Practice Transformation Consultation Services

Request for Information

RFP Issue Date: <u>February 19, 2024</u>

Responses Requested by: <u>March 1, 2024</u>

Submit to **eqip@crisphealth.org**

Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients

7160 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 100

Columbia, Maryland 21046

Overview and Objective

CRISP Overview

Chesapeake Regional Information System for Our Patients, Inc. (CRISP) is an independent not-for-profit membership corporation that operates a health information exchange (HIE) serving the state of Maryland CRISP, which is a private entity chartered and governed to pursue health IT projects best pursued cooperatively, is the state designated HIE for Maryland. Its participants include each of the 47 acute general care hospitals in Maryland, ambulatory providers across the state, long term care facilities as well as numerous other facilities and providers of care.

CRISP plays an active role in care transformation in the state of Maryland through the offering of six core services: 1) point of care, 2) care coordination, 3) population health reports, 4) public health, 5) program administration, and 6) interoperability infrastructure support. All these services are pertinent to this request. Point of care tools enable providers to view and be made aware of their patients' health information. Care coordination tools notify providers when their patients are hospitalized and also are able to receive special notifications about emergency department visits flagged for potential readmissions. Population health report efforts leverage administrative claims and hospitalization data to create multiple reports and reporting suites. CRISP also offers program administration services such as providing support for the state's Episode Quality Improvement Program (EQIP) and their stated goals and objectives.

Background on the Episode Quality Improvement Program

Maryland providers and suppliers are excluded from federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation ("CMMI") episode payment models that include hospital costs in episode prices. As a result, the HSCRC has implemented the Episode Quality Improvement Program ("EQIP") as a vehicle within CRP, to allow providers to participate in care transformation and earn shared savings where they are able to reduce total cost of care. EQIP is a voluntary program that engages non-hospital Medicare providers and suppliers in care transformation and value-based payment. Currently EQIP holds participants accountable for achieving cost and quality targets for one or more clinical episodes, each of which will incorporate a specified alternative payment arrangement. To date EQIP has covered a wide range of specialty providers. Specifics on the current EQIP program can be found on the website of CRISP, the State Designated Health Information Exchange (HIE) for Maryland and the program administrator of EQIP. Further information on EQIP can be found on CRISP's website (EQIP Learning System). In establishing the EQIP program the HSCRC has focused on minimizing provider administrative burden and developing structures that incent provider participation.

EQIP Practice Transformation Grant (PTG) Program

In the initial years administering EQIP, HSCRC identified a wide range in EQIP entities readiness for performing well in an episode-based approach. HSCRC also identified practice transformation opportunities to improve EQIP entity readiness for EQIP engagement.

To support a wide range of EQIP entities for EQIP participation, HSCRC plans to reinvest EQIP Year 1 savings by developing an EQIP practice transformation grant (PTG) program. EQIP entities will commit to using the grant funding for resources and investments—investments such as care management resources, practice data analysis, and electronic health record updates—that have been shown to improve performance in episode-based programs and promote improved patient outcomes.

The goal of this RPI, is to obtain landscape review of individuals and firms available to engage with CRISP to assist Maryland physician practices with practice transformation under Maryland's EQIP. Examples include but are not limited to: coordination across the continuum of care, beneficiary and caregiver experience, care management and access and continuity. Information collected from this RFI may inform our subsequently issuing an RFP.

Request for Information - Questions

CRISP is interested in obtaining feedback on the topics below, respondents should feel free to address some or all questions in their response. Respondents are asked to submit responses as an attachment rather than the body of the email. Responses should identify specific questions to which they are being addressed. Responses to this RFI should be submitted by Friday, March 1st no later than 5 pm (EST) to the CRISP EQIP Team at eqip@crisphealth.org.

Please respond to the following questions

1. Briefly describe your organization. Years of experience? Service locations, business lines (e.g., Medicare value-based payments), or other specialties (e.g., primary care).
2. Discuss current or recent practice transformation projects. Please highlight projects that support value-based programs. Describe outcomes.
3. Develop tools of evaluating practice and recommending practice transformation opportunities
4. Do you have templates/materials already developed to review practices? If so, please describe. If not, describe process for developing these?
5. Discuss how your organization approaches new requests for practice consultation service.
6. Do you have process measures in place to evaluate the practice transformation?
7. Describe your experience reviewing data to develop transformation strategies.

Please attach relevant resumes/bios and example templates, as necessary.

If potential respondents have questions about this RFI please reach out to eqip@crisphealth.org.