



This Week in *Physician-Led Care*: Clips from News Sources
Week Ending July 24, 2020

Health Affairs: (7/23) – Without swift action to safeguard independent primary care, the COVID-19 financial crisis could irrevocably change the composition of the nation’s health care system. The authors of this article argue that the pandemic presents to the opportunity to revisit how we value and pay for primary.

Healthcare Dive: (7/23) – On Thursday, Secretary Azar extended the public health emergency for another 90 days, allowing a number of regulatory changes to help providers manage outbreaks of coronavirus to continue.

EHR Intelligence: (7/22) – According to a study published in the Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine, independent practices that are not connected to large health systems or quality improvement support reported their electronic clinical quality measures more quickly than those with larger organizational support.

Becker’s Spine Review: (7/21) – According to a report from McKinsey, 53% of independent physicians are concerned about survival during the pandemic, and nearly half of the practices have less than four weeks of cash on hand. 68% of those practices are seeking partners for financial support.

Central Penn Business Journal: (7/21) – For independent physicians, obtaining personal protective equipment is an ongoing issue as many have not received help from the state that physicians in health care systems have in maintaining PPE for patients and staff.

Medical Xpress: (7/21) – Recent studies published by the American Heart Association and the Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy highlight the need to prioritize value in health care. The series of analyses noted that improving quality and value in health care for patients with cardiovascular disease requires a systemic approach that incorporates the patient voice, equity across all populations, and effective deployment of technology and data.

Morning Consult: (7/21) – As patient volumes drastically declined during the pandemic, the health care system is beginning to embrace the risks of value-based payment as a way to reward physicians for delivering effective care and to reduce health disparities.

Becker’s ASC Review: (7/21) – 40% of independent physicians are more likely to refer patients to non-hospital locations for surgeries and procedures due to the pandemic.

Medical Economics: (7/21) – In this video, Rebecca Etz, the Co-Director of the Larry A. Green Center, discusses physician burnout and how to create a better primary care system for the future.

Fierce Healthcare: (7/21) – A wave of consolidation may be coming as independent physicians report concerns about being able to stay open during the pandemic. 26% of physicians who joined a practice or health system reported “buyer’s remorse,” stating that they were interested in returning to self-employment.

Benefits Pro: (7/20) – As the health care industry has slowly started to embrace value-based payment models, AAFP and the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions have come together to collaborate and create a new set of standards for physicians and purchasers to change how care is delivered and paid for.

Modern Healthcare: (7/18) –While it is hard to predict how the pandemic will affect long-term physician compensation, pandemic-driven changes in compensation could bring larger changes in the industry and push more payers and health systems towards value-based care.

Fierce Healthcare: (7/17) – A federal appeals court reversed a lower court’s decision and ruled that the HHS has the authority to implement site-neutral payments and bring off-campus clinics in line with independent physician practices.