Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX) is pleased to offer an innovative program that recognizes Texas physicians who deliver excellent care to patients diagnosed with cardiac disease. Partnering with the Bridges to Excellence (BTE) Cardiac Care Recognition program offered by Health Care Incentives Improvement Institute (HCI3), BCBSTX demonstrates our commitment to making health and wellness a priority for our members. This program financially rewards network physicians for their performance and their BTE Cardiac Care recognition status.

Goals of the Cardiac Care Program

- Improve patient outcomes and their quality of life
- Financially reward physicians who provide excellent care to members with cardiac disease
- Reduce the economic burden of caring for members with cardiac disease
- Link into other established BCBSTX Blue Care Connection medical and dental programs that interact directly with members to improve their health and disease condition

BCBSTX Cardiac Program Model

There are two steps to take in order to participate in this incentive program.

Step One: Become a BTE recognized cardiac care provider. Although BCBSTX provides guidance and instruction, this first step is between the physician and the BTE organization.

BTE collects specific data from your medical records for patients with cardiac disease. This data is scored by CECity’s MedConcert, a performance assessment organization (PAO). A score of 60 out of 100 allows a physician to become recognized for cardiac care. There are three pathway options for submitting the data to be scored.

Option One: Have your EMR vendor pull the data and submit it for scoring. You have this option if you use one of the following EMR providers that partners with BTE: Athena Health, eClinicalWorks, Epic, Forward Health Group, GE Centricity, MediTab, or Meridios. The EMR will submit data for all patients with Cardiac who meet the program parameters.

Contact the person listed below for your EMR vendor to proceed with this option.
Option Two: Submit data directly on the bte.medconcert.com website. For this option you take a random sample of 25 records of your patients with cardiac disease and enter the requested data at bte.medconcert.com. There is a fee of $145 for an individual physician or $395 for a group of 3 – 20 physicians. For group submissions all providers in the group receive the same score which is an average score from all data submitted.

Instructions for Option Two:
1. Go to bte.medconcert.com (there is no www at the beginning) and click “Get Started.”
2. Click “Get Started” again if you have never logged on before. Otherwise log in.
3. Answer the questions to obtain a User ID and Password.
4. Once you are logged in to MedConcert (you are not at the BTE part of the website yet), click on the “Apps” tab at the top of the page.
5. On the Apps page choose “Bridges to Excellence” from the alphabetical list. Once you have selected the BTE app, BTE information will be on your home page for future log-ins.
6. At this point start with the instructions from the User Guide by clicking here. Print these instructions for easy reference.
7. If you encounter technical questions or problems while entering your BTE information, send an email to support@medconcert.com. Please include the following information in your email:
   a. Your Name
   b. Physician’s Name
   c. Physician’s NPI
   d. Email Address
   e. Phone Number
   f. User Name for the bte.medconcert.com website
   g. Describe the problem you are experiencing. The technical team is good about quickly responding to your questions.
For Option Two you will submit data from patients who:
- Are between ages 18 and 75
- That you have seen for cardiac care for at least one year
- From ALL insurance populations

**Option Three:** Become recognized for cardiac care through National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) at www.ncqa.org. Data from a sample of 25 of your patients is required. Pricing is available on the NCQA website. Though it is more expensive than Option 2, physicians who choose this option can achieve both NCQA and BTE recognitions with one data submission. Your NCQA accreditation will last for three years, however BTE recognition must be renewed after two years.

**BTE Cardiac Care Recognition Program Measures, Performance Criteria and Scoring**
The following table outlines the measures and criteria used to assess physician performance by the BTE organization when determining Cardiac Care Recognition status. The scoring is not per patient but for your entire submission. For example, if 10 of your 25 patients had a complete lipid profile you would receive 4 out of 10 possible points for that measure. (10 is 40% of 25 patients and 4 is 40% of 10 possible points.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical Measures</th>
<th>Threshold</th>
<th>Minimum Criteria</th>
<th>Maximum Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Poor Control Measures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Pressure Control</td>
<td>≥ 145/95</td>
<td>≤ 45% of pts in sample</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDL Control</td>
<td>≥ 130 mg/dl</td>
<td>≤ 40% of pts in sample</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Superior Control Measures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Pressure Superior Control</td>
<td>&lt; 140/90</td>
<td>≥ 20% of pts in sample</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDL Superior Control</td>
<td>&lt; 100 mg/dl</td>
<td>≥ 25% of pts in sample</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Process Measures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete Lipid Profile</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Aspirin or Another Antithrombotic</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco Status and Cessation Advice and Treatment</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body Mass Index</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percentage of Total Points Needed to Achieve Recognition</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Step Two: Participate in the BCBSTX incentive program

- After a physician achieves recognition, he/she is automatically included in the BCBSTX incentive program
- BCBSTX obtains Bridges to Excellence recognized provider list from HCI3 each month
- BCBSTX attributes Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas members with cardiac disease to their BTE recognized physicians
- BCBSTX loads the patient information on www.txproviderportal.com and mails User Name and Password to first time portal users
- Physician logs in to the portal, enters and submits biometric information
- Authorization to file claims is produced on portal once biometric information is submitted
- Physician files claims on the approved patients. BCBSTX pays the incentive through the claims payment system

An explanation of these steps is provided below.

“Attribution” is the process of linking a member to a physician for this program. A member is attributed to a physician every 12 months. The steps below describe how attributions are assigned for both members and physicians.

Members:
- Must have a Texas address
- A diagnosis code from Appendix A
- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Must have at least one inpatient claim or one face-to-face visit in the last 15 months
- Must be a Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas PPO/POS, HMO or retail exchange member
- Program excludes Blue Card (BCBS members from other states), FEP and Medicare eligible members

Physicians:
- Must be an MD or DO and non-Hospital Based
- Must have at least one face to face claim with E&M code
- If member sees multiple providers, then the following hierarchy will apply
  - If there are multiple providers, then greatest number of claim service dates determines selection
  - If still multiple providers, then most recent service date claim
  - If still multiple providers, then select the provider with the largest total allowed dollars
  - If still multiple providers, select the provider using the highest provider ID

Biometrics requested by BCBSTX
- Blood Pressure
- Complete Lipid Profile
  - Triglycerides
  - Low Density Lipoprotein (LDL)
  - High Density Lipoprotein (HDL)
  - Total Cholesterol

To receive the incentive payment for a patient all three measures must have been performed during the 12 months prior to the attribution date stated on the form up to three months after the attribution date.
Filing claims for incentive payment

Once the biometric information is submitted on the portal, authorizations to file claims are available on the portal. Incentive money is paid through the normal claim filing system—file these claims to BCBSTX following your established process. Instructions are provided with the authorizations including:

- Use the authorization date provided as the Date of Service (DOS) on the claim. This date does not represent a visit to your office, it matches the date in our system for a BTE claim.
- Use CPT code 99367 on the claim. BCBSTX uses this code for BTE payments.
- Use patient’s Cardiac ICD-9 code from your medical records
- Amount billed is $100.00.
- Only file this one service line on BTE claims
- Timely claim filing rules apply to these claims, which is one year from the DOS provided.

BCBSTX BTE Incentive Program “Good to Know”

- Your first patient list will be available on www.txproviderportal.com toward the end of the month following your recognition month
- New patients are posted on the portal every six months
- Incentives are paid per patient per year

Contact Information

Most questions can be answered by BCBSTX

Email: bridges_to_excellence@bcbstx.com
Phone: 972-766-6397
Fax: 972-238-7052

Technical issues for bte.medconcert.com
Email at support@medconcert.com and include in your email:
- Name
- Clinician Name
- Clinician NPI
- User Name for bte.medconcert.com
- Email address
- Phone #
- Problem you are experiencing

Questions for the BTE organization at HCI3
Jessica DiLorenzo, Program Implementation Leader
Email: jessica.dilorenzo@hci3.org
Phone: 518-355-2893
Appendix A

Cardiac Program ICD-9 Codes

For Step One—BTE Recognition: When submitting patient data on bte.medconcert.com one diagnosis code with at least one CPT code from the following lists must have been billed in the past 12 months for a patient to be qualified.

For Step Two—Attribution: BCBSTX patients who have one of the following diagnosis codes and at least one of the listed CPT codes in the previous 15 months will be attributed to a physician.

ICD-9 Codes
410.00-410.92,
411.0-411.89,
412,
413.0, 413.1, 413.9,
414.00-414.07, 414.2, 414.3, 414.8, 414.9,
429.2,
433.00-433.91,
434.00-434.91,
440.1-440.29, 440.4,
444.01-444.9,
445.01-445.89,
V45.81, V45.82

CPT Procedure Codes
33510, 33511, 33512, 33513, 33514, 33516, 33517, 33518, 33519, 33521, 33522, 33523, 33533, 33534, 33535, 33536, 92920, 92924, 92928, 92933, 92937, 92941, 92943

CPT Encounter Codes
99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99304, 99305, 99306, 99307, 99308, 99309, 99310, 99324, 99325, 99326, 99327, 99328, 99334, 99335, 99336, 99337, 99341, 99342, 99343, 99344, 99345, 99347, 99348, 99349, 99350, G0402

ICD-10 Codes
G45—any G45 code except G45.3
I20—any I20 code
I21—any I21 code
I22—any I22 code
I24—any I24 code
I25—any I25 code
I67—any I67 code except I67.0 and I67.83
I68—any I68 code
I70.2—any I70.2 code
I74—any I74 code
I75—any I75 code
I77—any I77 code except the I77.7 codes
M31.8 and M31.9

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