



ADVANCING INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE

# The State of Primary Care in RI Today and in the Next 10 years: Where are now and where are we going?

Jeffrey Borkan, MD, PhD, Chair of Family Medicine; Assistant Dean for Primary Care/Population Medicine

Ed McGookin, MD: Chief Medical Officer Coastal Medical

Michelle Anvar, MD: Director of Primary Care Brown Medicine

Denise Coppa, PhD, APRN-CNP, FNP-C, PCPNP-BC, Program Director for Family NP Program at the University of Rhode Island

Suzanne McLaughlin, MD: Director of Med-Peds at Brown

Andrew Saal, MD: Chief Medical Officer Providence Community Health Center

Thomas Meehan, PhD, PA-C: Program Director of Physician Assistant Program, Johnson and Wales

*Care Transformation Collaborative of RI*

# CTC-RI Conflict of Interest Statement

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*The AAFP has reviewed 'Advancing Comprehensive Primary Care Through Improving Care Delivery Design and Community Health,' and deemed it acceptable for AAFP credit. Term of approval is from 03/18/2022 to 03/18/2023. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. NPs and RNs can also receive credit through AAFP's partnership with the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Board (AANPCB).*

# Objectives

1. Engage with a panel discussion on key issues facing primary care in RI
2. Learn about ways to strengthen inter-professional educational
3. Discuss strategies to increase primary care effectiveness, recruitment, and retention

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# Presenters

Moderator: Jeffrey Borkan, MD, PhD (Chair of Family Medicine; Assistant Dean for Primary Care/Population Medicine)

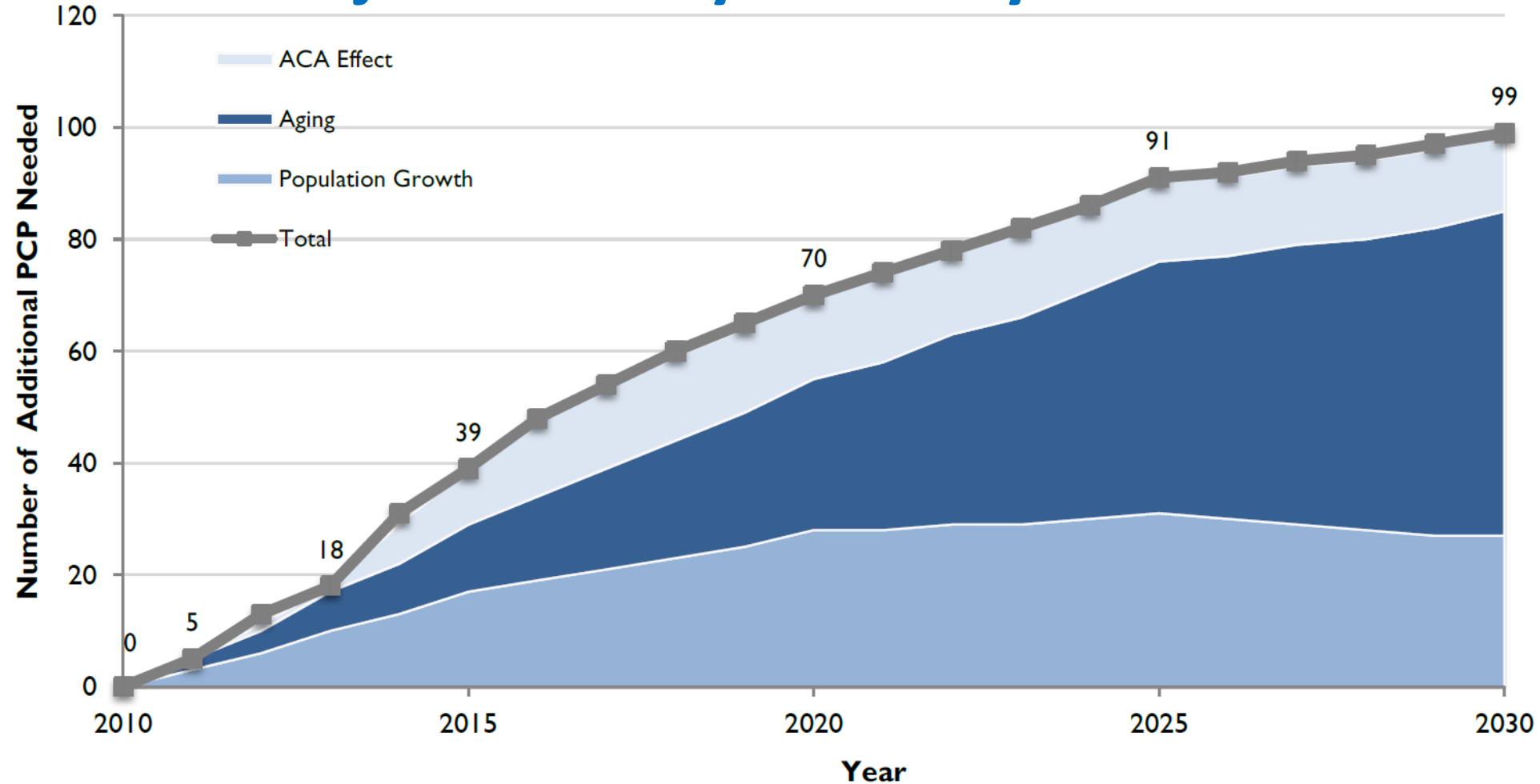
Facilitators: Pano Yecaris, MD and Pat Flanagan, MD

## Speakers and their Affiliations/Disciplines:

- Ed McGookin, MD: Chief Medical Officer Coastal Medical (Pediatrics)
- Michelle Anvar, MD: Director of Primary Care Brown Medicine (Primary Care Internal Medicine)
- Denise Coppa, PhD, APRN-CNP, FNP-C, PCPNP-BC, Program Director for Family NP Program at the University of Rhode Island
- Suzanne McLaughlin, MD: Director of Med-Peds at Brown (Medicine-Pediatrics)
- Andrew Saal, MD: Chief Medical Officer Providence Community Health Center (Family Medicine)
- Thomas Meehan, PhD, PA-C: Program Director of Physician Assistant Program, Johnson and Wales

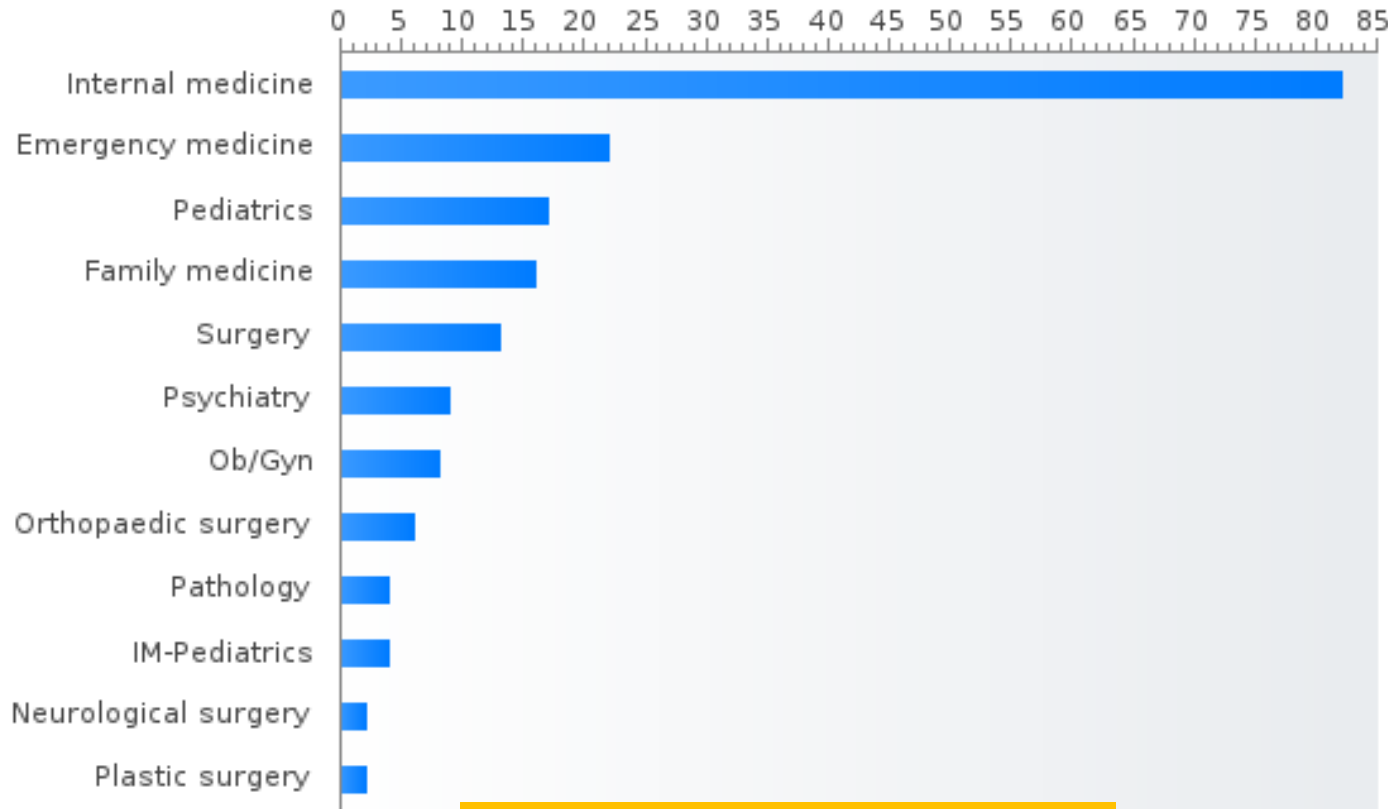


# Rhode Island Project Primary Care Physicians Need\*



\*Pettersen, Stephen M; Cai, Angela; Moore, Miranda; Bazemore, Andrew. State-level projections of primary care workforce, 2010-2030. September 2013, Robert Graham Center, Washington, D.C.

## Number of Positions by Specialty in Rhode Island: PGY-1 main residency Match data for 2020 (total 185)\* PGY-1 & 2 Match Data for 2020 (total 221)\*\*



1. Internal medicine (82)
2. Emergency medicine (22)
3. Pediatrics (17)
4. Family medicine (16)
5. Surgery (13)
6. Psychiatry (9)
7. Obstetrics and gynecology (8)
8. Orthopaedic surgery (6)
9. Pathology-anatomic and clinical (4)
10. Internal Medicine-Pediatrics (4)
11. Neurological surgery (2)
12. Plastic surgery (2)

45% "Primary Care" Good??

\*<https://www.residencyprogramslist.com/in-rhode-island>

\*\* <https://www.nrmp.org>

# Primary Care GME Training in RI

PROGRAM	MED-PEDS	PEDIATRICS*	FAMILY MED	IM-KENT	GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE - LIFESPAN	IM CATEGORICAL- LIFESPAN***	IM-ROGER WILLIAMS ****	TOTAL
<b>Training Length</b>	4 years	3 years	3 years	3 years	3 years	3 years	3 years	
<b>Total Residents 2020-21</b>	16	50	48	38	30	90	34	306
<b>Total Residents Per Year</b>	4	16	16	13	10	30	12	101
<b>Entering Primary Care upon Graduation (average per year**)</b>	2	6.5	14.5	1.7	7	1	2	34.7
<b>% in Primary Care</b>	50%	41%	94%	13%	70%	3%	17%	
*includes 2 chief residents (4 years of training)								
**based on 2-5 year historical averages								
***does not include preliminary slots								
****based on website bios & coordinator estimate								

35 Practicing Primary Care GME grads from a total of approximately 220 residency grads per year in RI = 16%

16%....maybe not so good??



# The Current and Future State of Primary Care in Rhode Island

CTC-RI Clinical Strategies Committee

Ed McGookin, MD: Chief Medical Officer Coastal Medical

***June 17, 2022***



**Coastal Medical**  
*Lifespan. Delivering health with care.®*

# About Coastal Medical

- 142 clinicians caring for 110,000 patients at 20 locations
- **>90%** Primary Care
  - Cardiology
  - Pulmonary
  - Non-operative Orthopedics
  - Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- Moved to Value-Based Care in 2012
  - 87% of patients covered by a value-based contract
  - 30% of revenue is non-fee-for-service



**Coastal Medical**

*Lifespan. Delivering health with care.®*

# The current state of primary care as Coastal sees it

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Collaborative healthcare environment (OHIC, CTC, EOHHS, RIDOH)	Limited number of primary care clinicians	Implement value-based care in medical and surgical specialties	Well-being of the workforce
Excellent primary care training programs	Aging of the primary care workforce	Recruit and retain clinicians	Recruiting new clinicians & retaining existing clinicians
Size and population density of Rhode Island	Primary care payment rates	Medical student debt relief	Aging patient population
High-quality clinicians	Weak social safety net – unmet needs among adults with mental illness	Primary care capitation	The slow evolution of value-based care
High patient satisfaction			Inflation





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BROWN PHYSICIANS, INC.

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## Overview of Current Physicians & SWOT

Michelle Anvar, MD: Director of Primary Care Brown Medicine



## Brown Medicine

Multispecialty Practice with medicine subspecialties

37,000 primary care patients

Member of BPI

## Brown Medicine Primary Care/GIM

6 offices (northern ½ RI)+ Geriatrics

35 MDs (16 full-time PC)

6 APRN/PAs

3 leaving 2022- retiring, moving, doing subspecialty

## Age of Primary Care Physicians

AGE, YEARS	PROVIDERS
30-34	9
35-39	3
40-44	0
45-49	2
50-54	5
55-60	5
61-64	3
>65	2





## Brown IM Categorical and Primary Care :10 years

	Total in 10 years	PC	PC in RI
Categorical	302	14 (5%)	5 (2%)
PC	83	43 (51%)	12 (14%)
Total	386	57 (14%)	17 (4%)



## Strengths

- Trainees and academic mission
- Diversity of clinical roles and flexibility
- Physician run organization
- PCMH
- Physical space for new physicians and APPs

## Opportunities

- DEI
- Promoting primary care among trainees
- Consistent loan repayment programs
- FMG recruitment
- Increase role and responsibility of APRN/PAs

## Weakness

- Aging physician staff
- Role of primary care physicians / burnout
- Lack of support staff
- Unable to meet population demand for primary care physicians

## Threats

- Lack of ability to recruit and retain physicians
- Regional competition
- Reimbursement
- Increasing demands of EMR / documentation
- National decline in primary care physicians

# NURSE PRACTITIONERS ENHANCING PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

## CARE TRANSFORMATION COLLABORATIVE OF RHODE ISLAND

DENISE COPPA, PHD, APRN-CNP, FNP-C, PCPNP-BC, FAANP,  
FAAN

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This project was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant numbers #D09HP28858, *URI College of Nursing Academic Practice Partnership (Advanced Nursing Education)* and #T94HP32906,

*URI Advanced Nursing Education Workforce* as part of awards totaling \$4,377,207 (#D09HP28858 \$1,681,750; #T94HP32906 \$2,695,457) with 0% financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government.





# NP'S IN UNITED STATES

- 36,000 NP GRADS: 2019-20
- 88.9% TRAINED IN PRIMARY CARE
- 70.2% WORK IN PRIMARY CARE
- 42.5% HAVE HOSPITAL PRIVILEGES
- 4.1% ACUTE CARE
- 12.8% IN LONG TERM CARE

# NURSE PRACTITIONERS

NPs are the providers of choice for millions of Americans. NPs evaluate patients, diagnose, write prescriptions and bring a comprehensive perspective to health care.

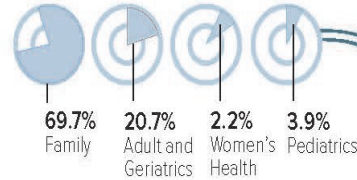
**NP: Your Partner In Health** **With a track record of quality** health care delivery for nearly half a century ... **and a growing need for health care providers,** especially in primary care ... **nurse practitioners are a clear solution** for patient-centered, accessible health care.

## PRIMARY CARE FOCUS

In 2020, approximately 89% of NPs were prepared in primary care.

APPROXIMATELY **89%** PREPARED IN PRIMARY CARE

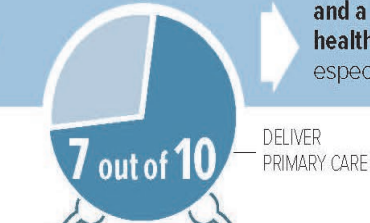
## AREA OF PRIMARY CARE PREPARATION



## REQUIREMENTS FOR PRACTICE



**6+**  
YEARS OF ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL PREPARATION



**NPs AT A GLANCE**

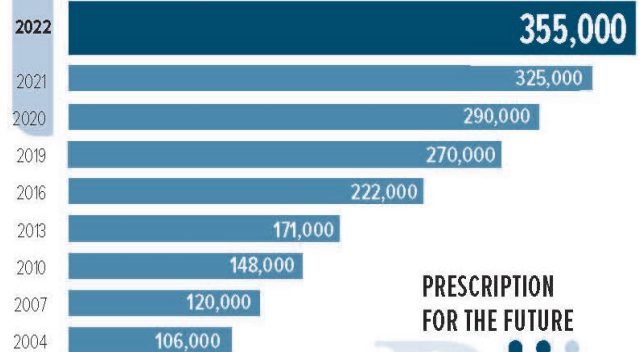
More than **5 decades** of improving patient access and quality care

Estimated annual patient visits exceed **1.06 billion**

Prescribe medications in all **50 states** and D.C.

**59.4%** OF NPs SEE 3 OR MORE PATIENTS PER HOUR

**INCREASING IN NUMBER**  
The number of nurse practitioners continues to grow rapidly.



**NPs BY THE NUMBERS**

**81.0%** see Medicare patients.  
**78.7%** see Medicaid patients.  
**83.7%** see privately insured patients.  
**51.5%** see uninsured patients.

**PRESCRIPTION FOR THE FUTURE**

**2 out of 3** patients support legislation for greater access to NP services



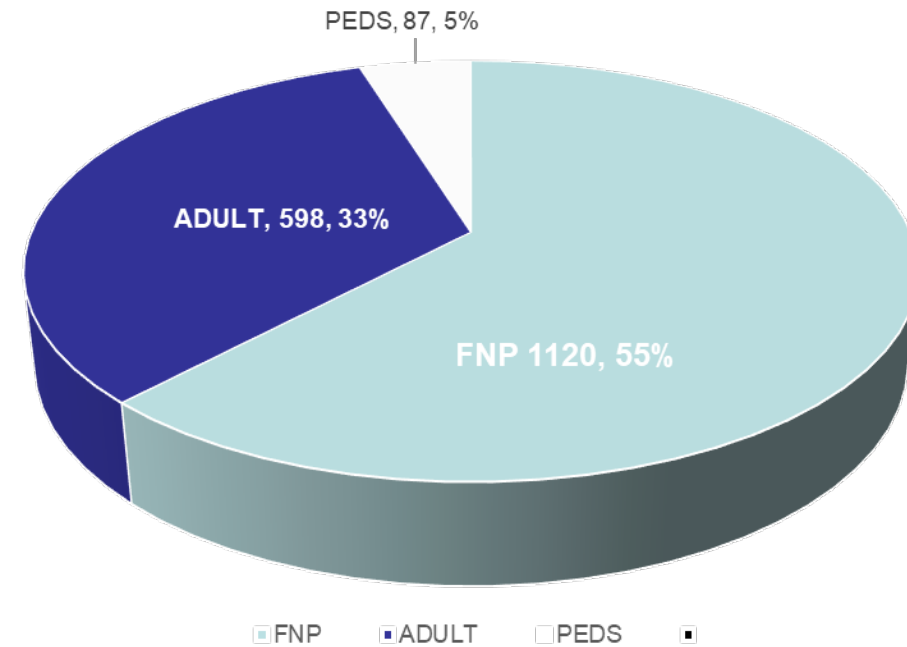
# NP SPECIALTIES IN RI

- 4.1 % OF AGNP'S WORK IN ACUTE CARE SETTINGS (Urgent, In-pt: critical and acute care, ED)
- 70% (AGNP/FNP/PNP) WORKING IN PRIMARY CARE SETTINGS (FQHC's, CHC's, Hospital based clinics, Private practice)
- 12.8% LONG TERM CARE
- 10%: PMHNP
- 2% (NEONATAL)

**NP'S MORE LIKELY TO WORK IN HEALTH CENTERS, OUT-PT CLINICS, HOSPITAL BASED CLINICS.**

**FOCUS ON TEAM BASED PHC TO ENHANCE AND INCREASE PATIENT ACCESS.**

**RHODE ISLAND NP'S  
TOTAL: 2044  
70% PRIMARY CARE**



**PROJECTED PHC PHYSICIAN NEED IN RI, INCREASE BY 11% (99) BY 2030**

PETERSON, ET AL (2013)

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# NP EDUCATION IN RI

## *Filling the Primary Care Need*



## NP PROGRAMS IN RI (PRIMARY CARE)

- URI: FNP/AGNP/PMHNP ranked #45/597 (USNWR). 20-30 grads/year. Accredited CCNE
- SALVE: FNP. Offer on-line. 7-10 grads/yr  
Accredited: CCNE

WON'T MEET PHC NEED

# BARRIERS AND SOLUTIONS

## BARRIERS

- NP's reimbursed at 85% of physicians for Medicare, BXBS, United. "Incident to" billing. 75% for Medicaid
- BRANDING. "Mid-Levels", "Physician Extenders"
- NEED FOR PRECEPTORS
- HIGH BURN OUT RATES IN FQHC's

## SOLUTIONS

- SUPPORT FOR NP'S TO RECEIVE EQUITABLE REIMBURSEMENT (state and Federal) & TEAM BASED CARE
- CULTURE CHANGE (If NP's are Mid-Levels, who are Low-levels)
- SUSTAINABILITY OF HRSA FUNDING ACADEMIC CLINICAL PARTNERSHIPS
- H 7236 PRECEPTORS TAX CREDIT ACT
- NP's higher rate of burn out than physicians, locally and nationally

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## HRSA FUNDING ESTABLISHES ACADEMIC CLINICAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY & THUNDERMIST HEALTH CENTERS

TOTAL OF \$4.4 million over 7 years to:

1. Increase clinical placements (total of 115 placements 2019-2022)
2. Provide tuition reimbursement to students (88 traineeships)
3. Establish Home Based Primary Health care program
4. Demonstrate cost savings with reduced Hospitalizations, ED visits, unnecessary hospital based care at end of life.



# Preliminary Findings: Emergency Department Visits & In-Patient Hospitalizations

## Pre-Intervention Period of 1-Year Compared to Home Care Program Implementation

- Number of ED visits *significantly* reduced by approximately **25%**
- Number of In-Patient Hospitalizations reduced by **35%**

ED: 23.68%;  $\chi^2(1)=15.95, p=0.001$

Hospitalizations: 34.88%;  $\chi^2(1)=2.93, p=.087$



# Program Impact: Emergency Department Cost Savings

## ❖ Cost of ED visits in RI in 2014:

- \$1,154 for Private Insurers
- \$667 for Medicare beneficiaries
- \$368 for Medicaid beneficiaries

## ▶ Cost savings:

- 6-month pre-intervention  
cost savings of \$11,776 to \$36,928
- 1 year pre-intervention  
cost savings of \$6,624 to \$20,772

**Total potential  
cost savings:  
\$6,624 to \$36,928**

# Program Impact: Hospitalization Cost Savings

## ❖ Cost per in-patient hospitalizations for RI in 2015:

- \$2,624 for Nonprofit hospitals
- \$2,036 for For-profit hospitals

## ▶ Cost savings:

- 6-month pre-intervention  
cost savings of \$83,476 to \$107,584
- 1 year pre-intervention  
cost savings of \$30,540 to \$39,360

**Total potential  
cost savings:  
\$30,540 to \$107,584**

# VALUE BASED APPROACH TO END OF LIFE CARE

## RESULTS SUMMARY

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- ❖ HBPC PATIENTS HAD SIGNIFICANTLY FEWER HOSPITALIZATIONS AT EOL (0.4 vs. 0.7/ pt. SAVINGS (\$88,000 - \$440.000/ pt)
- ❖ HBPC PATIENTS HAD SIGNIFICANTLY FEWER ED VISITS (0.3 vs 0.7/pt). SAVINGS (\$25,049./ pt/ yr)
- ❖ HBPC PATIENTS HAD LONGER VISITS WITH PROVIDERS ( $\geq 45$  min)
- ❖ HBPC PATIENTS HAD SIGNIFICANTLY MORE SIGNED ADR & MOLST AGREEMENTS THAN CLINIC PATIENTS
- ❖ HBPC PATIENTS REPORTED HIGHER LEVELS OF SATISFACTION WITH RECEIVING PRIMARY CARE IN THE HOME

THANK YOU !

AANP

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American Association of  
NURSE PRACTITIONERS®

DCOPPA@URI.EDU





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# Internal Medicine-Pediatrics

Suzanne McLaughlin, MD: Director of Med-Peds at Brown



## **The residency training program:**

- Board specialty since 1969 dual-certified IM and Pediatrics
- Brown/Lifespan training since 1999, four residents per year x 4 years
- 94 graduates to-date
- 40% in primary care; 1/3<sup>rd</sup> practice in RI

## **The Medicine Pediatrics Primary Care Center 245 Chapman St Prov RI**

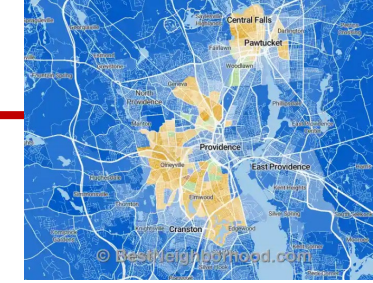
- 16 residents, 6 attendings, on-site behavioral health, pharmacist, CSW, interpreter and CDOE; subspecialty on-site HIV, cancer survivorship and LARC
  - ~6000 patients ages 0-98 80% MA-insured
  - NCQA PCMH Level 3 certified
-





## Strengths:

- Excellence, collegiality, livability
- Care Transformation Collaborative (AND residency continuity clinics' enrollment in...)
- Primary Care Physicians Advisory Committee
- RI Office of Health Insurance Commissioner
- RI Department of Health
- Primary Care Loan Repayment program
- State immunization supplies and registry
- Training programs



## Challenges:

- ANYTHING that makes it hard to care for our patients (insufficient reimbursement, prior auths, lack of care coordination/comm'ty navigators/interpreters, limitations on referrals...)
- excessive documentation requirements (time in EHR:patient interaction ratio)
- overwhelming behavioral health needs
- Limited residency positions (250 applicants for 4 MP positions)
- Non-competitive salaries



— PCHC —  
PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY  
HEALTH CENTERS

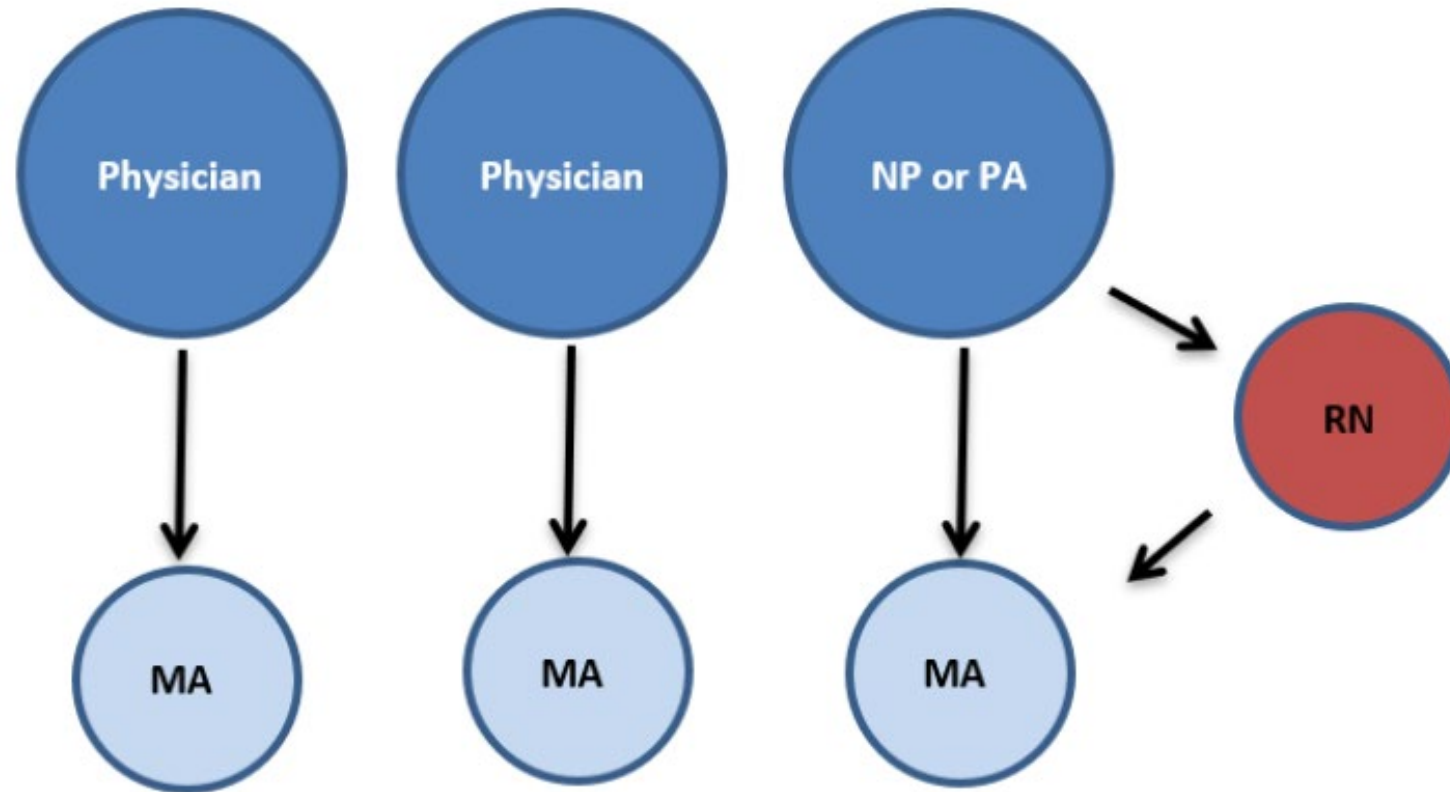
# Primary Care Redesign

**Where We Are...  
and Where We May Be Headed**

Andrew Saal, MD MPH  
Providence Community Health Centers  
Chief Medical Officer

# Primary Care Delivery

## The Traditional Primary Care Model



# Primary Care Delivery

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## The Historical Primary Care Model

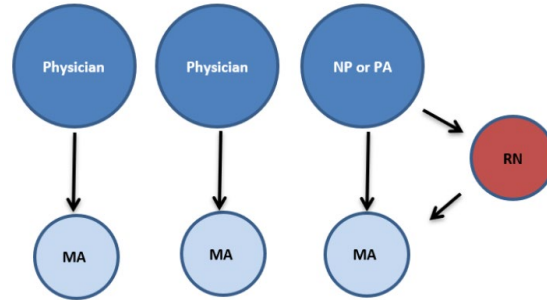


Clinician expected to be all things to all people all of the time. Repeat 22+ times per day.



# What Can Go Wrong?

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## Quality Outcomes Vary Because:

- 1) It's clinician-dependent (vertical)
- 2) No one has time for preventative services
- 3) Relies on face-to-face visits
- 4) Care delivered only to those who show up
- 5) Clinician burn-out**



# Assumptions and Paradigm Shifts

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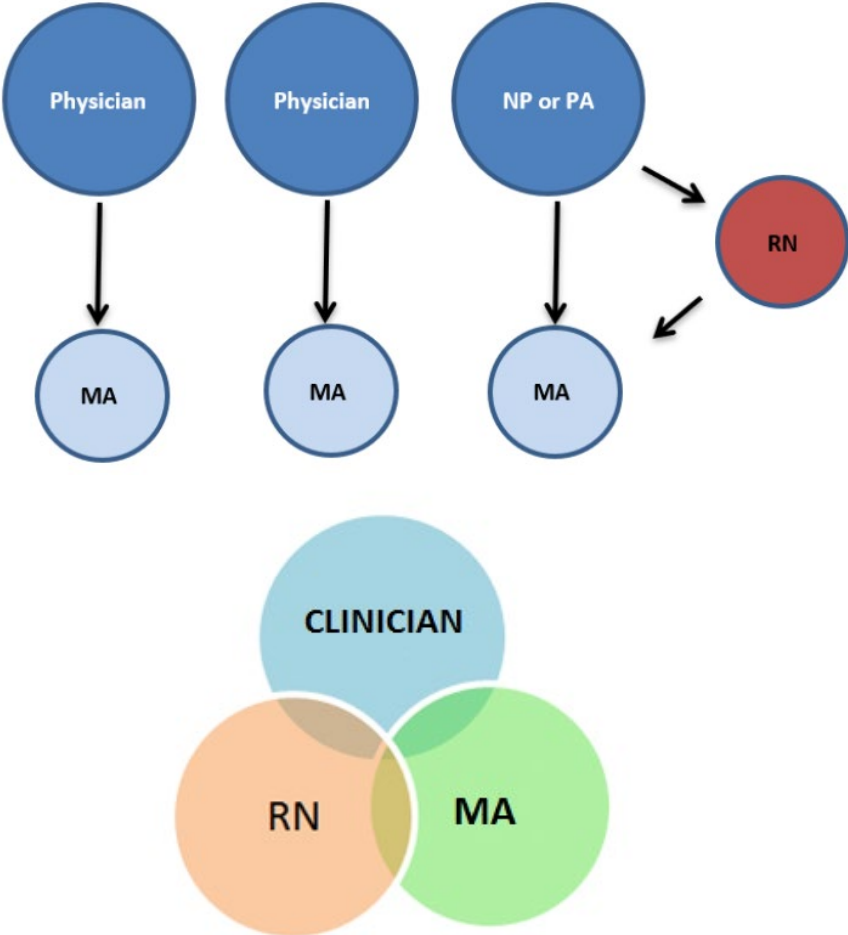
## Who ever said...

- The clinician had to do everything?
- All care had to be delivered 1:1 in 15' units?
- All care had to be performed face-to-face?
- All care had to occur in a clinical setting?



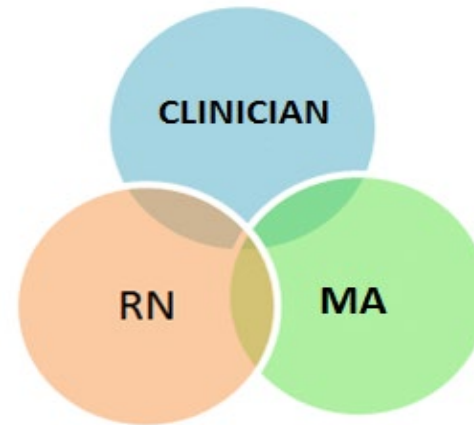
# Primary Care Delivery

## Re-Visioning the Primary Care Team



# Team Based Care

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## **MD / DO / APRN / PA**

Solves complex problems, defines care plans, leads the team

## **RN / LPN**

Routine preventative services and population health management... Who is missing and why?

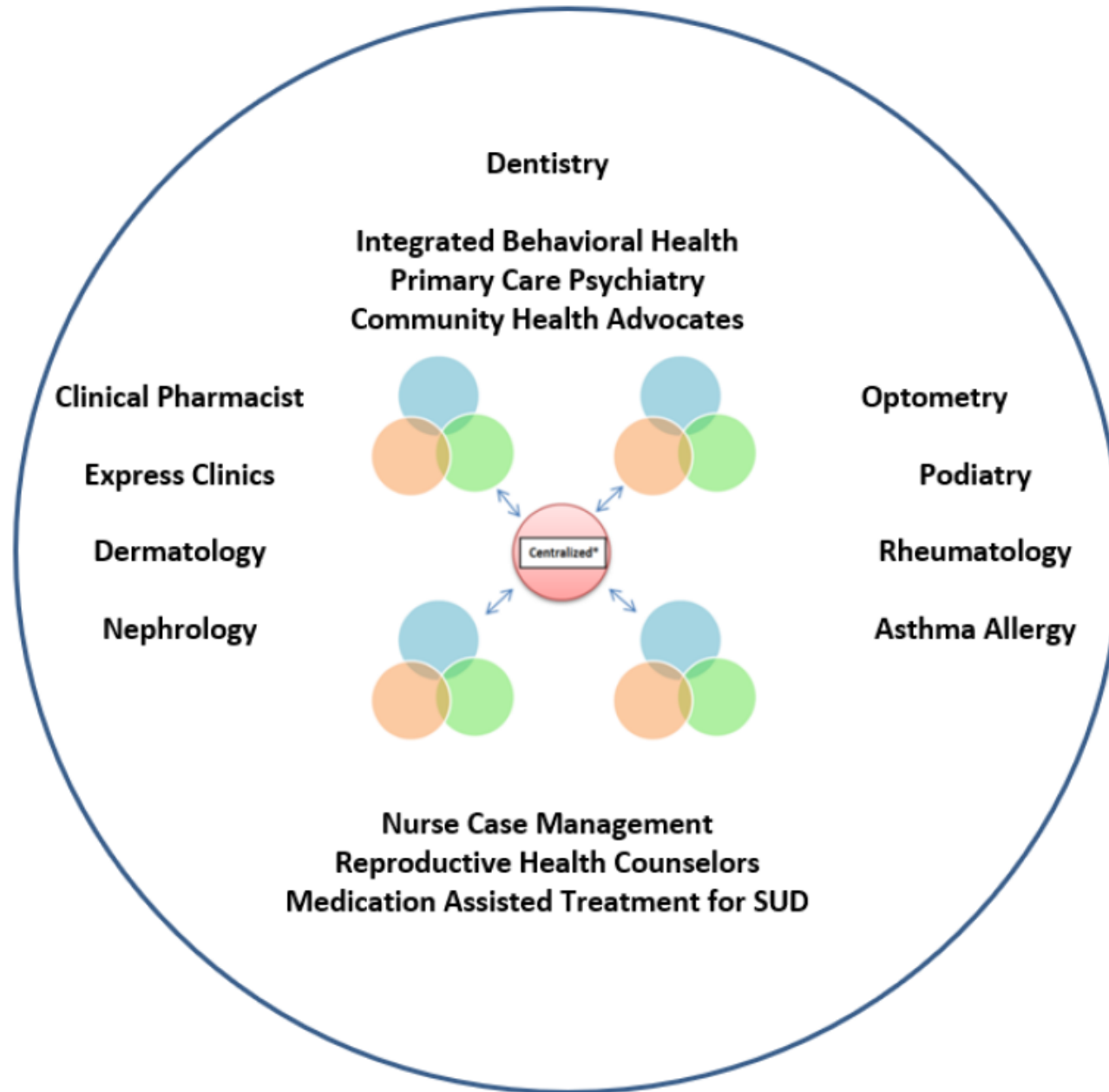
## **Medical Assistant**

Screens for depression, anxiety, social determinants of health. Translates. Links patients to resources





# Advanced Practice Medical Home at PCHC



# Community Partnerships Matter

## Actively Screen and Address the Social Determinants

**PCHC partners with**

**Family Services of Rhode Island**

**Rhode Island Food Bank**

**Farm Fresh Rhode Island**

**One Neighborhood Builders**

**Medical Legal Partnership of Boston**

**Center for Justice**

**Center for Southeast Asians**

**House of Hope**

**And *many* others**

**Primary Care is a Team Sport!**



# Where Are We Going?

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# Every SWOT Analysis Ever Made... Summarized

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<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats</b>



# Every SWOT Analysis Ever Made... Summarized

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<b>Strengths</b> <i>Workforce</i> X Y Z	<b>Weaknesses</b> <i>Workforce</i> X Y Z
<b>Opportunities</b> <i>Workforce</i> X Y Z	<b>Threats</b> <i>Workforce</i> X Y Z



# Major Drivers in the Decade Ahead

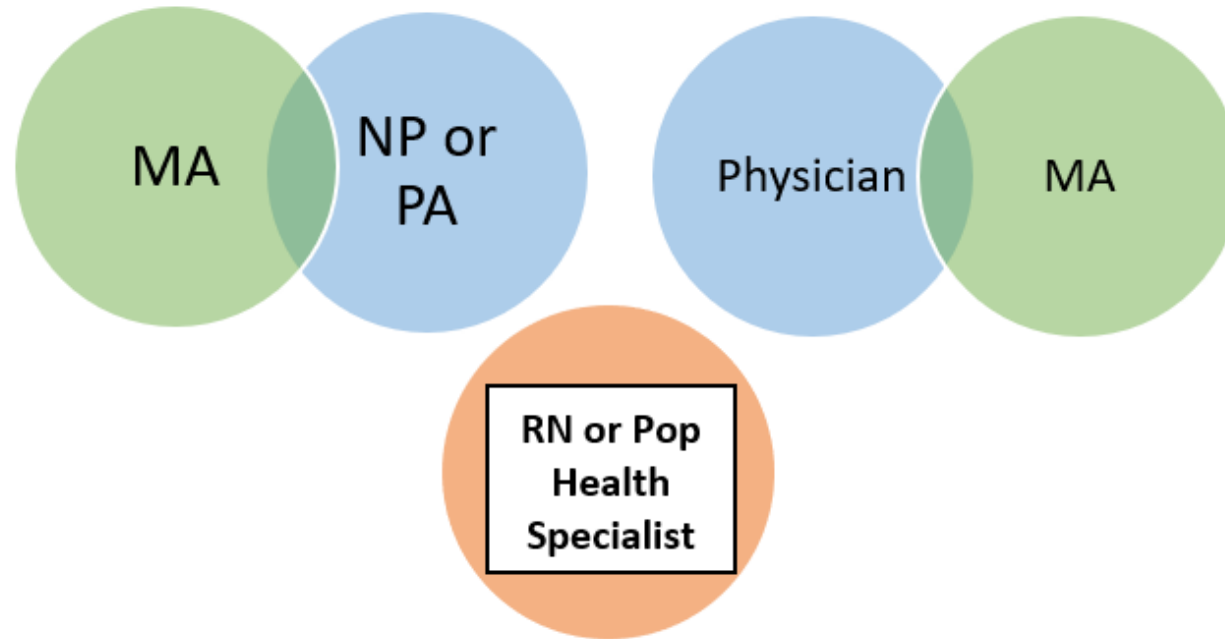
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- **Ongoing Workforce Shortages**
- **Decreased # of Primary Care Physicians**
  - Continued Burnout
  - Greying Workforce
  - Increasing Debt Load
- **Increased # of NPs / PAs**
- **Transition Towards Value Based Contracting**
  - New ways to approach population health
  - Continued evolution of the RN role
  - New types of population health advocates



# Alternative Primary Care Models

If preventative services are the foundation of primary care, why do we obligate people to see a clinician before ordering routine screening tests?



If you are waiting for a harried clinician to remember to click a box in order to deliver a flu shot, ***the barrier to care is the system itself!***



# Alternative Primary Care Models

Tom Bodenheimer, et al. UCSF

	NP / PA 1	Team Physician	NP / PA 2
8:00	Patients	Patients	-
9:00	Precepting complex	Precepting	-
10:00	Patients	Patients	-
11:00	Patients	Patients	-
12:00	Lunch	Patients	Patients
13:00	Patients	Lunch	Patients
14:00	Patients	Precepting	Precepting complex
15:00	Patients	Patients	Patients
16:00	Patients	Patients	Patients
17:00	-	-	Lunch
18:00	-	-	Patients
19:00	-	-	Patients

**NP / PAs manage panels of healthier patients with low to medium complexity at a slightly higher volume. Aim for 22+ encounters per day at 15-20' each. Daily precepting of rising risk and high acuity patients with team physician.**

**Lead physician manages a panel of moderate to high complexity patients on a lower template. Aim for 12-14 encounters at 30' each. Regularly precepts any higher acuity patients with rising risk with the team NP / PAs.**

**Net size of panel exceeds 3,500. Net encounter volume meets or exceeds 3 individual care teams operating independently of each other.**





# So How Will We Know If It's Working?

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**Happy Patients**  
**Better Outcomes**  
**Lower Cost**  
**Happy Care Teams**  
**Promotes Equity**





# Physician Assistants in Rhode Island

Thomas Meehan, PhD, PA-C: Program Director of Physician Assistant Program,  
Johnson and Wales



CENTER FOR PHYSICIAN  
ASSISTANT STUDIES

\*Data courtesy of NCCPA Statistical Profile of Certified PAs



# PAs in Rhode Island

- 517 certified PAs
  - 300 in 2014 (Largest % increase nationally)
- 48.9 PAs/100k – Ranked 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - National 45 PAs/100k
- New England
  - MA – 4007
  - CT – 2639
  - ME – 924
  - NH – 935
  - VT - 407





# PAs in Primary Care in RI

Primary Care (FM/GP, General IM, Pedi)

- 15.6% in Rhode Island
  - Down from 16.5% in 2016, 20.4% in 2014
- 24.3% Nationally
  - Down from 27.8% in 2016
- Distribution by most frequently practiced specialty:
  1. 19.6% Surgical Subspecialties
  2. 17 % Emergency Medicine
  3. 9.4 % Internal Medicine Subspecialties



CENTER FOR PHYSICIAN  
ASSISTANT STUDIES

\*Data courtesy of NCCPA Statistical Profile of Certified PAs

# CME Credits & Eval

Reminder to please complete the evaluation in order to claim CME credits!  
Even if you are not claiming CME credits, please take a minute to complete the evaluation!

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# THANK YOU

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