



PHASE IN THE COMMUNITY 2017-2019 INITIATIVE-WIDE GOALS FAQ FOR GRANTEES

What are the PHASE initiative-wide goals?

The PHASE initiative-wide goals are the specific metrics and targets for improvement that all PHASE grantees will work toward in order to measure our collective impact on preventing heart attacks and strokes. For the first half of the 2017-2019 PHASE grant cycle, the metrics of focus are **BP control in patients with hypertension and BP control in patients with diabetes**. We are asking PHASE grantees to focus on one or both of these HEDIS measures.

Why were these goals established and how were they chosen?

With the expansion of PHASE grantmaking, we have a tremendous opportunity to achieve measurable improvement in the health of patients served by the safety net. While all 15 PHASE measures are important, **controlling blood pressure is known to have the biggest impact** on reducing heart attacks and strokes. Kaiser Permanente set these initiative-wide goals by consulting with their clinical experts and evaluating your Charter for Improvement goals worksheets. The focus on blood pressure control will allow us to offer more targeted coaching, technical assistance and knowledge dissemination to help you achieve significant improvement in these measures.

How will those goals be measured?

Initial improvement efforts will focus on supporting grantees to **achieve or maintain the 75th percentile in one or both HTN-related HEDIS measures**. For organizations currently **below the 75th percentile**, the PHASE Support Team will provide focused technical assistance, training and coaching to drive a **relative 10% improvement over the Q1 2017 baseline by June 2018**.

What if my organization is already at or above HEDIS 75th percentile on one or both HTN measures?

We hope to support you in maintaining and exceeding the 75th percentile over the course of the initiative and will continue to support your organization in achieving all your PHASE priorities.

What if my organization is below HEDIS 75th?

For organizations below the HEDIS 75th percentile as of Q1 the goal is to achieve a **relative 10% improvement by June 2018** (the grant mid-point). For example, if you are currently at 50% HEDIS for BP control for diabetics, your goal would be to reach 55% by next June.

If we don't reach that goal by next June, will that affect our funding?

You **will not lose your funding as long as you demonstrate commitment, take a thoughtful approach to improvement, and identify interventions** to improve care for these patients. Kaiser Permanente's aspiration for this work may be a stretch for some, but please rest assured that the important thing is that you do your best.

In our Charter for Improvement (CFI) we focused on additional measures; what about those goals?

The overwhelming majority of PHASE participants have already selected one or both of the BP control measures as an improvement target, as well as other goals including healthy lifestyle. Please continue to focus your performance improvement efforts on the priorities you identified in your Charter for Improvement, along with these new initiative-wide goals. Working with the PHASE Support Team, you will be able to continue to refine both the initiative-wide and your individual goals, and develop strategies for reaching them.

How does this change the capacity-building focus (i.e., Building Blocks of PHASE) that we identified as a priority?

Through the PHASE initiative and the Support Team you will continue to have access to capacity-building technical assistance in support of the PHASE initiative-wide goals (e.g., hypertension control in high-risk patients). We recognize that in caring for PHASE patients you are strengthening your organization's capacity for population health management, which can be applied to other conditions and preventive care approaches.

What happens after June 2018? The grant goes through December 2019. What will goals be for the second half of the initiative?

Based on key lessons learned and promising practices from the first half of the grant cycle, Kaiser Permanente staff and the PHASE Support Team will update targets after the mid-point of the grant to continue driving our work toward our shared goals.

We are a consortium and only some of our clinics have hypertension goals and targets. What does that mean for us?

We hope the PHASE initiative-wide goals will help you build the case for focusing improvement efforts on hypertension control as measured by the two HEDIS measures. The PHASE Support Team stands ready to help you work with underperforming health centers and provide focused TA to these teams.

I've still got questions about these new goals. How can I get them answered?

The best place to discuss these goals will be in your quarterly calls with the PHASE Support Team, which occur in September. If you would like to discuss any of this before then, please feel free to reach out to SA Kushinka at CCI (sa@careinnovations.org) or Michael Cox at Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit (Michael.P.Cox@kp.org).

Thank you for being a part of PHASE. We look forward to continuing to work side by side with you.

