

# The Summer of Risk Adjustment Love

## Presented By:

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THE RISE  
ASSOCIATION

We are a network of health care professionals addressing the challenges posed by the emerging landscape of value-based care and government health care reform.

## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide a community for like-minded professionals to come together for networking, education, and industry collaboration to stay ahead and advance their careers.

ONE ASSOCIATION  
**THREE COMMUNITIES**



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# Agenda

## 1

### Where Are We & Where Are We Going?

- Current state of risk adjustment analytics and associated problems
- Next-generation risk adjustment analytics barriers
- Your old partner is your new partner

## 2

### Overcoming Barriers, Use Cases & Best Practices

- Health plan example
- Risk-bearing organization example
- Provider engagement best practices

## 3

### Value and the Path Forward

- Operationalizing next-gen risk adjustment
- Value and next steps

## 4

### Q & A

- Let the experts answer your questions!

# Where are we & Where are we going?



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# Analytics In Risk Adjustment

## Business Norms



### Risk Analytics Opportunities

#### Suspecting

Identify missing and mis-coded diagnosis codes

#### Targeting

Identify the best intervention or medical record to close documentation / care gaps

#### Interventions

Identify diagnostic conditions documented in progress notes

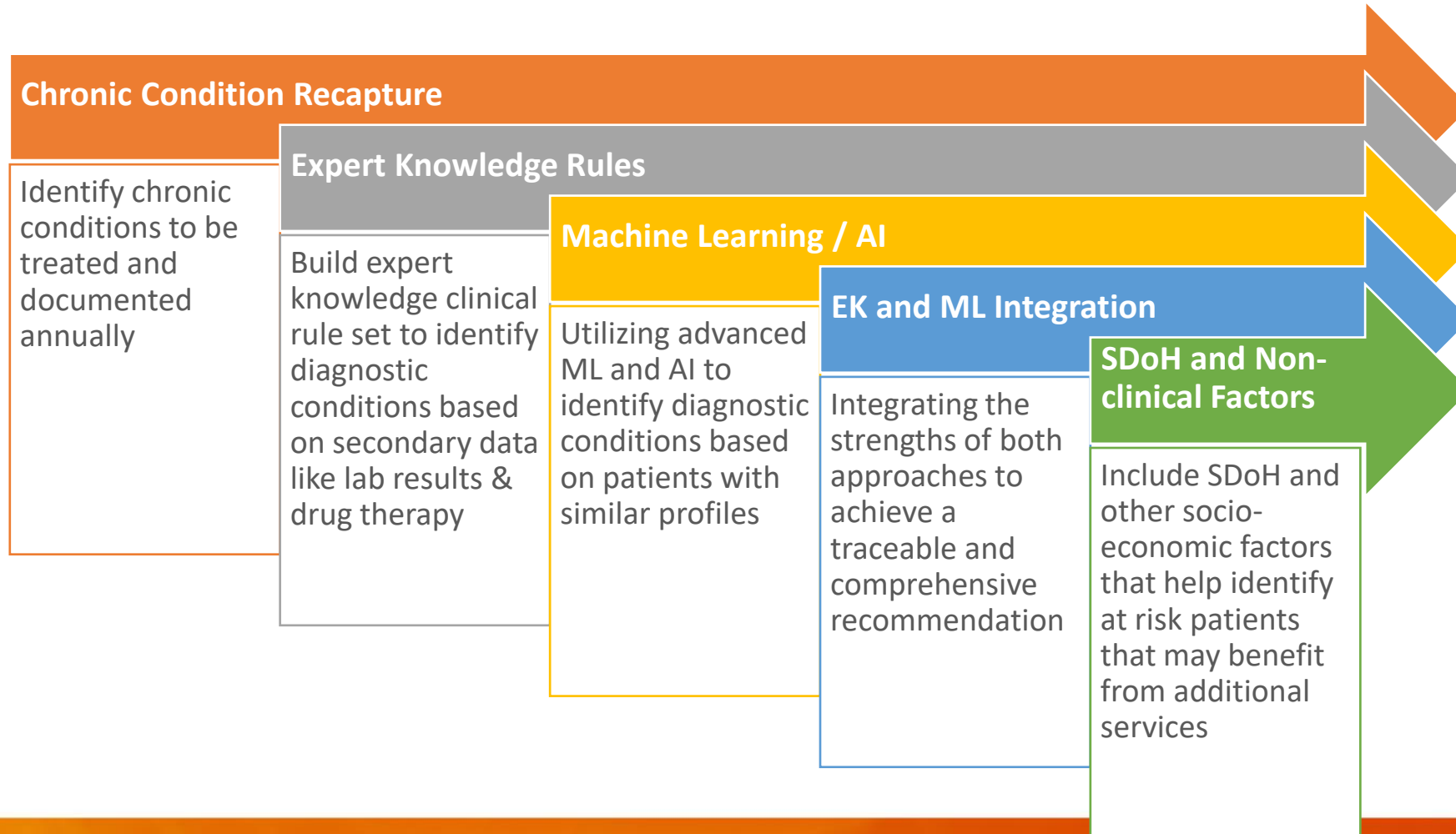
#### Submissions

Link chart reviews to existing medical claims

#### Interventions





Identify the best intervention or medical record to close documentation / care gaps

# Analytics In Risk Adjustment Suspecting Evolution





# Innovative Market Trends

Cloud Computing (SaaS)	AI and Machine Learning	Robotic Process Automation (RPA)	Interoperability (FHIR)
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 85% of enterprise organizations will be using cloud services for business-critical functions – Gartner</li><li>• Driving the shift from analog and physical assets to digital assets</li></ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ML mimics the brain's ability to review information and make recommendations</li><li>• 40% of firms expect to increase investment in AI/ML in 2021</li><li>• NLP unlocking 80% of clinical information</li></ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Automates manual operational processes that are repetitive and prone to error</li><li>• 69% of data processing and 64% of data collection operations can potentially be automated</li></ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Loosely couple payers, providers and systems using a standard semantic data interface</li><li>• Government mandated to implement...market requirement</li></ul>



# Barriers to Next-Gen RA Analytics

## Interoperability and Quality of Data

- FHIR and other government mandated interfaces are unlocking data that is traditionally stored in proprietary formats. Does not adjust for data bias.

## Technical Debt and Legacy Systems

- Sunk capital costs in equipment, systems and proprietary applications
- Innovation requires new skills and a change in culture

## Innovating an entire ecosystem (one bite at a time)

- Moving from proprietary to standard data formats
- Change management – people

## Culture of Innovation

- Innovation requires new skills, change in culture and the way problems are solved

# Your Old Partner is Your New Partner



## Payers and Providers are Integrating Care

- Payers contract with networks to deliver care to patients
- Staff models and Integrated Delivery Systems blur care models
- Payers deliver care through retail and mobile clinics



## Aligning Incentives between Payers and Providers

- Value-based care aligns the goals of the payer with the actions of the provider
- Transparency to payment models and metrics build trust



## Delivery of Care Systems Shift

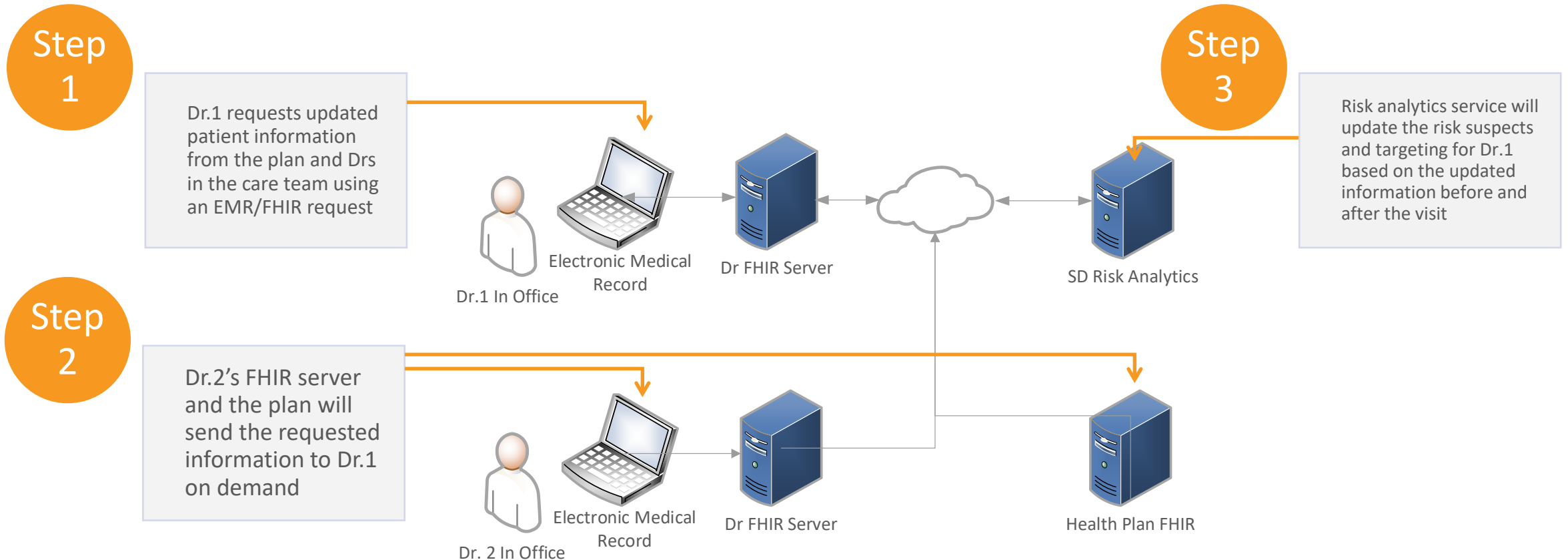
- Telemedicine, in-home and retail and mobile clinics shift primary care to new models
- AI and drone delivery innovations will drive just-in time medicine



## Healthcare Benefits Redesigned

- SDoH are shown to drive health outcomes
- Plans are expanding health benefits to include housing, food, internet access, etc.

# How It Works – Transactional Risk Analytics

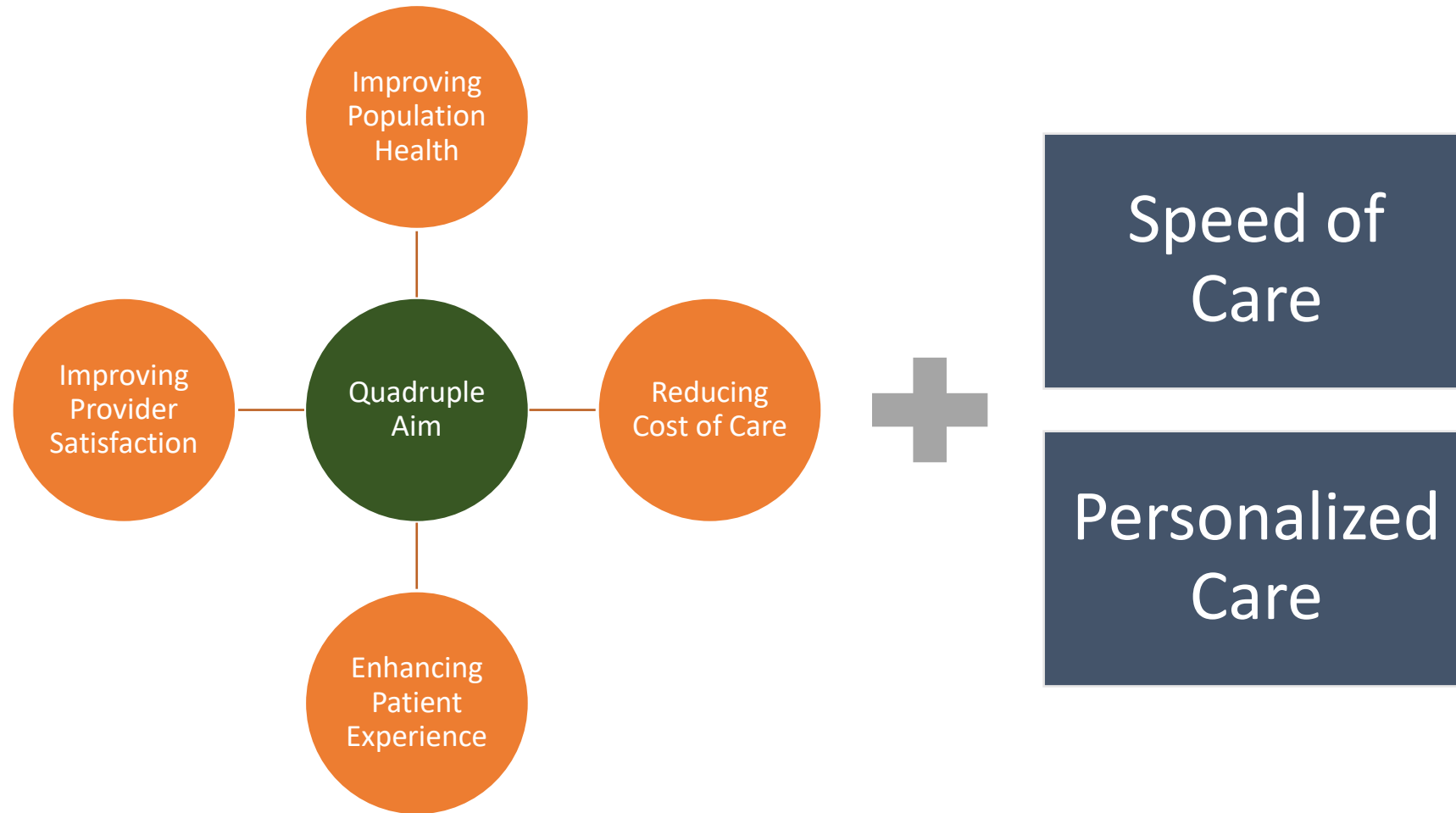



# Overcoming Barriers, Use Cases & Best Practices



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# Next-Gen Analytics Impact and Outcomes





How will I know who has chronic conditions and how close I am to the recapture goal?


How can I audit the reports and verify results?

Under the new contract your practice will receive a bonus if you recapture 80% of the chronic conditions by Sept

We will provide a monthly report from our systems

Plans are entering into value-based contracts with providers, but the details for evaluation/verification are still a work in progress





Hi Mrs. Smith – Tell me about your visit to the cardiologist.

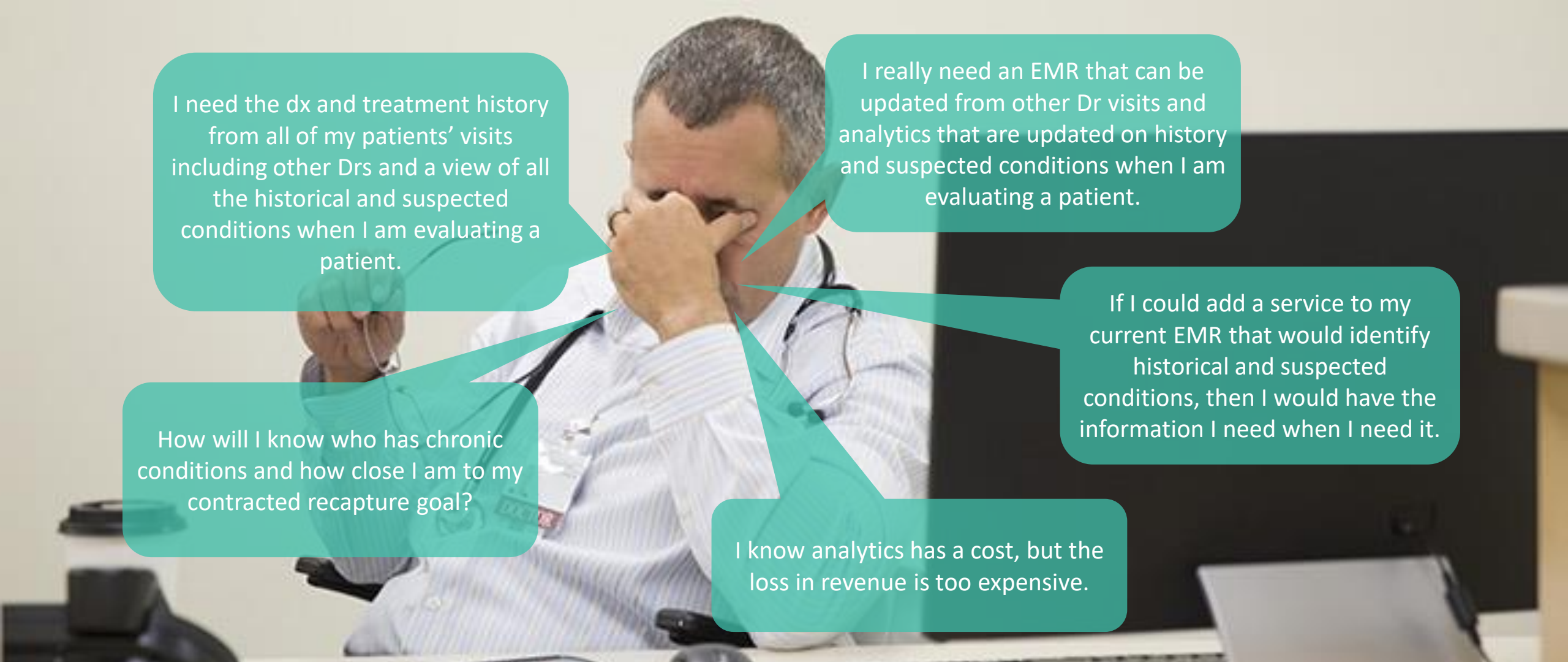
What medication did they prescribe to you?

They did some tests and said I needed a new medication.

They asked me to take Warfarin daily.

Today, many doctors rely on patient memory and feedback for some of the follow up feedback. Additionally, doctors often don't have a complete history of chronic historical and suspected conditions when evaluating patients – leading to incomplete evaluations and treatment plans.





I need the dx and treatment history from all of my patients' visits including other Drs and a view of all the historical and suspected conditions when I am evaluating a patient.


I really need an EMR that can be updated from other Dr visits and analytics that are updated on history and suspected conditions when I am evaluating a patient.

If I could add a service to my current EMR that would identify historical and suspected conditions, then I would have the information I need when I need it.

How will I know who has chronic conditions and how close I am to my contracted recapture goal?

I know analytics has a cost, but the loss in revenue is too expensive.

Doctors are challenged because their EMR system or paper-based chart does not present up-to-date or complete analytics for Dx history or suspected conditions



Hi Mrs. Jones – I can see you went to see Dr. Smith and she ran some tests on your heart and prescribed Warfarin. How are you feeling since this change?

I feel great and really appreciated Dr. Smith

Great – I see some other potential conditions. I want to evaluate your circulation and rule out any vascular issues. Let's do a Quantaflow test.

Because the doctor has access to current and complete information and analytics, they will be able to improve the care delivered, improve the patient experience and reduce the cost of care by avoiding duplication of services



## Value-Based Contracting Innovated Medicare Advantage Healthcare Delivery and Improved Survival

Aloke K. Mandal, MD, PhD; Gene K. Togomori, BS; Randall V. Felix, BS; and Scott C. Howell, DO, MPH&TM

In caring for traditional Medicare beneficiaries, primary care physicians will need to transform their clinical practice and assume more fiduciary risk. CMS recently published “new policies to address and incentivize participation in alternative payment models” (APMs).<sup>1</sup> An APM broadly can be defined as any reimbursement model other than strict fee-for-service (FFS). Currently, 30% of traditional FFS Medicare is reimbursed through APMs, with the goal of 50% involvement by 2018.<sup>1,2</sup> Clinicians who want to become qualifying APM participants can expect to “bear more than a nominal amount of risk for monetary losses.”<sup>3</sup> Through APMs and increasing risk assumption, these new policies aspire to promulgate high-value healthcare, as defined by “better care, smarter spending, and healthier people.”<sup>4</sup> Whether FFS divestiture in favor of APMs and increasing capitation can generate cost efficiencies and also improve clinical outcomes remains debatable.<sup>5,6</sup>

Medicare Advantage (MA) provides an alternative to traditional FFS Medicare. It has been a commercial success, accounting for 17.5 million (30.6%) of all Medicare enrollees and \$204.7 billion (28.9%) of Medicare’s 2017 gross spending budget.<sup>7</sup> Because it is regulated by its own federal statutes,<sup>8</sup> MA is classified as an “Other Payer APM” and excluded from CMS’ Proposed Rule for Medicare FFS.<sup>9</sup> For over a decade, MA has used the CMS Hierarchical Condition Categories (CMS-HCC) payment model to reimburse private plans (Medicare Advantage Organizations [MAOs]) with prospective, monthly, risk-adjusted or health-based capitated payments for the care of MA enrollees. The value of subsidizing MA often has been challenged.<sup>10-12</sup> Consequently, on October 3, 2016, CMS’ Innovation Center (CMMI) announced its Medicare Advantage Value-Based Insurance Design (VBID) model to test whether new initiatives can “improve health outcomes and lower expenditures for Medicare Advantage enrollees.”<sup>13</sup>

CMS adopted the CMS-HCC payment model with the concept that MAO recompense should reflect the disease and related cost burdens of the pertinent population and, thus, fundamentally changed how MAOs are reimbursed,<sup>14,15</sup> in return for providing healthcare benefits to MA enrollees during the calendar year (CY).

### ABSTRACT

**OBJECTIVES:** In Medicare Advantage (MA) with its CMS Hierarchical Condition Categories (CMS-HCC) payment model, CMS reimburses private plans (Medicare Advantage Organizations [MAOs]) with prospective, monthly, health-based or risk-adjusted, capitated payments. The effect of this payment methodology on healthcare delivery remains debatable. How value-based contracting generates cost efficiencies and improves clinical outcomes in MA is studied.

**STUDY DESIGN:** A difference in contracting arrangements between an MAO and 2 provider groups facilitated an intervention-control, preintervention-postintervention, difference-in-differences approach among statistically similar, elderly, community-dwelling MA enrollees within one metropolitan statistical area.

**METHODS:** Starting in 2009, for intervention-group MA enrollees, the MAO and a provider group agreed to full-risk capitation combined with a revenue guarantee. The guarantee was based on increases in the Risk Adjustment Factor (RAF), which modified the CMS-HCC payments. For the control group, the MAO continued to reimburse another provider group through fee-for-service. RAF, utilization, and survival were followed until December 31, 2012.

**RESULTS:** The intervention group’s mean RAF increased significantly ( $P < .001$ ), estimating \$2,519,544 per 1000 members of additional revenue. The intervention increased office-based visits ( $P < .001$ ), Emergency department visits ( $P < .001$ ) and inpatient hospital admissions ( $P < .002$ ) decreased. This change in utilization saved \$2,071,273 per 1000 enrollees. By intensifying office-based care for these MA enrollees with multiple comorbidities, a 6% survival benefit with a 32.8% lower hazard of death ( $P < .001$ ) was achieved.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Value-based contracting can drive utilization patterns and improve clinical outcomes among chronically ill, elderly MA members.

*Am J Manag Care.* 2017;33(2):e41-e49

# Why Does Risk Adjustment Matter?

## How does contractual design affect care management outcomes?

- Two clinics 2–19 miles from each other
- Both accredited as Patient-Centered Primary Care

## Medical Group Structure: Capitated vs FFS Methodologies Employed:

- Propensity Score
- Nearest Neighbor Matching
- Randomization Inference (Permutation Testing)
- Pre-Intervention/Post-Intervention
- Difference-in-Differences Analysis

# Value and the Path Forward



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# Operationalizing Next-Gen Risk Adjustment Analytics – Key Issues

## Data Integration and Quality

Investing in industry-adopted interoperability initiatives like FHIR – active participant in innovations

## HIPAA and Patient Privacy and Access to Information

Ensuring HIPAA privacy and security are enforced

Develop and adopt patient consent workflows and systems

## Emerging skills and capabilities

ML/AI development and deployment

SaaS development and integration (CI/CD)

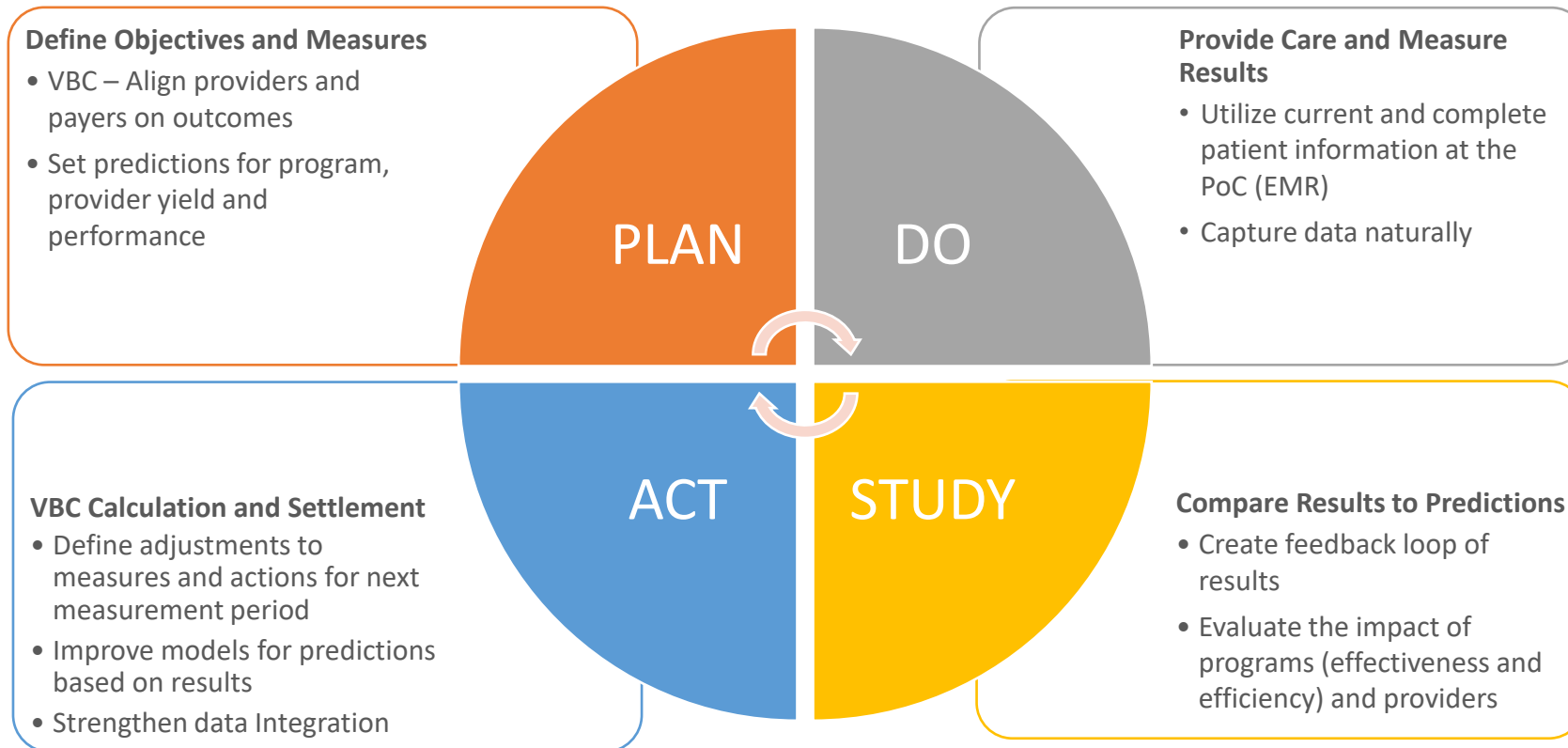
## Unintentional Bias in AI/ML Models

Prevent known bias where possible

Mitigate bias risk by combining with expert knowledge

Disclose known bias in model development and training

# Continuous Improvement – Next-Generation Analytics



# How to Innovate Next-Gen Analytics



## PEOPLE

- Invest in emerging skills (AI/ML, SaaS, CI/CD)
- Create a culture of INNOVATION (fail fast / fix fast)



## PROCESS

- Develop a process for continuous improvement in risk and quality analytics
- Moving from risk and quality projects to ongoing processes



## TECHNOLOGY

- Commit to leading-edge technology and standards backed by industry
- Health IT is moving to a SaaS ecosystem – understanding how your business thrives in a SaaS market



# Innovators in Encounter Processing

## Encounter Management Solution Profile

Serving more than **60 Million lives** through our 43+ encounter customers



### Substantial Submission Footprint

1.4B encounter submissions annually across Medicare Advantage, Managed Medicaid and the Marketplace



### Scalability & Performance

Supports clients as large as 7.2M members; Single instance supports over 24 LOBs; process up to 4M encounter submissions per week



### Submission Accuracy

Achieved very high submission compliance and protect revenue accuracy for our customers



### Market Leader

Overall, ~32% of encounters submitted to CMS are generated by our system

## Key Differentiators



CMS/ACA/State  
OOTB modular approach



Prioritized  
exception workflows



Intuitive  
operational dashboards



Impactful  
data visibility

# Q & A



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THANK YOU

