropriate follow-up care
  - <u>Treatment in Place</u> without transport through on-line telehealth with a Qualified Healthcare Provider (QHP)
    - Reimbursed on a per encounter basis
    - QHP telehealth also eligible for FFS payment within existing guidelines/rules
    - Billed FFS using appropriate HCPCS code, based on level of on-scene care provided
      - A0427 Ambulance Transport, ALS, Emergency
      - A0429 Ambulance Transport, BLS, Emergency
  - o <u>Transport to alternate destinations</u> such as Urgent Care, or other care settings
    - Reimbursed on a per encounter basis
    - Billed FFS for the intervention and navigation using appropriate transport HCPCS code + miles
      - A0427 Ambulance Transport, ALS, Emergency
      - A0429 Ambulance Transport, BLS, Emergency
      - A0425 Ambulance Mileage







#### **EMS Enhanced Services Options for Health Plans**

#### Enrollment of Health Plan High Utilizer Group (HUG) Members

- Identified and referred by the Health Plan Case Management team
- · Located by EMS and member consents to enrollment
- Members enrolled for 90 days, mirroring EMS-Based High Utilizer model
- Billed FFS for the encounter using CPT Code 99344: Home visit for patient evaluation and management
  - o Reimbursed on a per encounter basis

#### Safe Transitions

- Initial home visit for recently discharged in-patients referred by Health Plan Case Managers
  - Assure safety in the home
  - o Review discharge instructions
  - Medication inventory
  - Assure follow-up appointment(s) scheduled with PCP, etc.
- Billed FFS for the encounter using CPT Code 99344: Home visit for patient evaluation and management
  - Reimbursed on a per encounter basis







# **EMS Enhanced Services Options for Health Plans**

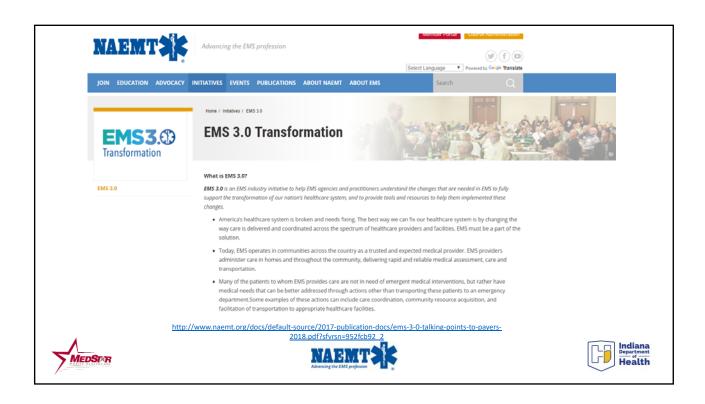
#### **EMS 'On-Demand' Services**

- For any Health Plan member through Health Plan Nurse Advice, case management, or other referral source
- As Health Plan member benefit for Health Plan members in the EMS service area
- For Health Plan Case Management Staff who would like a home visit assessment for an 'at-risk' member
  - o Including member education, connection with PCP, other services
- Billed FFS for the encounter using CPT Code 99344: Home visit for patient evaluation and management
  - Reimbursed on a per encounter basis









#### **NAEMT Value Statements**

- Commercial Insurers
- Hospitals
- Home Health
- Hospice
- Post Acute Care Agencies
- Medicaid
- Medicare
- Taxpayers
- Labor Unions

















EXPLAINING the Value to Payers

Explaining the Value to Payers

This document has been created to provide talking points for EMS agencies to explain to payers the value of EMS 3.0 services.

Please review and download as needed the following talking points:

PAYER

City Council/Tax Payers.

3

Hospitals

4

Home Care Services

5

Hospitals

4

Home Care Services

5

Hospices.

7

Post-Acute Care Services

8

Medicare

9

State Medicaid Offices

10

Foundations

11

Labor Unions.

12

Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)

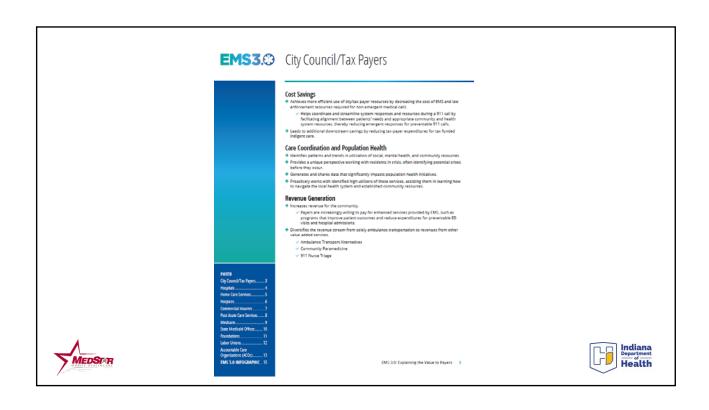
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EMS 3.0 INFOGRAPHIC

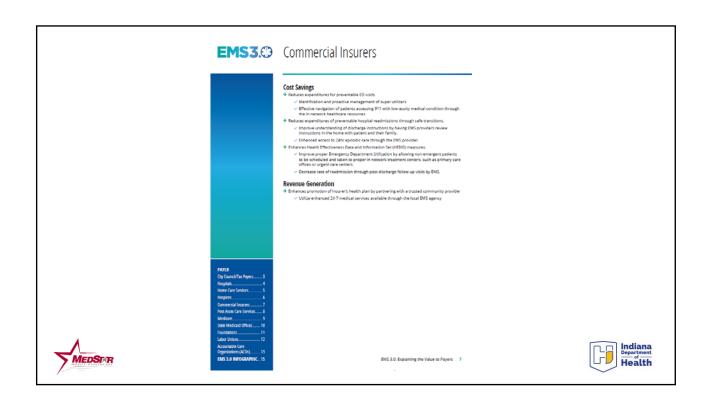
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# MIH Learning Action Network (LAN)...







https://mihcp.tmf.org/







# Takeaways...

- Our external environment is changing
- WE have to prepare
- Know your cost of delivery
- Know your **VALUE**
- Try new models
- Follow the money!!
  - O Who is at risk for the expenditure?
- ENGAGE!!
  - o Local, state and national associations















