



## **Further Resources on Accountable Care Organizations (Updated from 2011)**

The “Additional Resource List” from the 2011 EBHPP ACO briefing is available at  
<http://uwphi.pophealth.wisc.edu/programs/health-policy/ebhpp/events/20100225/resources.pdf>

### **Definition**

From the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services:

Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) are groups of doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers, who come together voluntarily to give coordinated high quality care to the Medicare patients they serve. Coordinated care helps ensure that patients, especially the chronically ill, get the right care at the right time, with the goal of avoiding unnecessary duplication of services and preventing medical errors. When an ACO succeeds in both delivering high-quality care and spending health care dollars more wisely, it will share in the savings it achieves for the Medicare program. (<https://www.cms.gov/ACO/>)

This model, first defined and proposed by Dr. Elliott Fisher and colleagues, is a part of the ongoing effort to build appropriate financial incentives into the payment system and promote value in health care. Currently, ACOs operate throughout the United States and are undergoing evaluation.

### **Additional Articles**

“Accountable Care Organizations - Health Cost Containment: Summary and Supplemental Materials, Updated November 2011.” National Conference of State Legislatures. (November 2011). Accessed February 2012 at:  
<http://www.ncsl.org/issues-research/health/accountable-care-organizations-health-cost-contai.aspx>

“Accountable Care Organizations: What Providers Need to Know: Fact Sheet.” Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (October 2011). Retrieved February 2012 from:  
[https://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/ACO\\_Providers\\_Factsheet\\_ICN907406.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/ACO_Providers_Factsheet_ICN907406.pdf)

“Collaborative Accountable Care: CIGNA’s Approach to Accountable Care Organizations.” CIGNA. (April 2011).

Delbanco, Suzanne F., Kristine Martin Anderson, Catherine Eikel Major, Mary Beth Kiser, and Brynna Wammack Toner. “Promising Payment Reform: Risk-Sharing with Accountable Care Organizations.” The Commonwealth Fund. (July 2011). Retrieved February 2012 from:  
<http://www.commonwealthfund.org/Publications/Fund-Reports/2011/Jul/Promising-Payment-Reform.aspx?omnicid=20>

Higgins, Aparna, Kristin Stewart, Kirstin Dawson and Carmella Bocchino. “Early Lessons From Accountable Care Models In The Private Sector: Partnerships Between Health Plans And Providers.” *Health Affairs*, 30:9 (1718-1727). (September 2011). Retrieved February 2012 from:  
<http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/30/9/1718.abstract?sid=0b225a5c-d256-43d1-b3ad-77624c589ec7>



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“HPMS Automated ACO Application Training.” Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (November 30, 2011). Retrieved February 2012 from:

[https://www.cms.gov/sharedsavingsprogram/Downloads/HPMS\\_ACO\\_Application\\_Training.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/sharedsavingsprogram/Downloads/HPMS_ACO_Application_Training.pdf)

“Medicare Shared Savings Program and Rural Providers: Fact Sheet.” Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (October 2011). Retrieved February 2012 from:

[https://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/ACO\\_Rural\\_Factsheet\\_ICN907408.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/ACO_Rural_Factsheet_ICN907408.pdf)

“Methodology for Determining Shared Savings and Losses under the Medicare Shared Savings Program: Fact Sheet.” Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (October 2011). Retrieved February 2012 from:

[https://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/ACO\\_Methodology\\_Factsheet\\_ICN907405.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/ACO_Methodology_Factsheet_ICN907405.pdf)

Meyer, Harris. “Accountable Care Organization Prototypes: Winners And Losers?” *Health Affairs*, 30:7 (1227-1231). (July 2011). Retrieved February 2012 from:

<http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/30/7/1227.abstract?sid=0b225a5c-d256-43d1-b3ad-77624c589ec7>

Miller, Harold D. “Transitioning to Accountable Care.” Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform. (January 2011). Retrieved February 2011 from:

<http://www.chqpr.org/downloads/TransitioningtoAccountableCare.pdf>

Roski, Joachim and Mark McClellan. “Measuring Health Care Performance Now, Not Tomorrow: Essential Steps To Support Effective Health Reform.” *Health Affairs*, 30:4 (682-689). (April 2011). Retrieved February 2012

from: <http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/30/4/682.abstract?sid=0b225a5c-d256-43d1-b3ad-77624c589ec7>

“Summary of Final Rule Provisions for Accountable Care Organizations under the Medicare Shared Savings Program: Fact Sheet.” Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (October 2011). Retrieved February 2012

from: [https://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/ACO\\_Summary\\_Factsheet\\_ICN907404.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/ACO_Summary_Factsheet_ICN907404.pdf)



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