# Paying for Serious Illness Care Under a Global Budget: Opportunities and Challenges

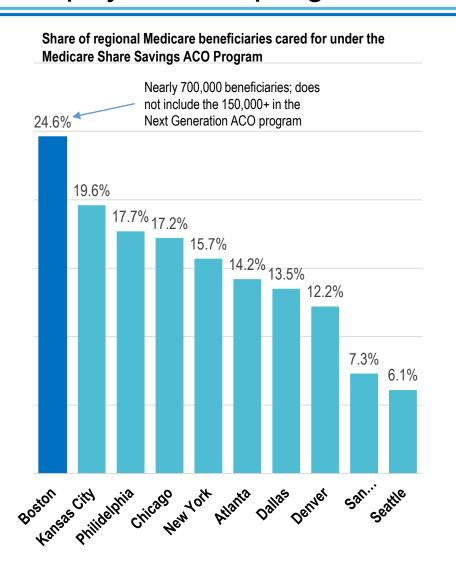
Anna Gosline, Senior Director of Health Policy and Strategic Initiatives, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts

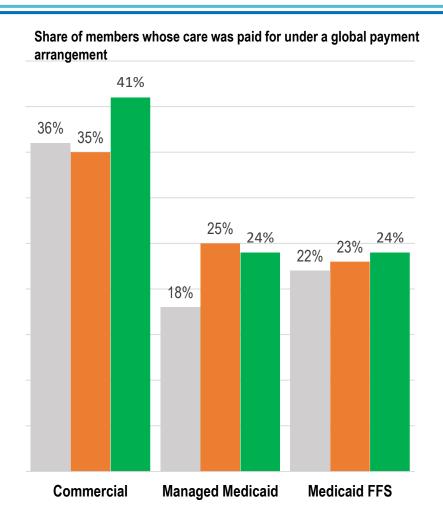
Vicki Jackson, Chief, Division of Palliative Care and Geriatric Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital



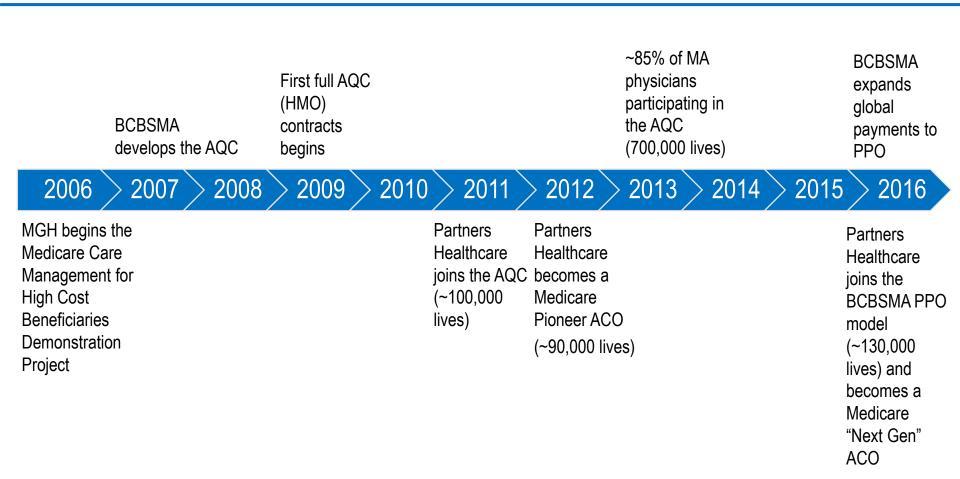


# High rates of global payment adoption across payers and programs in Massachusetts





### Global payment models in Massachusetts: the view from BCBSMA and MGH/Partners



### BCBSMA's Alternative Quality Contract (AQC)

#### **Global Budget**

- Covers all medical services
- Health status adjusted
- Based on historical claims
- Shared risk
- Declining trend

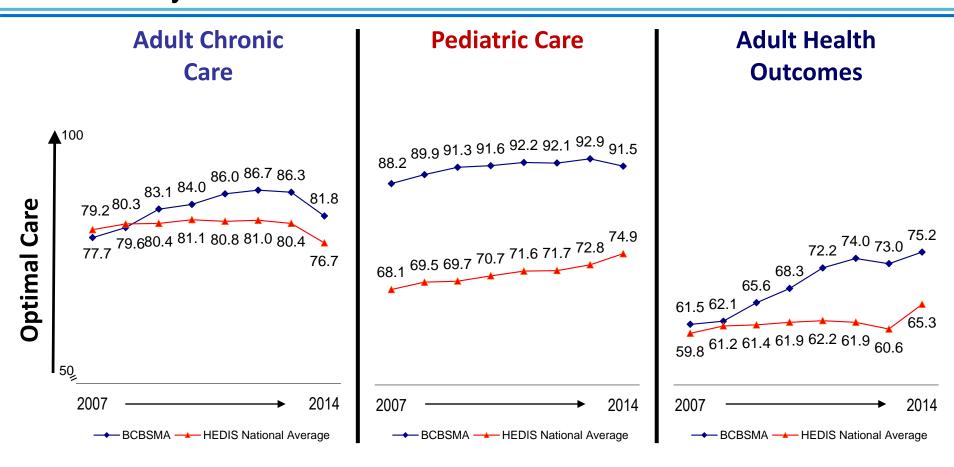
#### **Quality Incentives**

- Ambulatory and hospital
- Significant earning potential
- Nationally accepted measures

#### **Long-Term Contract**

- 5-year agreement
- Sustained partnership
- Supports ongoing investment

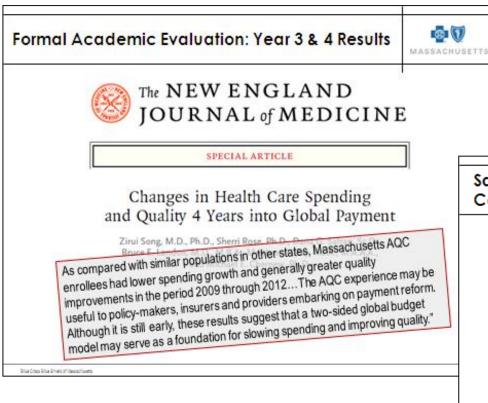
### Results Under the AQC: Dramatic Increases in Quality



These graphs show that the AQC has accelerated progress toward optimal care since it began in 2009. The first two scores are based on the delivery of evidence-based care to adults with chronic illness and to children, including appropriate tests, services, and preventive care. The third score reflects the extent to which providers helped adults with serious chronic illness achieve optimal clinical outcomes. Linking provider payment to outcome measures has been one of the AQC's pioneering achievements. In 2014, the LDL-C measure was dropped from the HEDIS National Average calculation.

# Results Under the AQC: Accelerating Cost Savings

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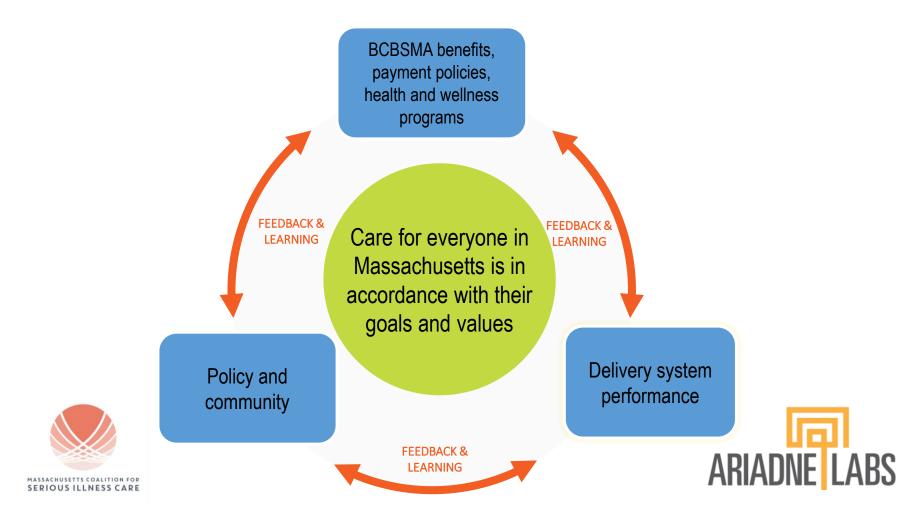


Savings Associated with the AQC Relative to Control Group, 2009-2012 MASSACHUSETTS 15% Weighted average savings on claims (% of current-year FFS claims) 10.0% 10% 8.4% 3.1% 2.4% 2009 2010 2011 2012 AQC Physician 20% 20% 35% 77% Participation<sup>1</sup> Notes: (1) Calculated based on combined PCP and 8CP participation as of December of each year.

**Source:** Song Z, et al. Changes in Health Care Spending and Quality 4 Years into Global

Payment. The New England Journal of Medicine. 2014.

# Supporting High Quality Serious Illness Care in a Global Payment Environment



# MGH's Home Based Palliative Care Program Pilot (2014)

#### Care Team/ Model

- -MD
- 3 NPs
- Social worker
- Home visits for symptom management and advance care planning discussions; frequency determined by need
- Discharged after hospice enrollment

#### **Population**

- Partners attributed
   ACO/risk patients
   (Medicare and commercial)
- Already part of the Integrated Care Management Program (high cost, high need)

#### **Financing**

- FFS billing by clinicians covering ~50% of program costs
- Supplemented by population health budget (ACO)

# Final Pilot Financial Analysis Revealed Significant Savings

### \$1,351 PMPM

Savings **compared to controls** in the last 6 months of life:

- Majority of savings from reduced inpatient use while in program
- Also saw increased hospice use and length of stay

\$2,696

Net benefit per patient to the ACO

 After program cost and shared savings with payer (CMS)

### Expansion – Geographic and Financial

### Home Based Palliative Care Program Geographic Territory



#### Lessons learned

