EQIP for Growing Practices

Episode Quality Improvement Program

Module 2: Participation and Enrollment

EQIP's Volume Thresholds

The Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) requires each EQIP Entity to meet three minimum episode volume thresholds during the baseline period to be eligible to participate in the clinical episode categories they choose:

1 The EQIP Entity must be attributed 11 or more clinical episodes within each selected clinical episode category during the baseline period.

2 The EQIP Entity must be attributed 50 or more clinical episodes across ALL clinical episode categories selected during the baseline period.

3 Of the NPIs that make up the EQIP Entity, 75% must have at least one claim with a non-excluded beneficiary who triggered a clinical episode in each clinical episode category chosen during the baseline period. *This claim threshold is 50% for EQIP Entities with 10 or fewer Care Partners.*

EQIP for Growing Practices

Some organizations, specifically new or growing practices, may not meet all the EQIP volume thresholds required to participate. They may consist of:

- Practitioners who started practicing after the baseline period (CY2019);

- One or few practitioners;

- Or a small Medicare patient population

As a result, MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, created MedChi EQIP Entities to group organizations/practitioners who do not meet these requirements to give them an opportunity to participate in the program.

MedChi EQIP Entities

A MedChi EQIP Entity is a collection of one or more practitioners, or Care Partners, who enroll and participate in EQIP together with the support of MedChi.

Performance Year 4 (CY2025) MedChi Entities:

- MedChi Allergy
- MedChi CTO
- MedChi Dermatology
- MedChi Gastroenterology
- MedChi Ophthalmology
- MedChi Ortho/Pain
- MedChi Rheumatology
- MedChi Urgent Care – Emergency Room

Example – Three Organizations that do Not Meet Volume Thresholds:

EQIP Episode Quality Improvement Program

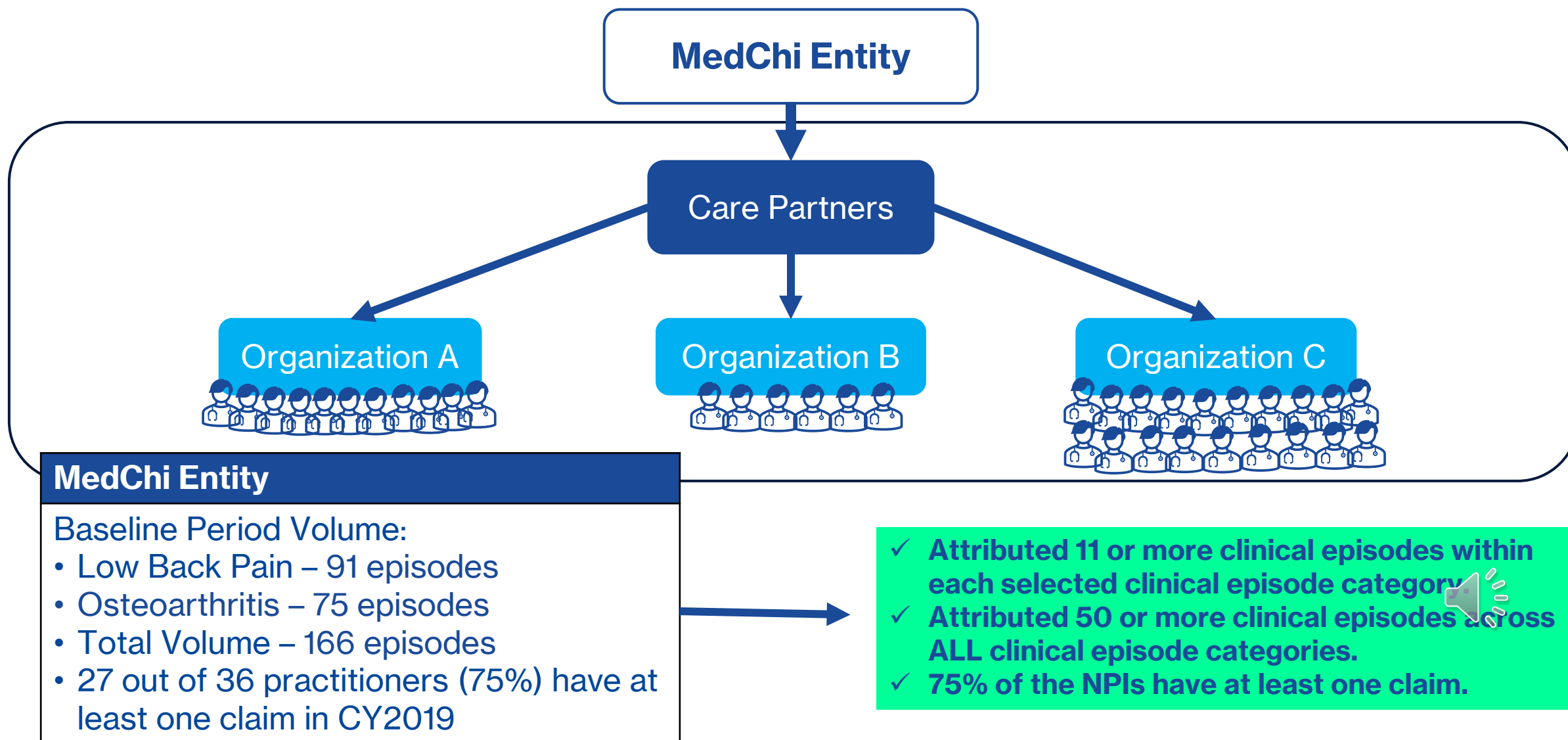| Organization A	Organization B	Organization C
Baseline Period Volume: • Low Back Pain – 10 episodes • Osteoarthritis – 8 episodes • Total Volume – 18 episodes • 9 out of 11 practitioners (82%) have at least one claim in CY2019	Baseline Period Volume: • Low Back Pain – 16 episodes • Osteoarthritis – 25 episodes • Total Volume – 41 episodes • 5 out of 6 practitioners (83%) have at least one claim in CY2019	Baseline Period Volume: • Low Back Pain – 65 episodes • Osteoarthritis – 42 episodes • Total Volume – 107 episodes • 13 out of 19 practitioners (68%) have at least one claim in CY2019

Organization A is not attributed to at least 11 episodes per episode category.

Organization B is not attributed to at least 50 episodes across all episode categories.

Organization C does not have at least 75% of its Care Partners with a claim.

Assuming these three organizations want to participate in EQIP without making any changes to their Care Partner lists or episode selections, one solution to meet volume thresholds would be to join to form a MedChi EQIP Entity.

Example – Creating a MedChi Entity

MedChi Entity

Care Partners

Organization A   Organization B   Organization C

MedChi Entity

Baseline Period Volume:
- Low Back Pain – 91 episodes
- Osteoarthritis – 75 episodes
- Total Volume – 166 episodes
- 27 out of 36 practitioners (75%) have at least one claim in CY2019

✓ **Attributed 11 or more clinical episodes within each selected clinical episode category.**
✓ **Attributed 50 or more clinical episodes across ALL clinical episode categories.**
✓ **75% of the NPIs have at least one claim.**

EQIP Episode Quality Improvement Program

Is a MedChi Entity Right for Me?

If your organization wants to enroll in EQIP, but you do not meet the EQIP volume thresholds, a MedChi Entity may be able to help!

MedChi is happy to help support any practice no matter the size of their organization or their affiliation. Please reach out to eqip@crisphealth.org to learn more.

Want to Learn More?

Visit the full **EQIP Curriculum** to explore comprehensive learning modules and deepen your understanding of Maryland's Episode Quality Improvement Program (EQIP).