

Physician-Focused Payment Model Technical Advisory Committee

Potential Questions for **Listening Session #2** for the June 2024 Theme-Based Meeting: **Addressing the Needs of Patients with Complex Chronic Conditions or Serious Illnesses in Population-Based Total Cost of Care (PB-TCOC) Models**

Topic: Optimizing the Mix of Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care in PB-TCOC Models

Tuesday, June 11, 9:10 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. EDT

Listening Session Subject Matter Experts (SMEs):

- **Kurt Merkelz, MD, FAAHPM** – Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, Compassus
- **Natalie C. Ernecoff, PhD, MPH** – Full Policy Researcher, RAND
- **Ira Byock, MD, FAAHPM** – Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Community & Family Medicine, Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine
- **Betty Ferrell, RN, PhD** – Director and Professor, Division of Nursing Research and Education, Department of Population Sciences, City of Hope

Committee Discussion and Q&A Session

After each SME provides an 8-10-minute presentation, the Committee discussion will focus on questions raised by Committee members in response to the SMEs' presentations.

The following are examples of questions that Committee members may ask.

A. Opportunities for Enhancing Palliative Care and Related Outcomes in PB-TCOC Models

1. ***What opportunities exist for enhancing palliative care and related outcomes in PB-TCOC models?***
 - a. What challenges affect the provision of palliative care in PB-TCOC models?
 - b. What approaches to performance measurement and financial incentives could be used in PB-TCOC models to promote effective palliative care and related outcomes?

B. Lessons Learned About Providing Palliative Care and Hospice Services

2. ***What is the optimal mix of hospice and palliative care services for seriously ill patients, and how might this mix differ depending on the type, number, and degree of severity of their conditions/illnesses?***
 - a. What are the most effective and innovative approaches for implementing and delivering hospice services for this patient population?

- b. What is the evidence related to the impact of providing concurrent hospice services on outcomes and patient experience?
- c. What are the challenges related to designing models that provide concurrent hospice services? What are some potential approaches for addressing these challenges?

C. Patient Perspectives Regarding Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care

3. What are some evidence-based approaches for informing patients about their palliative care and end-of-life care options?

- a. How can providers best work with patients and caregivers to assist in determining when palliative and/or hospice care is appropriate?
- b. What are some approaches and performance measures that can assist in addressing equity issues regarding access to and use of palliative care and hospice care?

D. Addressing Workforce Challenges Related to Caring for Patients with Complex Chronic Conditions or Serious Illnesses Through Clinical Leadership

4. What are some approaches that can be used to address challenges the workforce (e.g., physicians, nurses, hospitals, social workers, community workers) may face when caring for this patient population?

- a. What can be done to prepare nurses and other parts of the healthcare workforce to provide the care that is needed by seriously ill patients and their caregivers?

Additional Insights

Wrap-up Question: Are there any additional insights you would like to share about optimizing the mix of palliative and end-of-life care in PB-TCOC models?