



INHALE NEWSLETTER

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INHALE Website Launch

INHALE's website has finally launched and we are so excited for you to start exploring it! Please, use the following link to access it:



Within our site you'll find an abundance of useful tools and information to assist your POs and practices in navigating INHALE's quality improvement processes. This includes:

- Information about each of our initiatives and measures
- Resources ranging from patient instructions on how to use an inhaler to the latest research regarding asthma and COPD care
- Upcoming events calendar
- Access to our Admin Portal, INHALEarning Portal and Data Dashboard
- And so much more is to come!

Our team is still in the process of developing and growing the INHALE website, but we'd love your feedback in the meantime! There is a space within the 'Contact Us' page where you can submit resources, suggestions or any cool ideas you might have. We want to know about it!

Latest Asthma and COPD Resources & News

Albuterol Shortage

News has been circulating lately about a shortage of albuterol, but what does that mean for people with asthma? The shortage is of liquid albuterol, which is commonly used for nebulizers mostly in the hospital setting. Albuterol inhalers are not affected at this time and most people with asthma will have other options for quick-relief medicines. With that said, the asthma community is resourceful and people with asthma and doctors are working together to address the current supply issues.

AIM Newsletter Resource

The Asthma Initiative of Michigan, AIM, collaborates with MDHHS and the CDC to improve asthma outcomes in our state. They do this through strategic partnerships, intervention development, surveillance and evaluation. Their website has an abundance of great resources for caregivers, healthcare professionals and individuals living with asthma. We, at INHALE, encourage you to sign up for their newsletter to stay up to date on the latest asthma trends and information.



<https://getasthmahelp.org>

NEW

Ask the Pharmacist



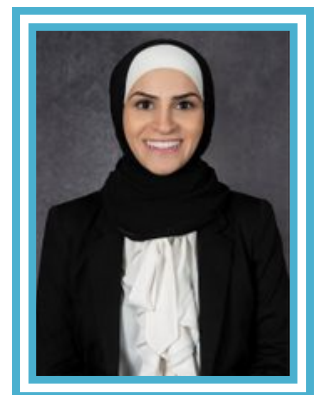
1:1 Consult with a PharmD

Nada Farhat, PharmD, BCPS, BCACP is a board-certified clinical pharmacist specialist practicing at Michigan Medicine with expertise in chronic disease management, pulmonary diseases, transitions of care, and project management. Nada also serves as a clinical lead with Michigan Institute for Care Management Transitions (MICMT), who is partnering with INHALE to provide a consult service to participating practices and POs. Nada serves on the INHALE education workgroup and can provide resources to help with clinical and operational services at your practice site.



Services Offered:

- Explore clinical scenarios and answer patient specific clinical questions (note: PHI not permitted)
- Review online educational resources available to patients and providers
- Discuss INHALE CQI operational logistics relevant to your practice site
- Develop strategies to operationalize transitions of care at your practice
- Open forum for other clinical questions or specific INHALE related topics



Nada Farhat, PharmD, BCPS, BCACP

Please visit the following link to sign up:

<https://micmt-cares.org/consultation-services>.

Slots are 30 minutes long and there is a maximum of 2 slots per month per practice or PO. Please also complete the questionnaire online prior to your consultation.

An Overview: Value-Based Reimbursement



Blue Cross® Blue Shield® of Michigan (BCBSM) worked with the Inspiring Health Advances in Lung Care (INHALE) CQI to establish CQI-specific statewide performance and engagement metrics as a component of its 2023 Value-Based Reimbursement (VBR) program. To be eligible for INHALE VBR, all participating specialists (pulmonologists and allergists), primary care providers, and pediatricians must meet all specified metrics.

As a reminder on how the VBR works, primary care providers (PCP) and specialists (SCP) who participate in the Physician Group Incentive Program (PGIP) and meet specific criteria are eligible for reimbursement according to the VBR fee schedule. The VBR fee schedule sets reimbursement rates for specific procedure codes at greater than 100 percent of the standard fee schedules. Because patient-centered medical home (PCMH) designation is the foundation of PGIP's care transformation approach, VBR is only available to PCPs who achieve PCMH designation. This is not a requirement for SCs. For INHALE CQI VBR, if the CQI targets are met, participating providers may be eligible to receive reimbursement at 105 percent of the standard fee schedules.

Additional Information:

- CQI VBR is applied in addition to any other VBR the providers may be eligible to receive and applies to codes similarly to all other BCBSM-related PCP or SCP VBR.
- The CQI VBR applies only to reimbursement associated with BCBSM PPO commercial claims.

Coordinating Center Responsibilities

The CQI Coordinating Center (CC), jointly with BCBSM is responsible for developing quality and performance metrics, scoring methodology, as well as data reporting. The CC (not the physician organization) determines which practitioners have met the appropriate performance targets and notifies BCBSM who then notifies our PGIP Physician Organizations of the physicians eligible to receive the CQI VBR. It is the POs responsibility to notify physicians that receive these incentive payments.

For the full Tobacco Cessation Counseling measure, use the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oq91pFnjz82eJl9rmV2brNsCqiOKnKCl/view?usp=sharing>

Tobacco Cessation Counseling Measure Details:

INHALE has partnered with HBOM to offer a Tobacco Cessation Counseling VBR. Details are as follows:

Measure Level: PO-level measure combining patients attributed to PCP and SCs.

VBR reward: 102 percent of the Standard Fee Schedules; BCBSM PPO Commercial claims only.

Claims-based Measure: recommended CPT codes for Tobacco Cessation Counseling:

- **99406-** smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling visit; intermediate, greater than 3 minutes up to 10 minutes
- **99407-** smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling visit; intermediate, greater than 10 minutes

Updates & Reminders

SAVE THE DATE

- Education Workgroup Zoom Meeting
 - **April 3, 2023 @ 4:00pm**
- PO Monthly Phone Call
 - **April 10 @ 11:00am**
 - **April 12 @ 2:00pm**
- Regional Meetings
 - **TBD** (Dates will be finalized & shared soon)
- PCP/Peds Recruitment
 - **Occurs April 2023 - June 2023**
 - **Participation Agreements submitted by July 1, 2023**
 - **Newly recruited practices will be eligible for VBR starting September 1, 2023.**
 - Check out the INHALE website for more details: <https://inhalecqi.org/>
- Collaborative Wide Meeting
 - **June 16th, 2023**



JOIN US



Join our Education Workgroup!

Work together to develop patient and provider educational materials.

Meetings occur via Zoom every other Monday, from 4:00-5:00pm.

Email Brenna at bdressle@med.umich.edu
to be officially added to the group.

Meet the Team



Courtney Oliver
Program Manager

Courtney made the switch from clinical trials to quality improvement program management in the fall of 2021. Her clinical trial work was predominantly in oncology clinical research with a shift more recently to pulmonary disease and COVID-19 vaccine research. Courtney is the brains behind the operations of INHALE. She keeps the team motivated and on track to the ultimate goal of improving lung health in Michigan!

Fun fact: she currently resides in Michigan's Upper Peninsula with her husband and two young kids.



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