

## At A Glance

A short description of a SIM program or concept

# Connecticut State Innovation Model



## Advanced Medical Home Glide Path

Connecticut received a \$45M State Innovation Model (SIM) Test Grant from the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) to implement a number of initiatives to improve population health, ensure superior healthcare quality, and reduce healthcare costs.

Connecticut's SIM initiative emphasizes the importance of investing in primary care transformation. The SIM Test Grant will fund the launch of an **Advanced Medical Home (AMH) Glide Path** to support the advancement of more than 350 primary care practices statewide.



### Benefits of Participation

Participating primary care practices will:

- ✓ Receive assistance in mastering evidence-based processes to improve clinical outcomes and patient care;
- ✓ Be better positioned for new care delivery and payment models, such as shared savings programs and other value-based payment initiatives;
- ✓ Receive free practice-specific technical support and assistance from local and national experts;
- ✓ Experience enhanced clinician and staff satisfaction with care delivery by building and maintaining a supportive and team-based workplace culture;
- ✓ Learn with and from peers with similar goals and challenges;
- ✓ Achieve National Committee for Quality Assurance PCMH recognition, CT Advanced Medical Home designation, and Planetree's Patient-Centered Bronze recognition; and
- ✓ Differentiate themselves as leaders in Connecticut and in the nation.

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## The Advanced Medical Home Model

Today's health care environment presents enormous challenges to primary care practices, including new payment models that place greater responsibility on practices to manage quality and costs. At the same time practices need to master electronic health records and complex administrative requirements such as ICD-10 to be competitive. Many physicians recognize the need to advance in order to be successful in new care delivery and payment models, but the burden of undertaking advancement can be too great to do without assistance.

The AMH model is based on the National Committee for Quality Assurance's (NCQA) patient-centered medical home (PCMH) program, which has been shown to improve healthcare coordination and quality. In a medical home, a primary care provider works closely with a team to coordinate care for their patient panel. The approach also emphasizes the holistic assessment of patient treatment and support needs, shared decision making, and continuous quality improvement.

### Advanced Medical Home GOAL:

**370 primary care practices  
will complete the AMH  
Glide Path by 2019**

The goal of the AMH Glide Path is to ease the burden of transformation while improving the primary care experience for patients and every member of the primary care team.

## Components of the Advanced Medical Home Model

- 15-months of SIM funded transformation services from **Qualidigm** and **Planetree**;
- Interactive learning collaborative, practice facilitation visits, and a variety of evidence-based Quality Improvement (QI) interventions;
- Support to achieve **Advanced Medical Home Designation**: NCQA PCMH 2014 standards level II or III with additional required elements and factors;
- Support to achieve **Planetree Patient-Centered Bronze Recognition** for excellence in patient-centered care (The application fee is waived for those participating in the AMH program);
- Eligibility for discounted NCQA application fees;
- Facilitation for AMH participants to qualify and enroll in the Medicaid PCMH program and thereby qualify for enhanced fees and quality of care incentive payments.

**Qualidigm** is an expert in medical home transformation with a track record of helping more than 400 clinicians achieve NCQA recognition. They are the state's Medicare designated Quality Improvement Organization with a long history of practice transformation.

**Planetree** fully integrates patient centered care into the transformation process to provide a unique, truly innovative approach. Planetree is among the first organizations to focus on patient centered care as a core competency in health care delivery and is currently a global leader in this area.

## How to Apply

Enrollment is currently closed for the **Advanced Medical Home Vanguard Program**, which has recruited 49 primary care practices to participate. Check our website for information on upcoming recruitment dates. Recruitment for the next cohort will begin in a few months.

**Eligible applicants** are primary care practices that meet these and other qualifications:

- Not currently recognized under an existing national medical home standard including NCQA 2011 or 2014 (Practices that have NCQA 2008 **are** permitted to apply);
- Have an established ONC certified Electronic Health Record

**Note:** At this time the AMH program is recruiting practices that are affiliated with larger medical groups or health systems as well as fully independent primary care practices.

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