

# PRESS RELEASE

## HEALTHCARE PARTNERS ACO ACHIEVES SAVINGS FROM FIRST YEAR PARTICIPATION IN MEDICARE'S NEXT GENERATION ACCOUNTABLE CARE ORGANIZATION MODEL

**EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (Dec. 21, 2018)** — HealthCare Partners ACO, a part of DaVita Medical Group, today announced it achieved savings in its first year of participation in Medicare's Next Generation Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Model.

HealthCare Partners ACO attributes its success by working with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Innovation Center to provide Original Medicare beneficiaries with enhanced care coordination, while helping reduce Medicare expenditures.

The savings were largely attributed to the improvement of overall quality performance in utilization management. For the 2017 performance year to help support the 19,150 aligned beneficiaries, the ACO Care Management Unit launched several initiatives, including an emergency department to home program to identify and outreach to more ACO beneficiaries at different points in the acute care continuum. Through this outreach, Healthcare Partners was able to reduce emergency department utilization and hospital readmission rates.

The ACO Care Management Unit is a personalized care team made up of nurse case managers and care coordinators. This team collaborates with the Healthcare Partners network of providers and regional resources to support care coordination efforts in California.

Dedicated services include:

- Providing transition of care services to ACO beneficiaries discharging from a hospital or emergency department
- Stratifying risk and engaging ACO beneficiaries with chronic conditions and complex needs in disease and case management programs
- Ensuring beneficiary health and supportive care resources are accessible
- Extending to ACO beneficiaries the Healthcare Partners medical management programs, such as specialized high-risk programs, house calls, and palliative care programs

"HealthCare Partners' participation in other Medicare and commercial ACO programs enabled us to assess our approach in caring for Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries and apply our demonstrated best practices to achieve savings in the Next Generation ACO Model," said Chan Chuang, MD, chief medical officer, HealthCare Partners. "By focusing on utilization and meeting high quality thresholds, we were able to improve the health outcomes of our patients, while also reducing costs."

**The Next Generation ACO Model** is a CMS Innovation Center initiative introduced in 2016 that builds upon experience from the Pioneer ACO Model and the Medicare Shared Savings Program. With a total of 51 participating ACOs, the Model offers a new opportunity in accountable care to enable providers and beneficiaries greater opportunities to coordinate care and attain high quality standards of care. Unlike other models, this Model includes a prospectively (rather than retrospectively) set benchmark, allows beneficiaries to choose to be aligned to the ACO, and tests beneficiary incentives for seeking care at Next Generation ACO providers.

### About DaVita Medical Group

DaVita Medical Group is a division of DaVita Inc., a Fortune 500® company, which operates and manages medical groups and affiliated physician networks in California, Colorado, Florida, Nevada, New Mexico and Washington. A leading independent medical group in America, DaVita Medical Group has

more than two decades of experience providing coordinated, outcomes-based medical care in a cost-effective manner. DaVita Medical Group's teammates, employed clinicians and affiliated clinicians provided care for approximately 1.7 million patients. For more information, please visit [DaVitaMedicalGroup.com](http://DaVitaMedicalGroup.com).

For information about the HealthCare Partners ACO, please visit [hcpaco.com](http://hcpaco.com).

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