



MDPCP – CareFirst Alignment: Frequently Asked Questions

1) Are MDPCP and CareFirst PCMH merging into one program?

No, MDPCP and CareFirst PCMH are not and will not be merging into one program. Attributed beneficiary lists will continue to remain separate for each payer. The tenets behind payer alignment in MDPCP can be seen in the [CMS MDPCP Payer Partner Solicitation](#). In short, MDPCP and CareFirst will work to align priorities and processes only where alignment will benefit practices, making it easier for practices to focus on patient care and decreasing administrative burden.

2) Will the support structure from MDPCP and CareFirst change?

Support from your MDPCP Practice Coach and from the Program Management Office staff will stay the same. Support from the CareFirst Practice Consultant team will also remain the same. MDPCP Practice Coaches and CareFirst Practice Consultants will now develop a synergistic relationship for practices with the goal of sharing best practices and reducing duplication. CareFirst, MDPCP, and CRISP support staff are now hosting a quarterly Regional Collaborative, where all support staff in a Maryland region come together to share information and guidance with practices on a chosen topic.

3) Will CareFirst and MDPCP use the same performance and quality measures?

Currently, there is strategic alignment as both programs focus on hospital and emergency department utilization, as well as diabetes and hypertension control. In the years ahead, we intend to focus on aligning measures where appropriate so that practices are using the same or similar measures across programs.



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4) When does the alignment begin?

The alignment has already begun! CareFirst officially became an aligned partner in 2020. However, the goal of aligning program processes and priorities will take time. Updates will be shared from MDPCP, CMMI, and CareFirst channels.

5) In terms of clinical quality data, will there be any alignment between CRISP and FIGmd?

At this time, there is no data sharing between CRISP and FIGmd. In the long-term, we are exploring unified data tools in order to reduce the administrative burden practices face of having to log into multiple sources for information.

6) Will MDPCP and CareFirst have the same structure for care management payments in the future?

Currently, there are no plans to use the same structure for care management payments in the two programs. However, both programs are independently exploring evolutions for their payment model, and alignment between the two programs is part of these discussions.

7) Is there more information comparing the two programs?

Yes, please see the CareFirst—MDPCP Comparison Table here: <https://health.maryland.gov/mdpcp/Documents/CareFirst%20-%20Medicare%20MDPCP%20Comparison%20Table.pdf>

Other questions? Email MDPCP at mdh.pcmoel@maryland.gov