

What is an ACO?

An ACO is a healthcare organization that has decided to become “accountable” for the quality and cost of the care it provides to Medicare Fee-for-Service patients. This will be done through new programs that improve care coordination.

According to Medicare, *“the goal of coordinated care is to ensure that patients, especially the chronically ill, get the right care at the right time.”*

Coordinated care is especially difficult for rural communities like Logansport, because many patients may receive care from specialists who are out of town. Communication between local providers and urban specialists is often incomplete, which is why care coordination is helpful.



Logansport Memorial Hospital is taking the initiative to improve communication and information-sharing to increase the quality of care that you receive.

Questions?

Contact the
Director of Care Coordination.
(574) 753-1317



1101 Michigan Avenue
Logansport, IN 46947

(574) 753-7541

(800) 243-4512

www.logansportmemorial.org

National Rural Accountable Care Organization

A sustainable model for rural healthcare





what happens next?

Why should I share my information?

Logansport Memorial Hospital has adopted electronic medical records to keep your health information in a secure, private place which can be viewed by healthcare providers that you allow to access your information. This is how we can communicate and coordinate care between providers, reducing the need for repeating procedures that have already been done at another location.

Because Logansport Memorial Hospital is an Accountable Care Organization, Medicare is now willing to share all of your billing history with your providers. The way things work today, your providers only know about the care you receive in their office. This is why tests are often repeated at different offices, and physicians may not know what drugs you are taking or what other health problems you may have.

Having a complete electronic health record, with information in one place from ALL of your providers, will improve your overall care.

Your provider will have the information that he or she needs to take the best possible care of you.

Who has access to my information?

Your local healthcare team -- your primary care provider, care coordinator, and authorized office staff who will help coordinate and manage your care.

What type of data will the ACO receive?

Medicare will only provide the ACO with claims records. Claims records have information about what services Medicare has paid for, the date and location where the services were provided, and the cost. Medicare will **not** share laboratory or test results. Medicare will **not** share information about anyone who has ever received treatment for alcohol or substance abuse without written permission.

What is a Care Coordinator?

Some patients have more complex conditions, and may see doctors or specialists that work at more than one facility. Care Coordinators work with patients to improve communication between all providers, the patient and their family or caregivers. They will meet regularly with patients and can provide tools and training to help patients manage their conditions. They may also connect patients with local community resources and programs.

How can I decline to have my information shared?

You can call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. Be sure to tell the operator you are calling about ACOs.

You can complete, sign, and submit the "Declining to Share Personal Health Information" form in your provider's office, or return it by mail to:

**National Rural ACO
P.O. Box 1330
Nevada City, CA 95959**

Can I change my mind?

Yes! You can always change your mind. If you have previously declined, and now you've decided that you want your information shared with the NRACO, you can either sign a "Consent to Change Personal Health Information Preference" form or call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) and tell them that you would like to share your claims data with the NRACO. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

Will my Medicare benefits change?

No. What you pay, your Medicare benefits, or the cost of your coverage will not increase due to your provider's participation in an ACO.