



# The Journey to Clinical Integration: Pitfalls and Discoveries



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Clinical integration has many facets, each required to ensure success: collaborative leadership, aligned incentives and stakeholder support, realistic clinical programs (actionable data and metrics, management, protocols), technology infrastructure that is neutral to EMR or vendor choice.



### **Setting the Scene**

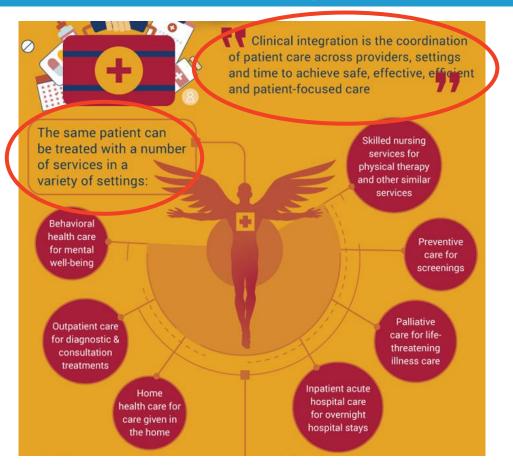
# PATIENT CARE THROUGH CLINICAL INTEGRATION



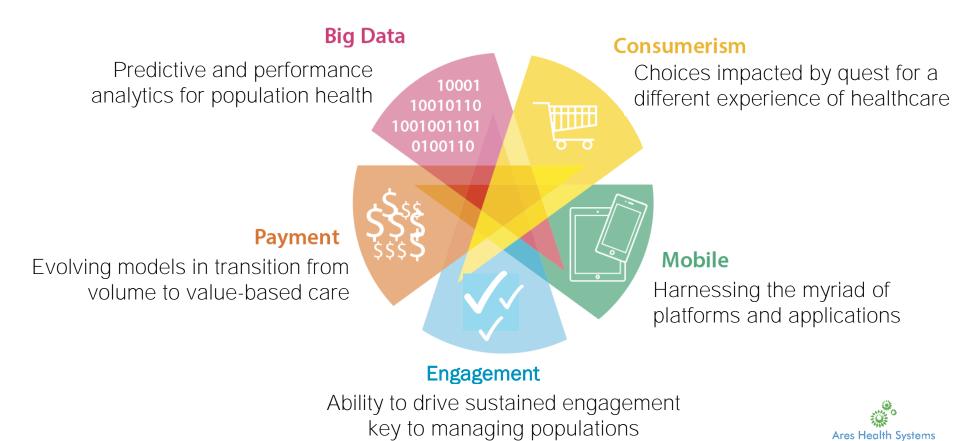
Rising costs are forcing healthcare systeme to examine alternative care models to address efficient strategies to achieve better patient outcomes and quality of care. Clinical integration can help healthcare systems achieve better patient health outcomes, superior safety levels and higher efficiency of patient-focused care.



### **Key Dimensions of Clinical Integration?**





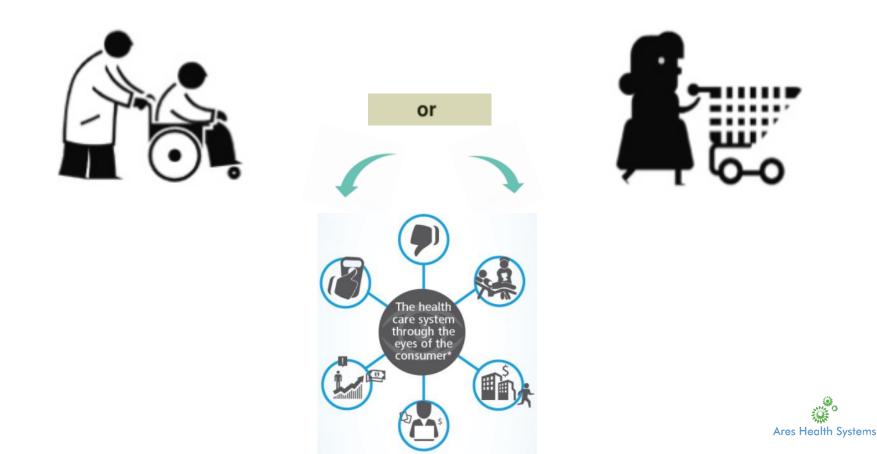


#### **Physician Challenges**

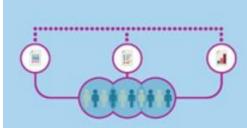


And the Systems

#### **Patients as Consumers Have Choice**



#### **Technical Infrastructure – Key Components**



Aggregate data from across the care community to build longitudinal patient records for the population



Develop care plans for at-risk patients and share them with entire network to address gaps in care



Stratify the population into high, rising and low risk categories



Report on provider, practice, and network-level outcomes to improve quality and reduce waste



Clinical conditions to target - quality

Provider mix – primary, secondary, community,

Provider type – IDN, hospital group, medical group

Location – rural, urban

Legal structure – collusion



# **Doing it By the Textbook**



# **Clinical Integration - Model**

- 1. Comprehensive services across the care continuum
- 2. Patient focus
- 3. Improved patient access
- 4. Standardized care delivery through inter-professional teams
- 5. Performance management
- 6. Information systems
- 7. Organizational culture and leadership
- 8. Physician integration
- 9. Governance structure
- 10. Financial management



### Four Pillars for Building Clinically Integrated Care





#### **Options for Clinical Collaboration – Hospitals and Physicians**



Hospital collaboration

High

Low

Ares Health Systems

# **Dimensions of Model**

Use of a health network

To coordinate and improve patient care Achieving effective, efficient care High quality, safe, timely

Equitable and patient focused

Across multiple conditions

Across the continuum of care

With decrease cost and demonstrated value to the market

#### Challenges

Systems Behaviors, Education & Training

Process & Workflows Disparate Providers Economics



The top three barriers to achieving clinical integration:

- Physicians and other providers being unwilling to participate 29%
- Difficulties in implementation of cross-continuum electronic health records 21%
- Lack of budget to create integration among providers 16%

Top 3 Barriers to Clinical Integration "Economic Outlook," 2013 by Premier, a collaborative healthcare alliance of approximately 2,800 hospitals and 95,000 other healthcare sites. <u>https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hospital-physician-relationships/top-3-biggest-barriers-to-clinical-integration.html</u>

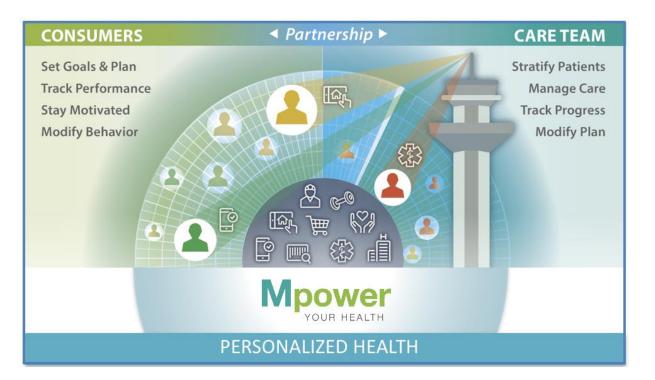


# **Real-world Experience**



# The Problem to Solve – Building the Care Continuum in an Existing Health System

- Intelligence: knowing where each individual is at on their healthcare journey
- Engagement: connecting every member of the population with the care team
- Personalization: tailoring care and support to each individual's needs

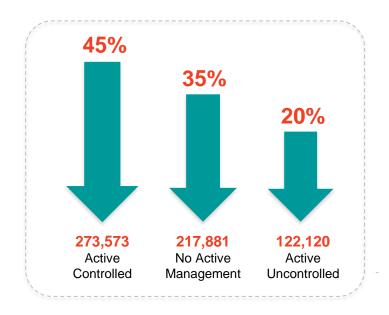


#### Addressing the Care Gap

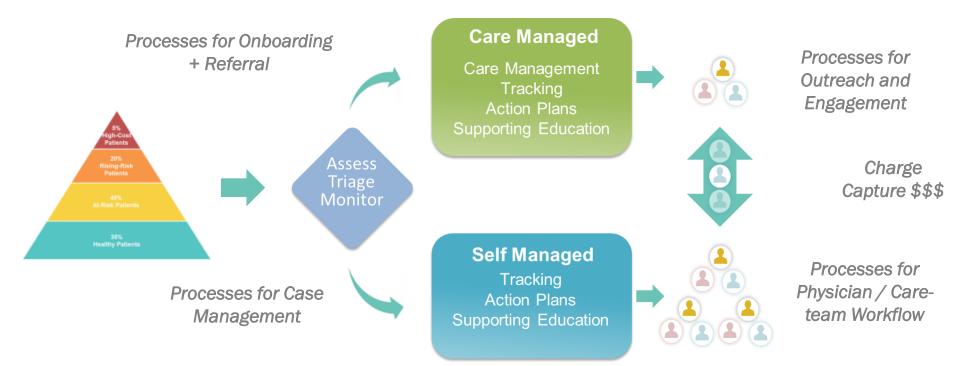
613,664 Patients with Hypertension on their active Problem List No Active Active Management Controlled 35% 45% 20% Active Uncontrolled

#### **55%**

HTN population not under control or not under active management



#### Mpower Deployment Model – Care Delivery Enrolled patients continuously triaged between care and self-management





# **Delivery Model Supports the Continuum of Care**



Enables shift to personalized care and population health management with reduced physician overhead

Facilitates deployment of widescale programs for identification, prevention and management of risks, targeting patients, plan members, employers

Transforming the patient experience in risk prevention and chronic care management through personalization using advanced tools and technology



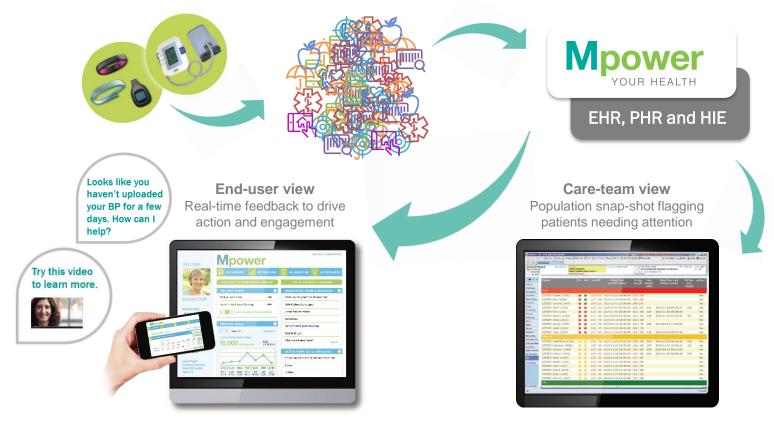
# Bridging the Ecosystem Gap to Engage Consumers, Connect with Care-teams, Drive Outcomes and Bottom-line Value



Ares Health Systems

# Mpower Personalized Care System – User Experience Integrated with EHR / PHR

Create actionable intelligence from personal data to engage consumers and connect with care-teams



Ares Health Systems

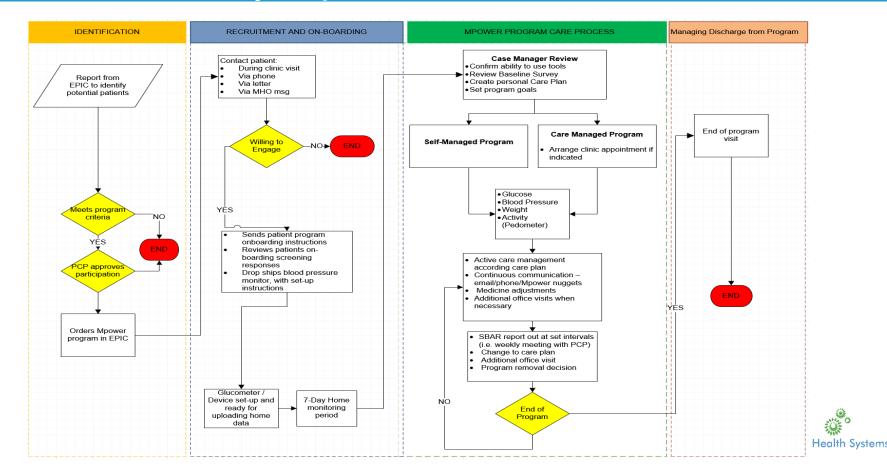
# Program Participants Engaged Through Mobile App – Data Upload and Real-time Feedback

- Real-time uploading
- Ability to capture and upload data from legacy devices
- Available in Epic (Patient Entered Flowsheet) and Mpower
- Personalized "Nuggets" with context relevant feedback and motivation

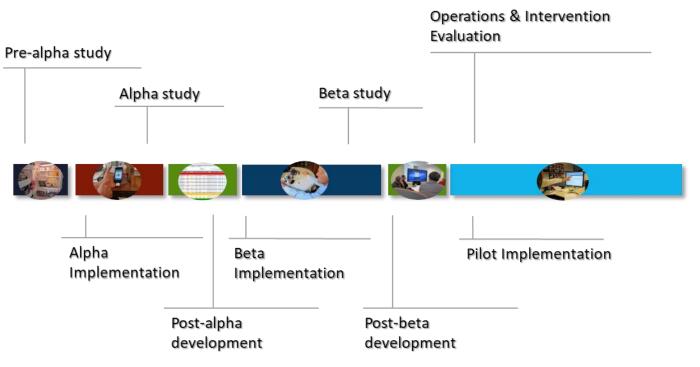




### Workflow Designed to Share Load Across Teams and Automate as Many Steps as Possible

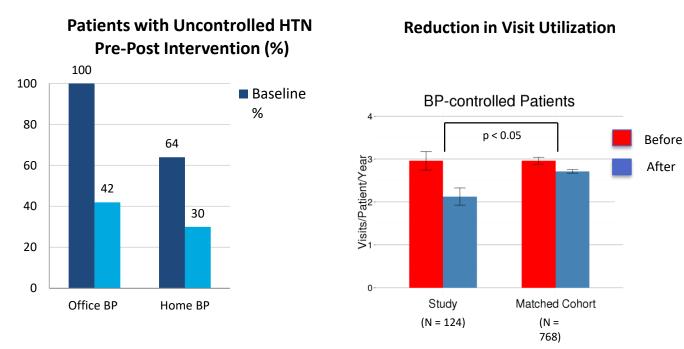


# Applying Rapid-Cycle Development – Iterating the Model over an 18 Month Timeline





### **EMPOWER-H Clinical Outcomes** Study Results - Reduction in Uncontrolled HTN





#### **Mpower Program Performance in Usual Care**

#### Twelve months Performance - Mpower-H in Usual Care





### **Challenges and Lessons**



Multi-level Management Support

- Commitment to redesign, changed roles and dedicated resources

Overcoming Resistance to Participation and Driving Sustained Engagement

- Activation, Motivation, Incentives, Support

Changing the Care-model Perspective and Breaking Down Delivery Silos

- Health, Social, Disability, Community

**Overcoming Technical and Barriers** 

- Facilitating a consumer friendly, medical grade ecosystem

**Overcoming Economic Barriers** 

- Accessible, Sustainable and Affordable



# **Key Learning Points – Critical Success Factors**

- Executive leadership
- Physician buy-in
- Immediate delivery of value
- No increase in perceived effort
- Standard work and dedicated resource for new roles
- Training
- Understandable intolerance of bugs in program or technology
- Active hands-on support for operations
- "Agile" approach to fixing issues rapidly



# What About the Patient



#### **Transitioning Care from Clinic to Community**

- Change focus and change locus
- Personalized care, with continuity, delivered in the community



### **Mpower End-user Impact - Feedback and Testimonials**

#### INDIVIDUAL ENGAGEMENT



"Using the feedback, I increased my exercise and lost 10lbs within 6 weeks. I feel so much better!"



MANAGING POPULATIONS

"The Mpower program certainly allows me to be more effective as a provider."

#### DRIVING SUSTAINED OUTCOMES



"Your program has positively impacted my life in ways that you can't measure."



## **Gains for the Patient in Clinical Integration**

- Improved coordination of care across care teams
- Improved coordination of care across providers and settings
- Improved access with greater convenience
- Improved support for chronic or complex conditions
- Improved support for post-acute care
- Options for remote management avoiding office visits
- Continuous support and engagement with care team
- Reduced wait-times



#### **Empowering Patients to Self-manage**

#### **OVERALL SELF-CARE**

Patients in integrated practices were more likely to take active roles in their health and well-being

SOURCES

http://www.advocate/ealth.com/ownew-of-advocate https://www.advocate/ealth.com/New%2024/Ph20Login Mp.//www.advocate/ealth.com/New%2024/Ph20Login http://www.advocate/easter/il/al/14mar\_provet.egration.pdf http://www.advocateriealizeretik/ansu/tricle-advtace/2025458885 http://www.advocateriealizeretik.com/2026/ov/ansuport/Polisities.html http://www.advocateriealizeretik.com/2026/ov/ansuport/Polisities.html http://www.advocateriealizeretik.com/2026/ov/ansuport/Polisities.html http://www.advocateriealizeretik.com/2026/ov/ansuport/Polisities.html http://www.advocateriealizeretik.com/2026/ov/ansuport/Polisities.com/patient-omines.pdf http://www.advocateriealizeretik.com/2026/ov/ansuport/Polisities.com/patient-omines.pdf http://www.advocateriealizeretik.com/2026/ov/advtace/atteries/institute-iseretik of patients in integrated practices had a documented self-care plan to help manage their health conditions

9

Vs. 9% in traditional healthcare employing usual practices

REGIS

onlinenursing.regiscollege.edu/master-health-administration/



# **Putting the Jig-saw Together**



# **Strategic Objectives for Clinical Integration**

Clinical performance / clinical efficiency strategy?

Population health management strategy?

Referral growth strategy?

Risk-based payment / value-based payment strategy?

Patient satisfaction / engagement strategy?

Physician satisfaction / engagement strategy?









# **Clinical Integration Strategic Questions**

- How important is clinical integration for you strategically?
- Have you set clear expectations of what Clinical Integration is to deliver - what are your specific aims and objectives?
- Do you see Clinical Integration as a service to be contracted or is it a core competency?
- Where are you today programs, skills, competencies and gaps
- What lessons can you apply from ACOs, bundled payments, CCM?
- Who is championing Clinical Integration one person or a team?
- How are you resourcing and financing Clinical Integration initiatives?
- How will you manage relationships with plans?



## Grab Attention – Clinical Integration Closely Aligned with Top 10 Near-term Health System Challenges

- 1. Clinical and Data Analytics: Leveraging big data with clinical evidence to segment populations, manage health and drive decisions
- 2. Population Health Services Organizations: Operationalizing population health strategy, chronic care management, driving clinical integration, and integrating social determinants of health
- 3. Value-based Payments: Targeting specific medical conditions to manage cost and quality of care
- 4. Cost Transparency: Growing legislation and consumer demand
- 5. Total Consumer Health: Improving members' overall well-being and medical, social, financial, and environment
- 6. Cybersecurity: Protecting the piracy and security of consumer information
- 7. Healthcare Reform: Repeal, replace, or substantial modification of current healthcare laws, Block Grants, Single-Payer, Industry Stability
- 8. Harnessing Mobile Health Technology: Improving disease management, member engagement, and date collection/distribution
- 9. Addressing Pharmacy Costs: Implementing strategies to address growth of pharma costs versus benefits to quality of care and total medical costs
- 10. The Engaged Digital Consumer: HSAs, member/patient portals, health and wellness education materials

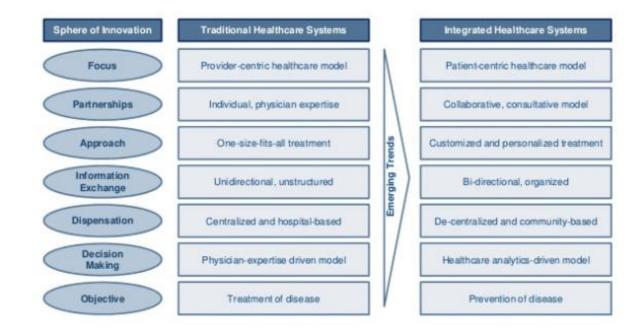
#### Healthcare Executive Group Top 10 Challenges for 2018

Executives from leading health plans, health systems, provider organizations, other associations and HCEG sponsor partner organizations



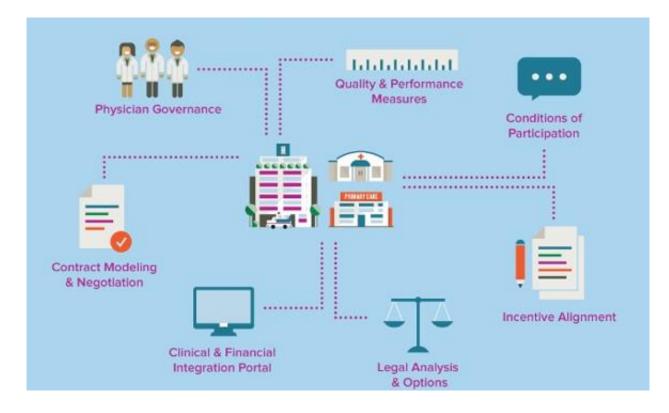


#### **Recognize Clinical Integration Represents a Significant Change-management Process**





# **Engineer the Multiple Dimensions of Clinical Integration into a Model that Works for You**





### Who's On the Bus?





#### **Factor in Other Important Initiatives - MACRA and MIPS**



# MACRA

#### Big changes coming to how Medicare pays clinicians

The Medicare Access & CHIP Reauthorization Act replaced the flawed sustainable growth rate formula with predictable payment increases. Implementation will have a significant impact on physicians and other clinicians, as well as the hospitals and health systems with whom they partner. For more information and educational resources, visit www.aha.org/MACRA.





Shifts Medicare from fee-forservice to pay-for-performance.



Rewards participation in risk-bearing payment models



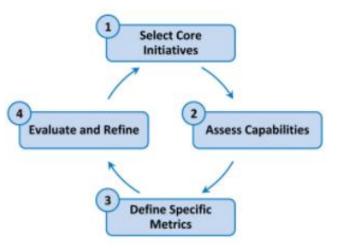
### Plan a Development Path – Start Small, Gain Experience, Built Trust, Iterate and Grow

	Historic Model	Transitional	Advanced	Breakthrough
Clinical Integration Approach	Provide care within a given operating unit (e.g., orthopedics) for a specific condition; protocols and pathways exist within unit with little coordination	Coordinate care across operating units within a given stage of illness; protocols and pathways continue to be based within a given setting of care, such as a hospital or inpatient rehabilitation facility	Seamless transition across all relevant settings of care for a given episode of illness; protocols and care pathways based on service lines across providers, instead of within a single setting of care	Disease prevention and population health management across the full continuum of care
Management Model	Individual operating units	Horizontal alignment based on clusters of consolidated operating units within a setting (e.g., Vice President for Acute Care, Vice President for Physician Groups)	Horizontal or vertical alignment focused on clinical service lines (e.g., cardiovascular, oncology, behavioral health, women's health) across settings of care	Dynamic processes and capabilities created to serve the diverse and multiple care needs of a given population



#### Set Realistic but Meaningful Performance Metrics Covering All Dimension of the Care Management Process

- Clinical impact and outcomes
- Patient impact and experience
- Physician and care team impact
- Revenue, Variance and cost reduction
- Operational impact and efficiency
- Care redesign Ensuring treatment in the most optimal setting and by the right provider
- System optimization Shifting focus to preventive care and population health
- Strategic impact





#### **Seven Key Components for Clinical Integration Management**





## **Further Information**

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