

# Massachusetts Quality e-Measure Validation Study (MQeVS)

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# Outline of Presentation

- Background
- Translating Community Health Information Exchange data into quality measure results
- MQeVS evaluation



# Using the EHR to Improve Performance Measurement

- Detailed, structured clinical data
- Unobtrusive data collection
- Aggregation across care settings can enable sophisticated measures (e.g., care coordination & safety)
- Performance results relevant to physician groups
  - Patients sampled by group, rather than health plan
  - Timely



Schneider et al, Enhancing performance measurement: NCQA's Roadmap for a Health Information Framework. JAMA 1999;282:1184

# MQeVS Aims

**To compare a quality measurement method using structured, coded EHR data with...**

- 1) Current “hybrid method” involving a combination of aggregated claims data and medical record review.
- 2) Current “claims-only method” based on a novel database that aggregates claims data from commercial health plans and Medicare.





- Built on EHR adoption initiative of MA Chapter of ACP and quality and safety initiatives of MA Health Data Consortium's CIO Forum
- Start-up funding provided by Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA
- Launched in September 2004 as non-profit company registered in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
  - CEO, Micky Tripathi began in January 2005
- Backed by wide range of stakeholders





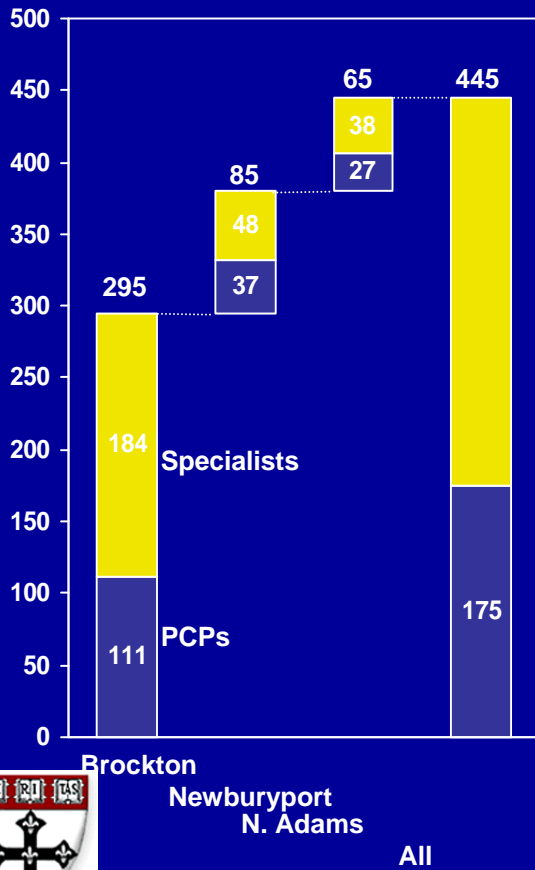
# SCOPE OF PILOT PROJECTS

Almost 450  
physicians...

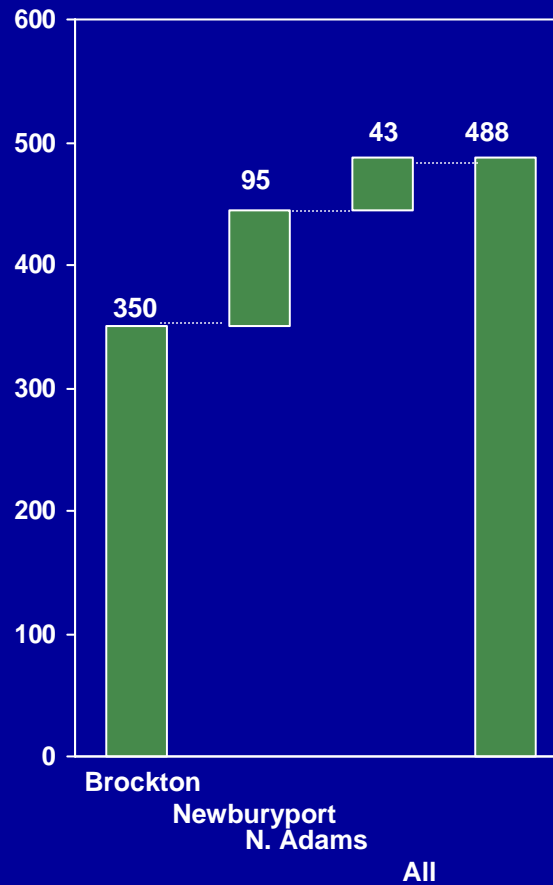
...who care for ~500K  
patients...

...in almost 200 offices.

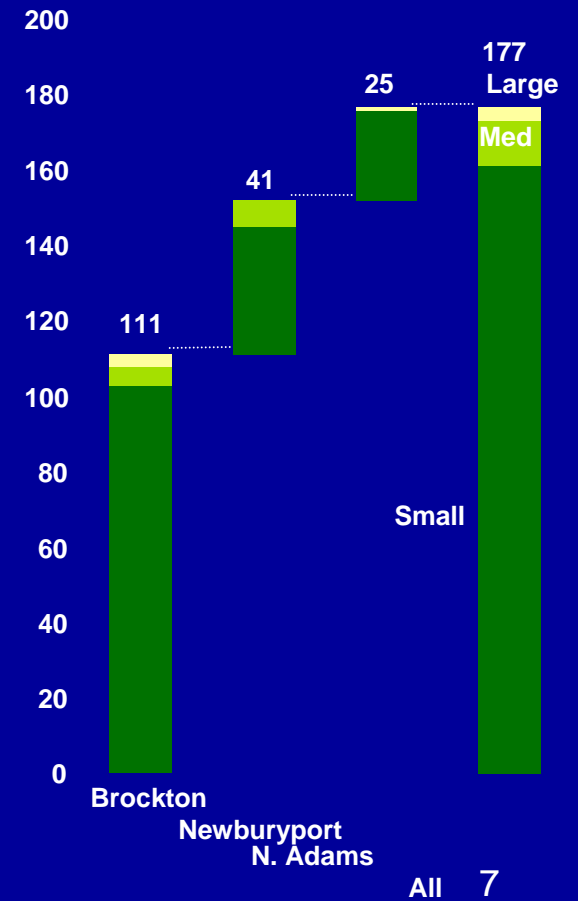
Physicians



Patient population (000)



Offices



# Translating Community Health Information Exchange data into quality measure results





# MAeHC DATA FLOWS

MAeHC-level:  
Analysis & Reporting

Outcomes  
analysis

Benchmarking

MAeHC-level:  
QDC



Community-level:  
HIE



Individual re-identification as necessary

Provider-level:  
EHR



# QUALITY DATA CENTER (QDC)

## Goals

- Reporting
  - Quality reports to community physicians and physician organizations to help them benchmark their performance & identify clinical areas needing improvement
- Evaluation
  - Enable MAeHC and its research partners to evaluate the impact of HIT on the quality of health care delivery in the pilot communities



# MAeHC QUALITY DATA WAREHOUSE PILOT BENCHMARKING METRICS

*Clinical data “superset” in  
Community eHealth Summary*

Patient demographics

Medications

Problems

Procedures

Allergies

Lab Results

Radiology Results

Immunizations

Vitals

## **CLINICAL MEASURES**

### **FOR PHYSICIAN PERFORMANCE**

*Drawn from AQA Recommended Starter Set*

- Breast Cancer Screening
- Colorectal Cancer Screening
- Tobacco Use
- Influenza Vaccination
- Pneumonia Vaccination
- CAD: Drug Therapy for Lowering LDL Cholesterol
- CAD: Antiplatelet Therapy
- DM: HbA1C Management
- DM: HbA1C Management Control
- DM: Eye Exam
- DM & HTN: Blood Pressure Management
- CAD & DM Lipid Measurement
- CAD & DM: LDL Cholesterol Level <100mg/dL
- Use of Appropriate Meds for People w/ Asthma
- Appropriate Treatment for Children with URI
- Appropriate Testing for Children with Pharyngitis



# QDW DATA VALIDATION PROCESS

## ■ Purpose

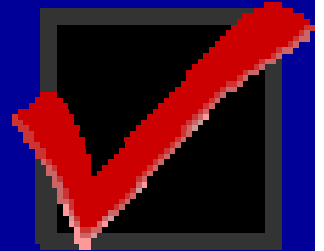
- Test availability of necessary information in extracted data fields in Quality Data Warehouse
- Test assumptions re format and coding of data elements
- Identify documentation issues that can be remediated with training
- Identify coding issues and remediation strategies

## ● Process

- Identification of common documentation issues affecting measures
- Development of training tips to improve performance results through better documentation
- Development of code maps as needed
- Patient re-identification process to support both patient and chart-based validation of measures



# CURRENT ASSESSMENT OF DATA AND CODING ISSUES



- Measures with *no* data gaps/coding issues
  - Community 1: 7 of 20 measures
  - Community 2: 18 of 20 measures
  - Community 3: in progress
- Data gaps and coding issues (examples):
  - Missing historical screening and surgical procedure codes
  - E & M codes not transmitted (remedied)
  - Incompatible coding systems (lab/billing)
  - Lack of data on inpatient/ED orders



# MQeVS Evaluation



# MQeVS Evaluation

- **Sample**
  - Aim 1: 2100 patients recruited from MAeHC communities via patient survey
  - Aim 2: All “measure eligible” patients with EHR-HIE data and health plan administrative data (de-identified data analysis)
- **Data Sources for comparison**
  - Quality data from Quality Data Center (Community HIEs)
  - Survey of patients about measured services
  - Office medical record review (including paper records)
  - Health plan claims data



# Quality Measures: Deconstructing Data Needs

E=exclusion criteria; D=denominator inclusion; N=numerator inclusion; Var=varies

	Age/ Sex	Den Time Window	Num Time Window	Enc Data	Dx Data	Rx Data	Proc Data	Test	Test Result
Colorectal Screening	D	2 yr	10 yr	N	E		N	N	
Beta-blocker after MI	D	1 yr	7 d	D	D,E	N			
HbA1C Control	D	1 yr	1 yr		D,E			D, N	N
Eye exam	D	1 yr	1 yr	D,N	D	E	N,E		E





# Analysis

<u>Availability of Inclusion Criteria Data for Colonoscopy?</u>			
		Through EHR Data Method	
		Yes	No
Through Hybrid Method	Yes	a	b
	No	c	d

Where: Availability through the EHR =  $(a+c) / (a+b+c+d) = 92\%$

And: Availability through Hybrid method =  $(a+b) / (a+b+c+d) = 98\%$



# Challenges

- Logistical
  - HIE implementation
  - Data sharing (privacy/confidentiality)
- Analytic
  - Lack of a “gold standard”
  - Complex correlation among data sources
  - Identifying and interpreting “missing” data
  - Small sample sizes for some measures



# “Crossing the Quality Chasm?”

