

Convene.  
Strategize.  
**Activate.**

**TRANSFORMATION**  
TODAY & TOMORROW

# Legal Updates 2019

Forging a Path Forward in a Time of Change



CENTER *for*  
INTEGRATIVE  
HEALTH

insight to innovation

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# Legal Updates 2019

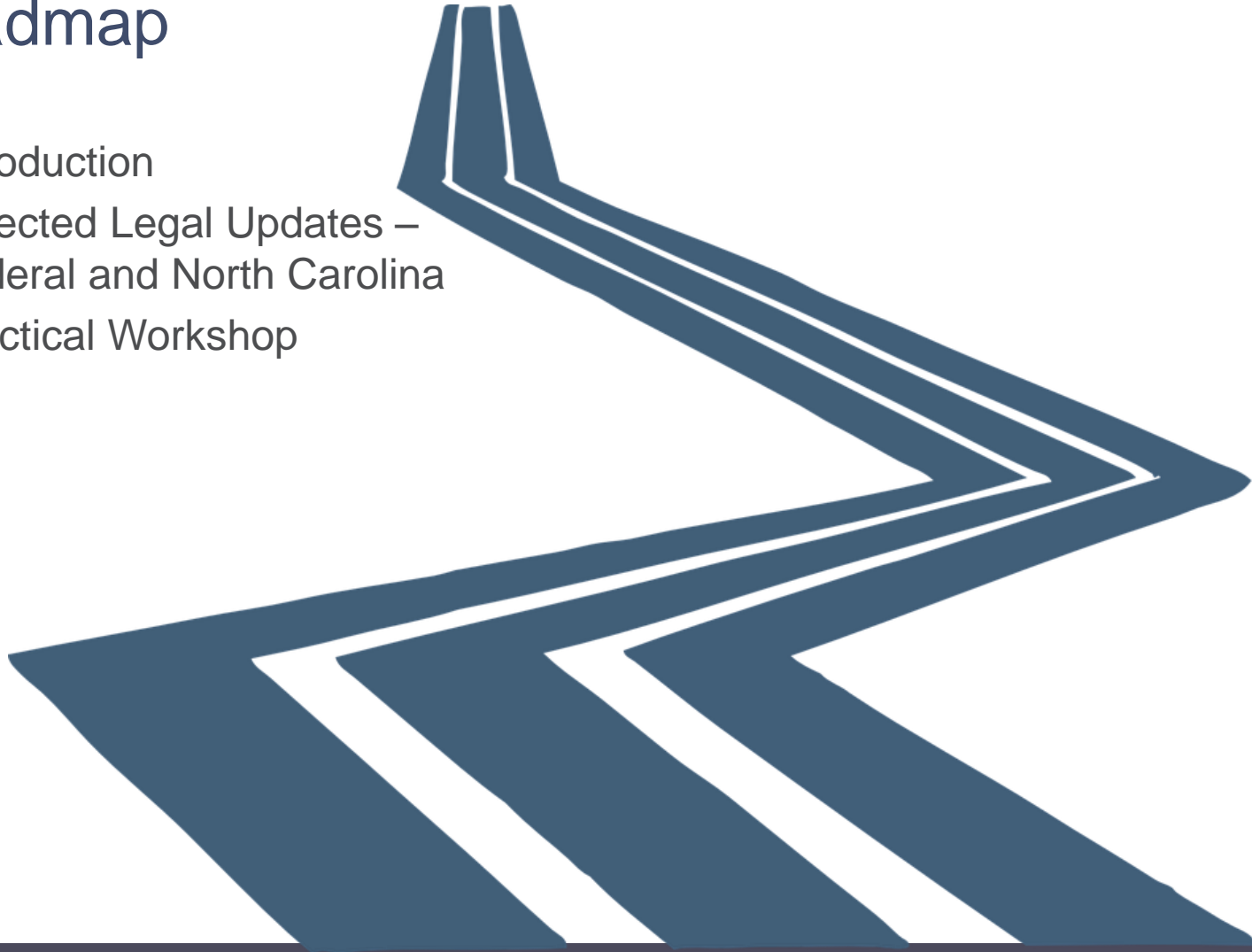
Forging a Path Forward in a Time of Change

December 4, 2019

Robinson Bradshaw

# Roadmap

- Introduction
- Selected Legal Updates – Federal and North Carolina
- Practical Workshop





# Healthcare Transformation



# Navigating Change



# NC Medicaid Transformation

*They made North Carolina arguably the most innovative state in the country when it comes to improving how health care is delivered and addressing the underlying social and economic drivers, like homelessness, of poor health and high costs.*

*Cohen and Conway described themselves as rowing in the same direction, in a national health care environment that often seems to have far more oars in the water than it does boats. And given all the failures in spreading and scaling small local health care innovations, both of them were both thinking hard about what can be tested, adapted and exported outside of North Carolina to harness costs and improve quality in the \$3.8 trillion U.S. health care system. Other states were watching. POLITICO*

*This year, Blue Cross announced that it had signed five of the largest health systems in the state to contracts linking payments to total costs of care for their patient populations and quality measurements, not to hospital stays or surgical procedures.*

*Duke University Health System is one of those big groups. "It's so clear that change is necessary," said Dr. Thomas Owens, president of Duke University Hospital in Durham. The New York Times*

*"The suspension of work and the wind-down process will begin tomorrow," the department said. "Once suspended, managed care cannot easily or quickly be restarted. The department will not decide on a new go-live date until it has program authority within a budget that protects the health and safety of North Carolinians and supports the department's ability to provide critical oversight and accountability of managed care." WRAL.com*

# Selected State and Federal Legal Updates

# Federal Law Updates

Regulatory Sprint to  
Coordinated Care

Proposed changes to:

- Anti-Kickback Statute
- Stark Law
- 42 CFR Part 2
- HIPAA



# AKS Prohibition

“Whoever knowingly and willfully ***offers*** or ***pays*** (or ***solicits*** or ***receives***) any ***remuneration*** (including any kickback, bribe or rebate) directly or indirectly, overtly or covertly, in cash or in kind to any person ***to induce*** such person ... to ***purchase, lease, order or arrange for or recommend purchasing, leasing, or ordering*** any good, facility, service or item ***for which payment may be made, in whole or in part, under a Federal healthcare program***, shall be guilty of a felony..., shall be fined not more than \$25,000 or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both.” 42 U.S.C. § 1320a-7b(b) (emphasis added).

# Key Concepts

## Anyone

- Any person, not limited to providers or hospitals

## Knowingly and Willfully

- Intent to induce is required but
- AKS is violated if just one purpose of remuneration is to induce illegal referral

## Solicited/Received Offered/Paid

- Applies to both sides of a transaction

## Remuneration

- Payment in cash or in kind, direct or indirect, overt or covert

## Induce Business

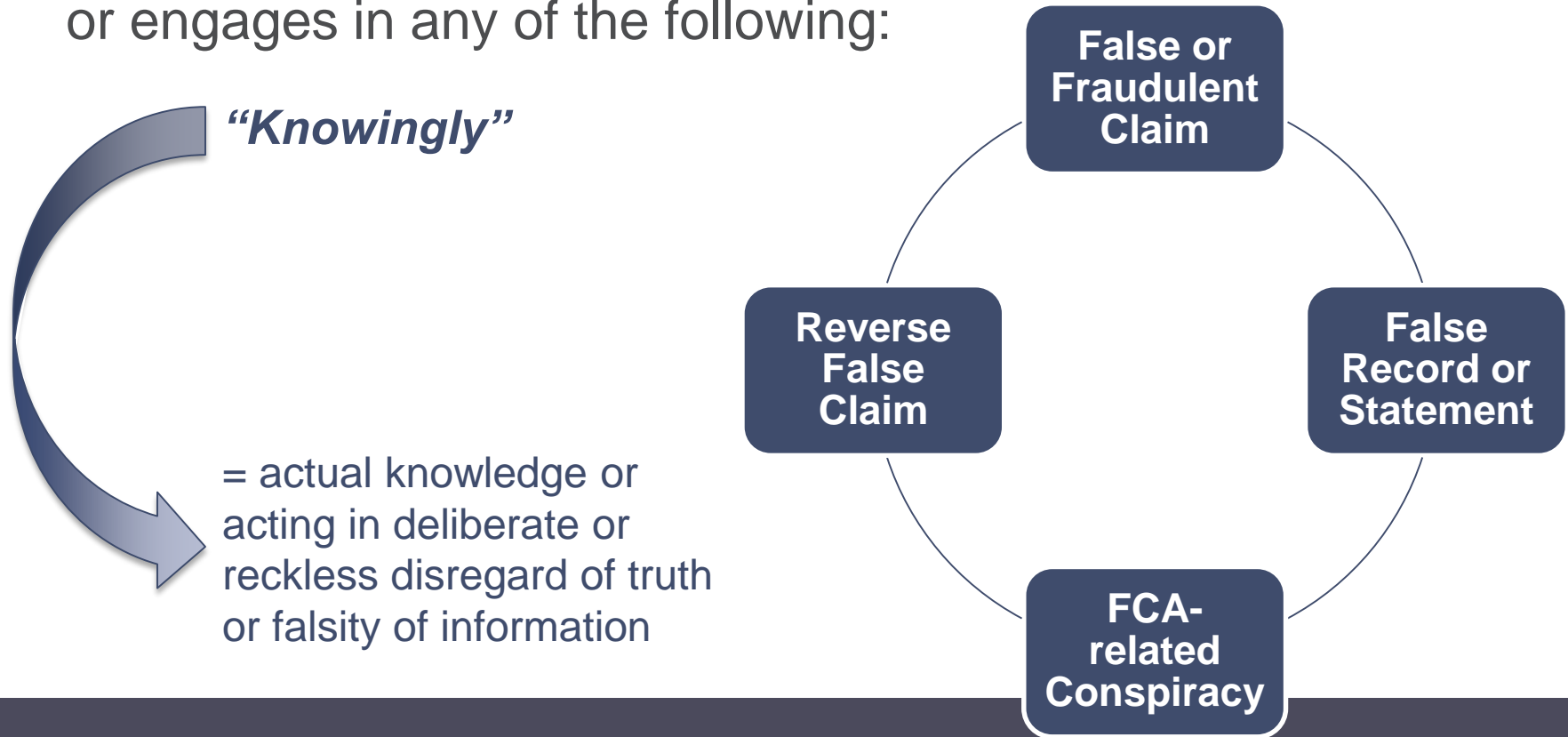
- Includes referrals for any service or item

# Stark Law – The Basic Rule

- Prohibits **physicians** from **referring** patients to an **entity** for the furnishing of certain **designated health services** (DHS) that are otherwise reimbursable by Medicare, if the physician or an immediate family member has a **financial relationship** with that entity, unless an **exception** applies
- Prohibits entities that provide DHS reimbursable by Medicare from billing the Medicare program for any items or services that result from a prohibited referral

# False Claims Act (FCA)

The FCA imposes liability on a person who knowingly submits or engages in any of the following:



# Proposed Updates – Anti-Kickback Statute and Stark Law

Value-Based Care Exceptions/Safe Harbors

Donations of EHR and Cybersecurity Technologies

Exceptions for certain patient engagement and support tools



## 42 CFR Part 2 – Overview

Proposed rules  
would ease  
restrictions in  
some  
circumstances:

- Between Part 2 Provider and Non-Part 2 Providers
- No individual named for disclosures for benefit purposes
- Central Registries
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs
- Employee Devices

# 42 CFR Part 2 – Central Registries and PDMP

## Central Registries

- Current – Only disclose SUD records to another Part 2 program
- Proposed – Expand to allow non-Part 2 providers with existing treatment relationship to query registry
- Purpose – Prevent over-prescription of opioids and avoid fatal drug interactions

## Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

- Current – Part 2 programs not permitted to disclose unless exception applies
- Proposed – Permit disclosure with patient consent
- Purpose – Avoid adverse events like overdose or fatal drug interaction

# HIPAA

- Stay Tuned....

# Questions



# Enrollee & Provider Appeals

Following the Medicaid Transformation



# Overview

- Appeals Following the Medicaid Transformation
- Appeals at Crossover
- Overview of Appeals Process
- Enrollee Appeals
- Provider Appeals
- Examples

# Material Differences Following Medicaid Transformation

## New Types of Appeals

Adverse Benefit Determinations

Adverse Disenrollment Determinations

## Expedited Appeals

When an Expedited Appeal is Presumed

Time to Resolve Expedited Appeals

## Deadlines

Filing Appeals

Resolving Appeals

# Appeals at Crossover to Managed Care

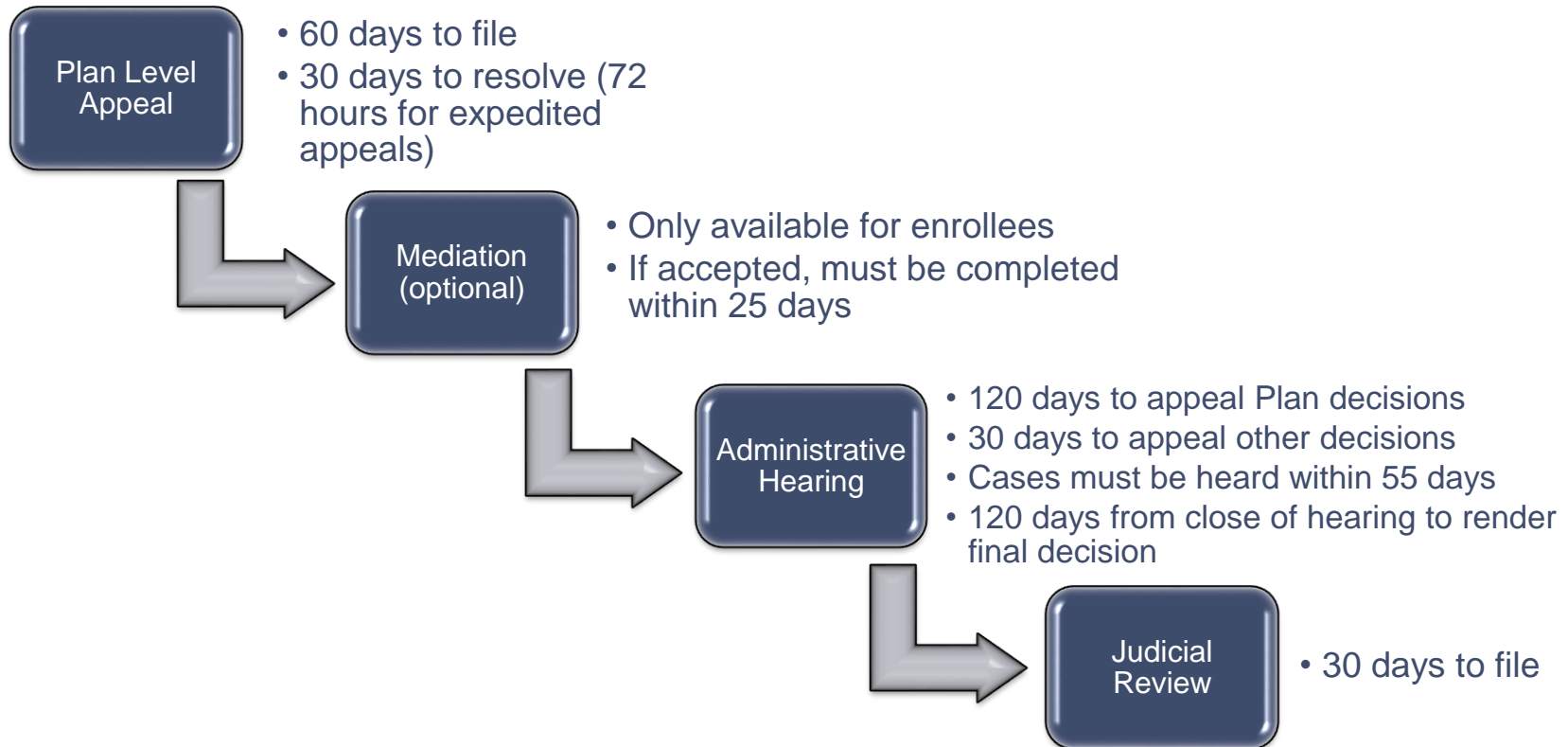
## Prior to Enrollment in Plan:

- Service Denials prior to enrollment must submit new request to new Plan.
- For services provided prior to enrollment, follow old appeals process.

## After Enrollment in Plan:

- Plans must honor continuation of enrollee's FFS authorizations for first 90 days.
- If the authorization extends beyond 90 days, and the Plan terminates or reduces the service, enrollees are entitled to an appeal.
- Claims for dates of service following launch should be submitted in accordance with the new appeals procedure.

# Overview of Appeals Process



# Plan-Level Grievances and Appeals

Each Plan is required to develop a grievances and appeals process to be approved by DHHS

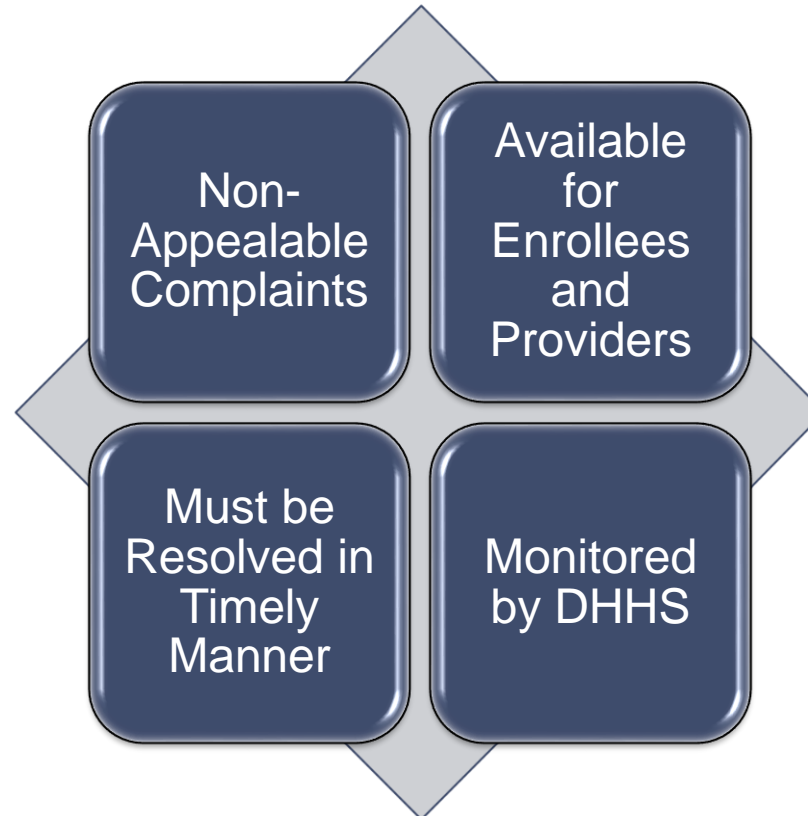
The process must comply with federal law and Due Process requirements

All grievances and appeals must be resolved at lowest level of escalation

DHHS will (eventually) provide Ombudsman services to assist enrollees and providers



# Grievances



# Enrollee Appeals – Appealable Decisions

## Adverse Benefit Determinations

### Plan-Level Appeal

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- Denial of service or reduction of previously authorized service
- Denial of payment
- Failure to provide services in a timely manner
- Failure to resolve grievances and appeals
- Denial of rural enrollee's rights
- Denial of request to dispute financial liability

## Adverse Disenrollment Determinations

### Administrative Hearing

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- Denial of enrollee requests to disenroll from a Standard or Tailored Plan
- Approval of a request by a Standard or Tailored Plan to disenroll an enrollee

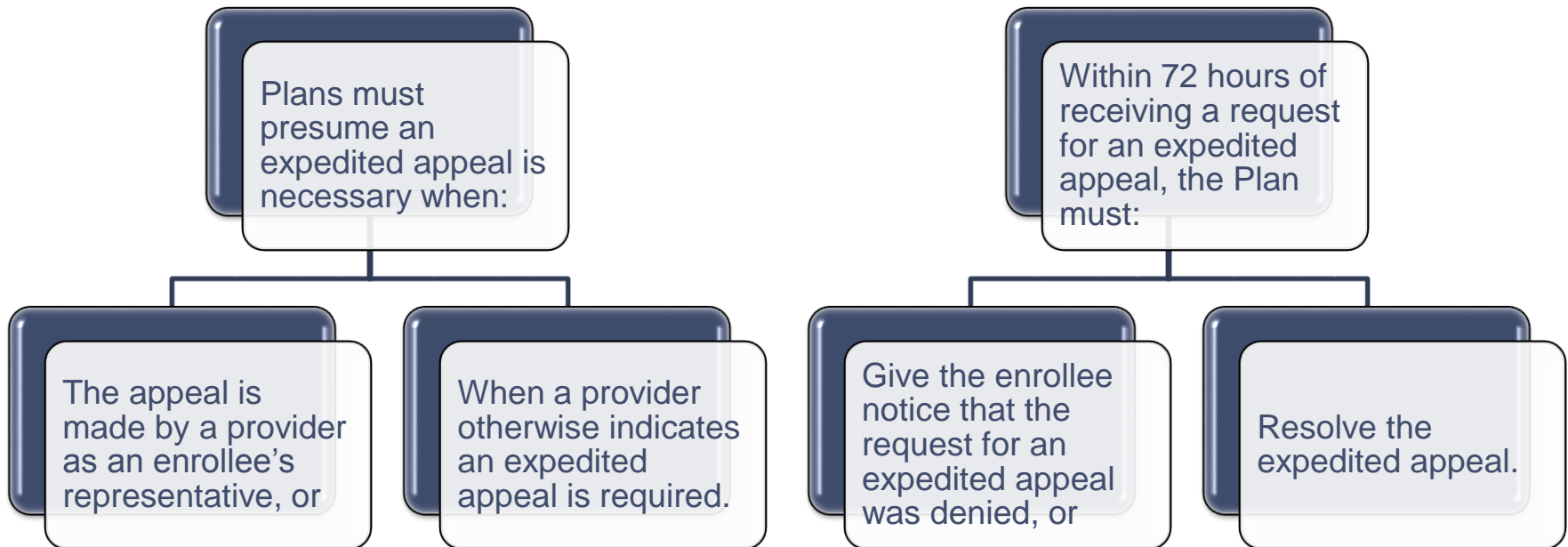
## Other Adverse Determinations

### Administrative Hearing

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- Any decision by DHHS to deny, terminate, suspend or reduce a Medicaid service or authorization through the FFS program

# Expedited Appeals



# Continuation of Enrollee Benefits Pending Appeals

## Adverse Benefit Determinations by Plan:

- The Plan must continue to provide the service at issue pending appeal if all of the following are met:
  - Request filed by enrollee before the later of 10 days of receiving notice or the effective date of the adverse decision;
  - The service at issue was previously authorized;
  - The services were ordered by an authorized provider;
  - The period covered by the original authorization has not expired; and
  - The enrollee timely files for continuation of benefits.

## Other Adverse Determinations by DHHS:

- DHHS must reinstate services to the level or manner prior in place to the action giving rise to the appeal.

## Note:

- If the enrollee loses the appeal, DHHS or the Plan (as applicable) may recoup the cost of any services furnished during the appeal process.

# Provider Appeals

## Types of Appeals

- Plan Decisions:
  - A Plan's decision not to include a provider in its network
  - Program integrity-related findings or activities
  - Findings of fraud, waste or abuse
  - Findings or recovery of overpayments
- DHHS Decisions:
  - Denial or reduction of payments under FFS
  - Denial or suspension of participation in Medicaid FFS

## Process

- Plan decisions must be appealed at the Plan level first
- DHHS decisions are subject to appeal through administrative hearings
- The procedure for provider appeals is the same as for enrollee appeals, with some minor differences



# Example 1

- John Doe received a prior authorization for services under Medicaid FFS prior to being enrolled in a Standard Plan. After 90 days, the Plan terminated his prior authorization.
  - Where should he file for an appeal?
  - How can he get an expedited appeal?
  - Will he be entitled to continuation of the service pending the appeal?

## Example 2

- DHHS decided to disenroll Jane Doe from a Tailored Plan and enrolled her into a Standard Plan.
  - Where should she file an appeal?
  - What are her rights pending the appeal?

## Example 3

- Plan recently informed Provider that Provider has been regularly overpaid for services, and Provider must return a significant overpayment amount to Plan. Provider disagrees and has decided to appeal the decision.
  - Where should Provider file for an appeal?
  - What can Provider do if its initial appeal is denied?

# Questions



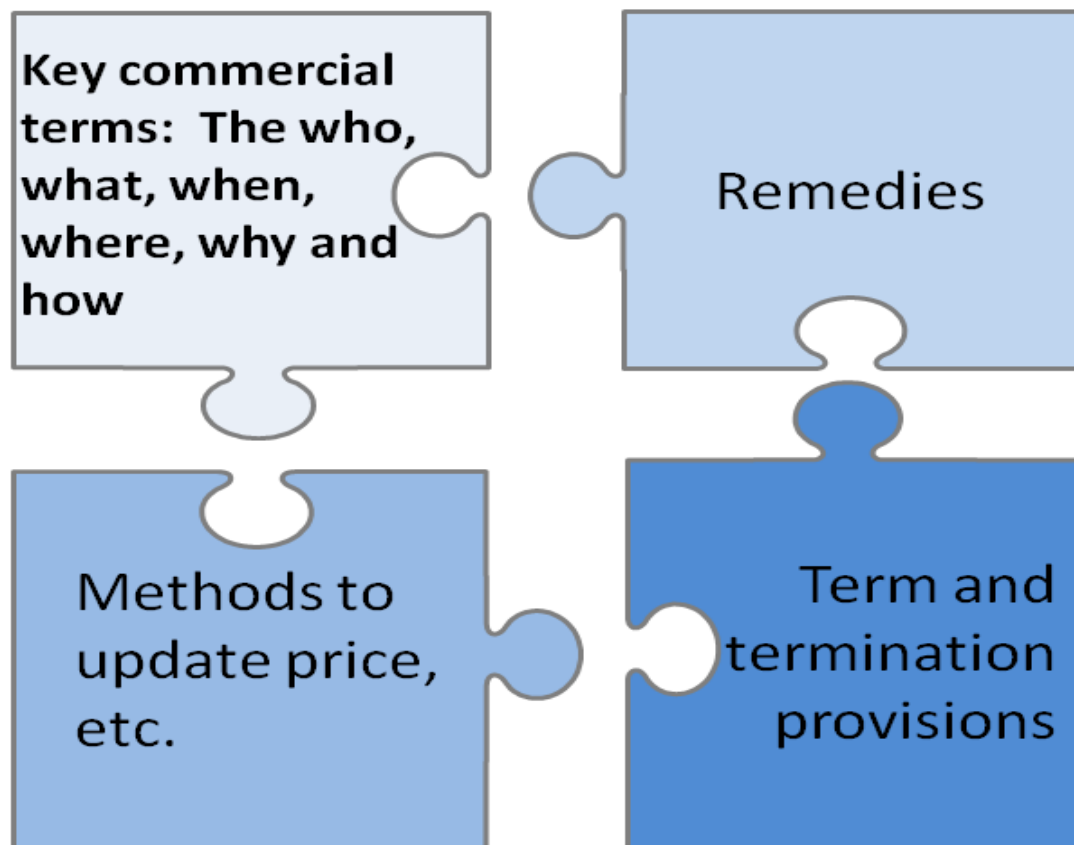
# Practical Workshop Overview

- Subpoena troubleshooting
- Contracts 101
- Value-based contracting
- Health care transactions

<b>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA</b>		File No. <b>19-CVD-1000</b>	
Union _____ County _____		In The General Court Of Justice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Superior Court Division	
<b>JANE JONES</b>		Additional File Numbers _____	
<b>VERSUS</b>		<b>SUBPOENA</b>	
<b>JOHN JONES</b>		G.S. 1A-1, Rule 45; 8-59, -61, -63; 15A-801, -802	
Party Requesting Subpoena <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State/Plaintiff <input type="checkbox"/> Defendant		<b>NOTE TO PARTIES NOT REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL:</b> Subpoenas may be produced at your request, but must be signed and issued by the office of the Clerk of Superior Court, or by a magistrate or judge.	
TO Name And Address Of Person Subpoenaed REBECCA SMITH GOOD BEHAVIORAL HEALTH 123 Main St. Monroe, NC 28200		Alternate Address _____	
Telephone No. 704-300-3000		Telephone No. _____	
<b>YOU ARE COMMANDED TO:</b> (check all that apply) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> appear and testify, in the above entitled action, before the court at the place, date and time indicated below. <input type="checkbox"/> appear and testify, in the above entitled action, at a deposition at the place, date and time indicated below. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> produce and permit inspection and copying of the following items, at the place, date and time indicated below. <input type="checkbox"/> See attached list. (List here if space sufficient)			
All medical records and school records for Sally Jones (DOB 1/1/04) and Joe Jones (DOB 1/1/01). Will it benefit the patient(s) for Rebecca to testify? Are you authorized by the parent/guardian or the court to produce the records requested? What is the minimum information needed for the court case? Does the attorney really want Rebecca to testify? Can the attorney say when the witness will be called? Would a summary suffice? Does the subpoena give enough time to the witness/agency? Was the subpoena properly served? [Beware of out-of-state subpoenas.]			
Name And Location Of Court/Place Of Deposition/Place To Produce Union County Courthouse 100 Main St. Monroe, NC 28200		Date To Appear/Produce, Until Released <b>December 9, 2019</b>	
Name And Address Of Applicant Or Applicant's Attorney <b>D. Blaine Sanders</b> <b>ROBINSON, BRADSHAW &amp; HINSON, P.A.</b> 101 North Tryon Street, Suite 1900 Charlotte, North Carolina 28246 Telephone No. Of Applicant Or Applicant's Attorney <b>704-377-2536</b>		Time To Appear/Produce, Until Released <b>9:30</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	
Signature /s/ D. Blaine Sanders <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Clerk Of Superior Court <input type="checkbox"/> Magistrate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attorney/DA <input type="checkbox"/> District Court Judge <input type="checkbox"/> Superior Court Judge			
<b>RETURN OF SERVICE</b>			
I certify this subpoena was received and served on the person subpoenaed as follows: By <input type="checkbox"/> personal delivery. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> registered or certified mail, receipt requested and attached. <input type="checkbox"/> telephone communication by Sheriff (use only for a witness subpoenaed to appear and testify). <input type="checkbox"/> telephone communication by local law enforcement agency (use only for a witness subpoenaed to appear and testify in a criminal case). <b>NOTE TO COURT:</b> If the witness was served by telephone communication from a local law enforcement agency in a criminal case, the court may not issue a show cause order or order for arrest against the witness until the witness has been served personally with the written subpoena. <input type="checkbox"/> I was unable to serve this subpoena. Reason unable to serve: _____			
Service Fee \$	<input type="checkbox"/> Paid <input type="checkbox"/> Due	Date Served _____	Name Of Authorized Server (type or print) _____
		Signature Of Authorized Server _____	Title/Agency _____

# BRIEF CONTRACTUAL PRIMER:

## Is it all there?



# Selected Tips and Tricks

## Plan for change

- “This Agreement shall have a term of 10 years.”
- “Insurer shall pay Provider \$20 per CPT Code X.”

## Flexible termination cures many ills





# KEY PROVISION

## Indemnification

**PROPER** use of indemnities

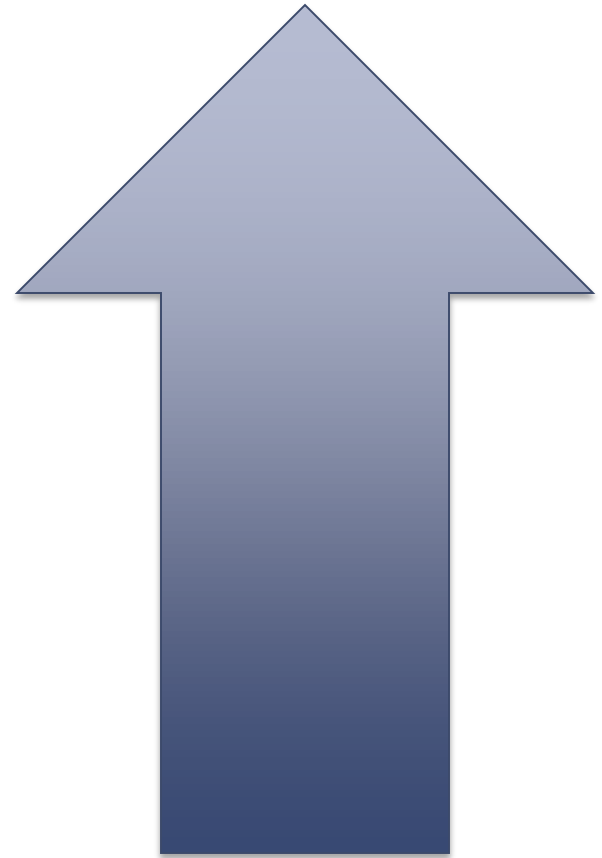
- \*Clarity re intended risk allocation
- \*Allow recovery of certain losses (e.g., attorneys' fees) that may not otherwise be available
- \*Provide predictability and certainty of recourse (avoid the need to rely on uncertain common law causes of action)
- \*Protection for affiliates and desired third-party beneficiaries

- \*Can subject a party to continuing liability for circumstances outside of its control
- \*Inadvertent shifting of risk allocation (e.g., improper use of mutuality)
- \*Unintended consequences in connection with other contract provisions

**IMPROPER** use of indemnities

# Value-Based Care: On the Rise

- The past 10 years have marked a shift toward value-based care.
- Providers, payors and consumers are on board.



# What is Value-Based Care?

## Fee-for-service

Traditional Model

Reimbursement based  
on volume of services

Incentivizes quantity

## Value-based care

New Model

Reimbursement tied to  
quality of care

Incentivizes quality

# Types of Reimbursement

Pay-for-  
Coordination

Pay-for-  
Performance

Bundled/Episode  
of Care Payment

Shared Savings

Capitation

Global Budget

# Shared Savings/Shared Risk

Compensation  
based on:

- Actual costs to agreed-upon benchmark
- Quality performance

# Shared Savings/Shared Risk

## Important factors:

- Compensation formula
- Quality benchmarks
- Member attribution
- Reconciliation timeline
- Dispute mechanism
- Data sharing

# Bundled Payments

- Single episode-based payment
- Providers assume risk for any complications during episode of care

# Bundled Payment

## Important factors:

- Services Included (Excluded)
- Timing
- Amount of Payment
- Catastrophic Episodes



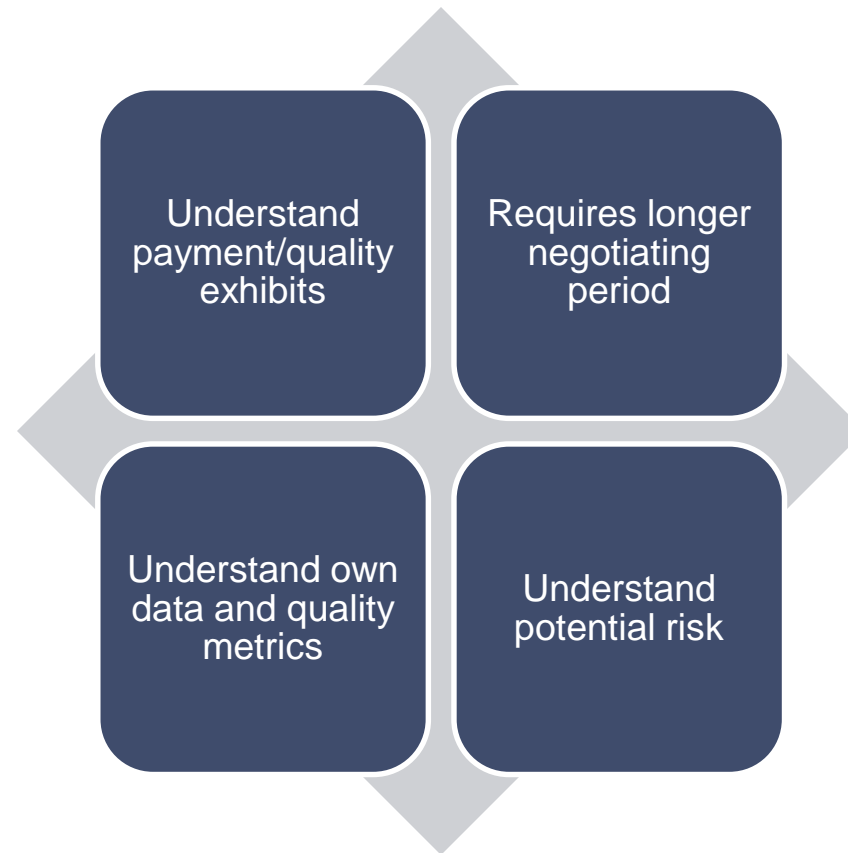
# Capitation

FULL RISK!

PMPM payment

Responsible for all of certain area of care

# Key Considerations for Any Value-Based Contract

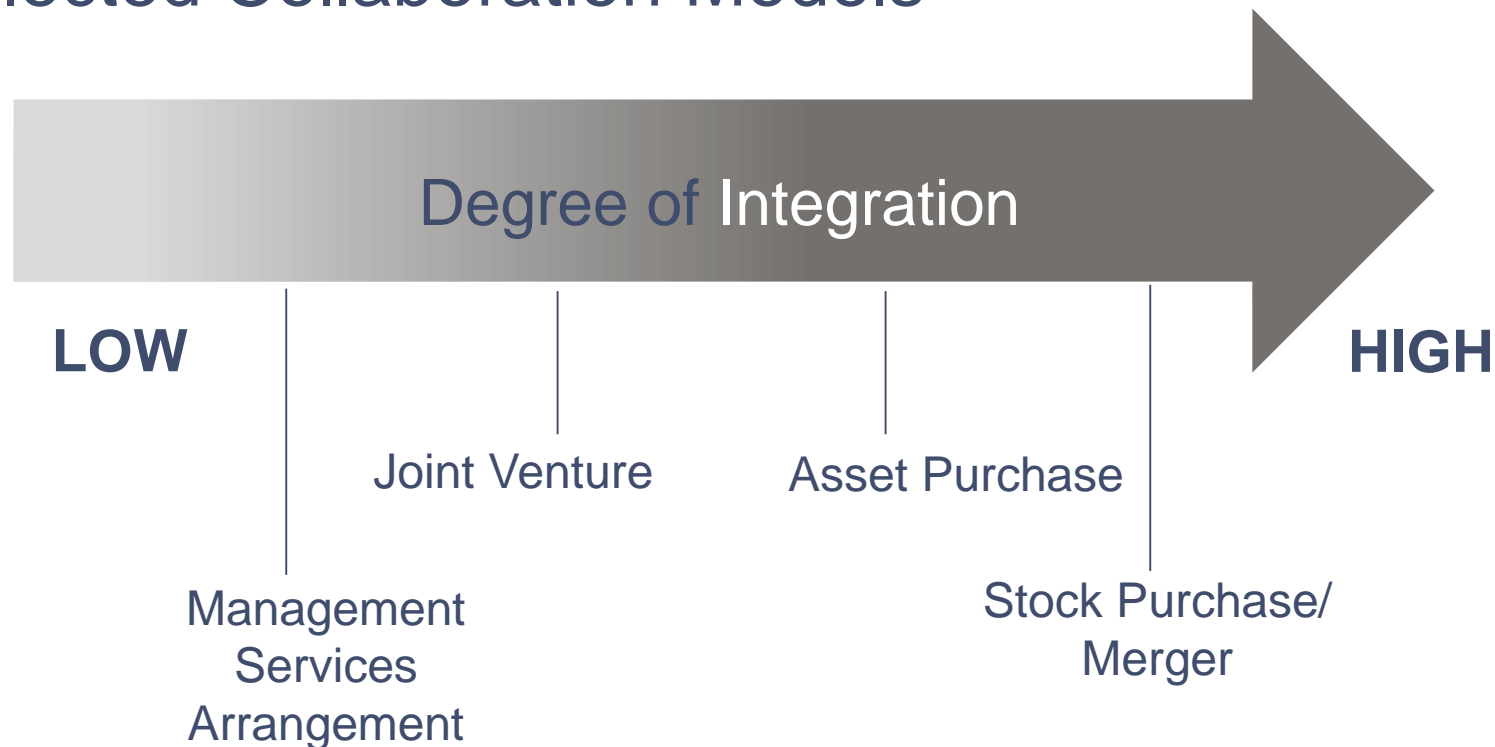


# Questions



# Healthcare Collaborations

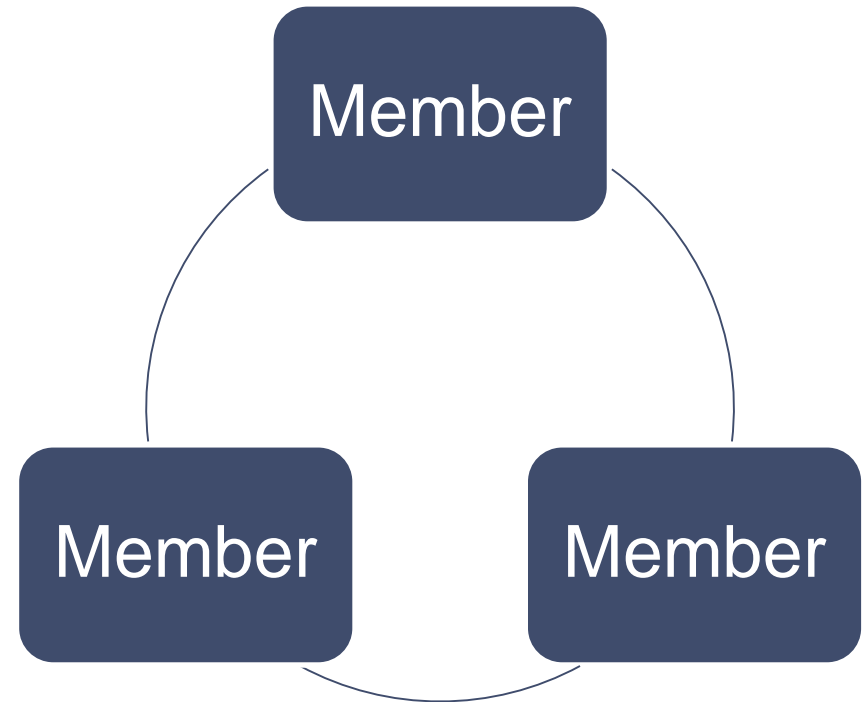
# Selected Collaboration Models



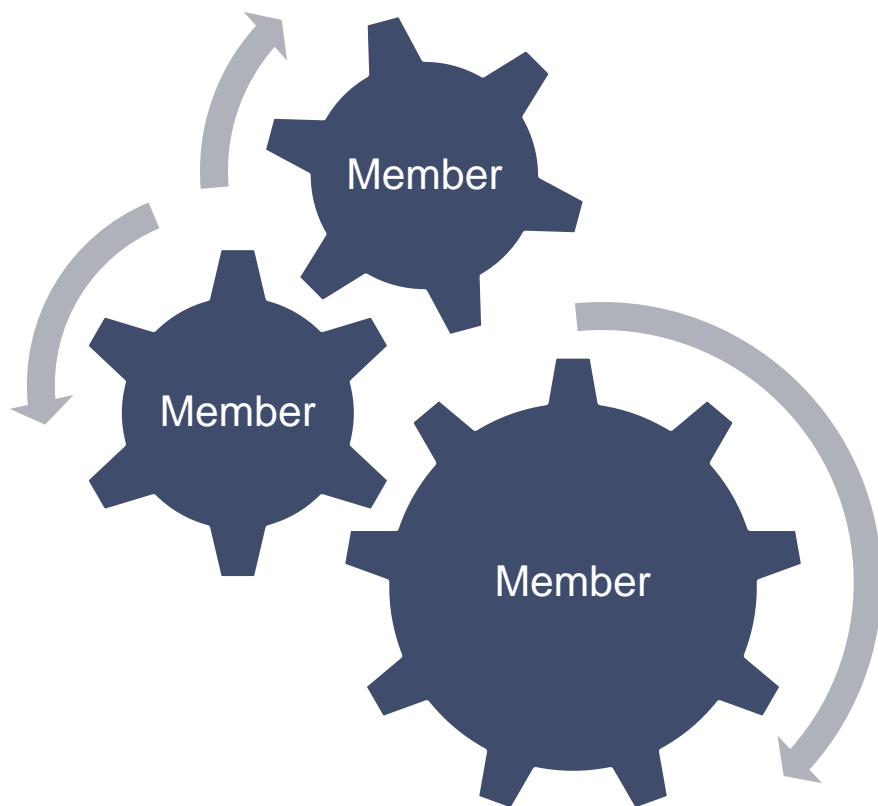
\* Speaking in generalities (there are deal-specific nuances)

# Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)

- An ACO is a group of providers that assume responsibility to manage care for a defined group of patients.
- ACOs can have many different structures and participants.
  - There are specific structural requirements for participation in CMS programs.
- The most common types of reimbursement for ACOs are:
  - Shared Savings
  - Bundled Payments
  - Capitation



# Clinically Integrated Networks (CINs)



- CINs are groups of individual healthcare providers that join together as a network to improve patient care by:
  - Enhancing communication between providers,
  - Adhering to standard quality procedures and
  - Adopting preventative health measures.
- Members of a network that have achieved clinical integration may collectively contract away from antitrust concerns.
- Clinical integration may be used as a stepping stone to create an ACO.

CAPSTONE









Megan Haynes  
Mhaynes@robinsonbradshaw.com  
(704) 377-8379



Jennifer Hutchens  
JHutchens@robinsonbradshaw.com  
(704) 377-8122



Kelly Koeninger  
KKoeninger@robinsonbradshaw.com  
(704) 377-8392



Blaine Sanders  
BSanders@robinsonbradshaw.com  
(704) 377-8344