



# Affirmant

## Health Partners™

## Newsletter

October/November  
2017

A HEALTHY MICHIGAN AT AN AFFORDABLE COST

## Message from the CEO

Over the last few weeks, I have had the privilege to participate in several conversations with independent physicians. The burning question? “What are the benefits to independent physicians to participating with Affirmant?” With this message, I would like to highlight the value Affirmant brings to independent physicians.

### Online, near real-time, point-of-care access to more robust data on patients through Epic Constellation Healthy Planet Link

- Integrated clinical data on your patients’ encounters with any provider using Epic or other electronic health records exchanged through the Carequality network
- Integrated claims data on your patients’ encounters with any provider covered by key health plans—e.g., Traditional Medicare, BCBSM
- Integrated “registry” data on your patients from all available sources—e.g., Epic, claims, Carequality
- Evidence-based predictive model risk scores for your patients for such outcomes as hospital admissions and ED visits
- Evidence-based gaps in care identified for your patients with suggestions for filling these gaps
- Physician- and practice-specific dashboards on care quality and utilization, including benchmark comparisons to other physicians and practices

### Support for improving your performance –based payments from health plans (e.g., PGIP)

- Online, on-demand prompts to close patient-specific gaps in care
- Online, on-demand, physician-, practice-, and payer-specific performance reports
- Best practice sharing from high-performing Affirmant physicians

### Online, on-demand CMEs at no cost to you

Through the Continuing Online Medical education and Training (COMET) system, you can access CMEs and Affirmant best-practices free of charge.

### MIPS Quality reporting at no cost to you

- Quality reporting done by Affirmant for participating providers in the ACO
- Full credit for MIPS Improvement Activities with no reporting requirement for participating providers in the ACO

### Higher likelihood of achieving MSSP shared savings

We have one of the largest ACOs in the nation with over 70,000 Medicare beneficiaries. Because of our size, the Federation ACO has a lower savings threshold (2%) in order to receive shared savings from CMS.

### Stronger, physician-driven relationships with health plans

Our large physician-led Clinically Integrated Network (CIN) has greater influence over pain points with health plans such as prior authorization processes, service levels experienced by providers and patients, disparate performance measures and formularies.

### Better health plan rewards for improving cost and quality of care

As a CIN, we have the power in numbers and the legal basis to negotiate together for better rewards from health plans for achieving improvements in quality and cost of care.

### Opportunities to participate in leadership of Affirmant’s state-wide strategies and programs to achieve a healthy Michigan at an affordable cost

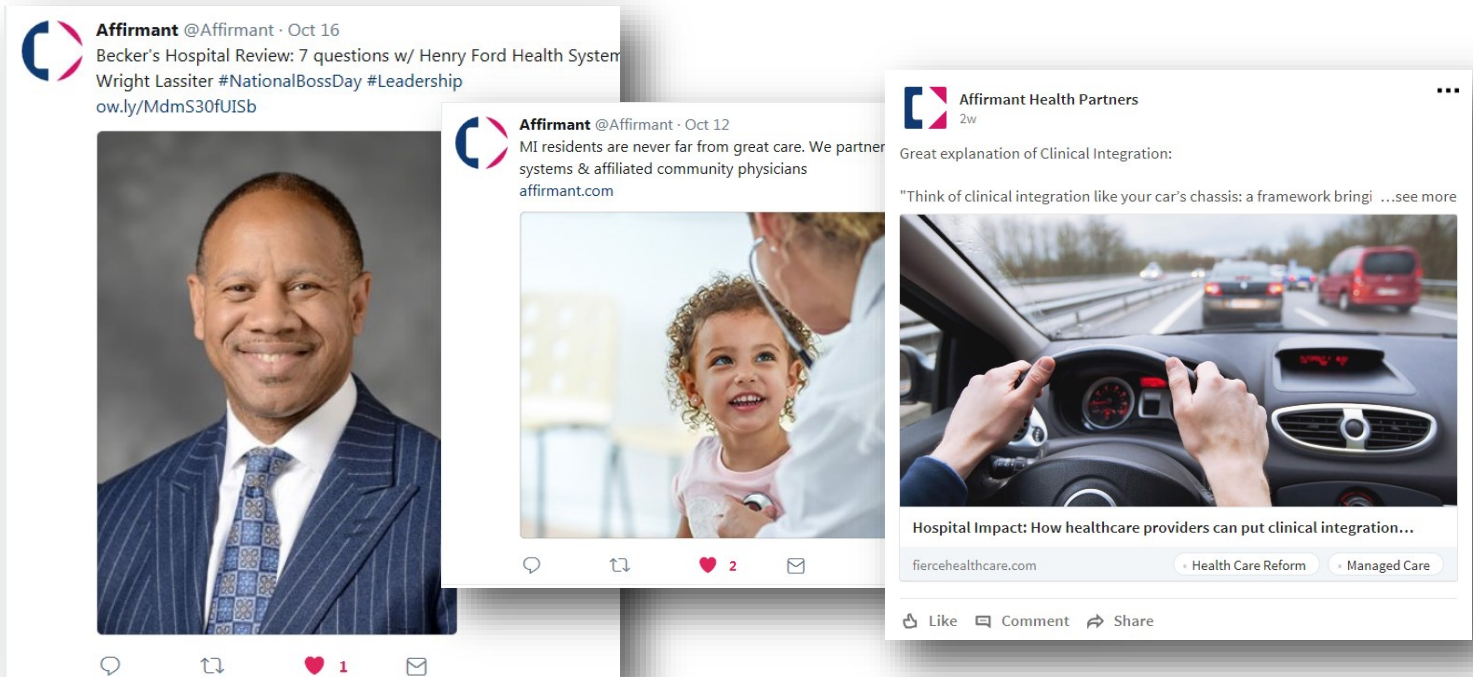
At the end of the day, these advantages lead to one thing – helping our physicians help their patients.

Best regards,

Dr. Bill Mayer

## Connect with us on Social Media

Affirmant is getting social on social media. We joined [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#) to connect with current and potential stakeholders. This is also a great way for us to highlight the important work our member systems are doing as well. If you are active on either of these platforms, please find us or even tweet at us @Affirmant.



## December Town Hall

Please save the date for our third Affirmant Town Hall, hosted by Henry Ford Allegiance Health, on December 11, from 1:00 – 2:00 pm. Dr. Bill Mayer will give an overview of our progress, outline our vision for the future and take your questions and comments. The town hall series will be hosted quarterly at different Affirmant member sites. We are thrilled to offer this unique opportunity and hope you join us!

**BREAKING NEWS— We will also be streaming the Town Hall through Facebook Live. More details to come!**



## SAVE THE DATE!

The Fetzer Center in Kalamazoo, MI has been booked for the 3rd Annual Leadership Retreat.

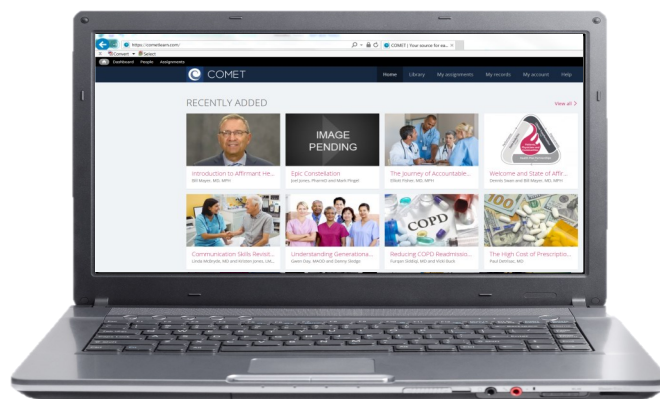
Thursday, May 31, 2018

## Shaping Pop Health

In October, Dr. Mayer joined Epic's 2018 Population Health Steering Board. Serving on this board gives Affirmant a place at the table in the design of Epic Constellation and the ability to influence how data analytics will help us understand population health. It is also an opportunity to learn from others who are experts in the field and how they are applying Epic data analytics to their own systems. Also new to the board are executives from Kaiser Permanente, Children's Health in Dallas, Mercy Health in Ohio and Anthem, Inc.

# COMET is Live

COMET went live, Affirmant-wide, on Monday, October 9. What can you find there today? Dr. Mayer's introductory message, videos from the leadership retreat (including Dr. Elliot Fisher!) and CME accredited learning activities. Below is a listing of the learning activities available under the Affirmant membership to COMET.



## 17.5 CME Credits Available



Title	CME Credits
Add Value By Choosing Wisely	1
Clinical Integration and Risk Adjustment Methodologies	1
Communication Skills Revisited. What's in Your Toolbox?	1
Enhancing Patient Care Through Metrics	1
New Drug Update	0.75
Options in Pain Management	1
Patient Care Summit: Listening With Heart	1
Patient Engagement: Why Bother?	1
Practical Evidence Based Medicine	1
Reducing COPD Readmissions	1
Speak for Yourself – Plan Your Care	1
The AACE Approach to Helping Patients Achieve Diabetes Control	1
The High Cost of Prescription Medications and Other Updates in Internal Medicine	1
The Road to Clinical Transformation	0.5
Understanding Generational Differences	1
Unusual Causes of Pediatric Chronic Cough	1
What More Can I Do About Prescription Drug Abuse and Heroin Addiction?	1
What Neurobiology Teaches Us About Opioid Use Disorders and its Treatment	1



COMET Questions? Call the help desk.

We are open:

24 hours a day, 7 day a week, 365 days a year

1-855-800-COMET  
(2663)



# Affirmant Welcomes New Team Member



We are pleased to have Paul Peabody join the Affirmant Team as the Information Technology and Business Intelligence

Executive. Paul comes to us following his retirement as Chief Information Officer and Senior Vice President at Bronson Healthcare last month. He has already made a number of significant contributions to Affirmant as a member of our IT/BI Committee and a leader in developing our IT/BI Strategy and researching, negotiating and securing our partnership with Epic for Constellation. He will have lead responsibility for executing our IT/BI strategy, including Epic Constellation.

Paul is uniquely qualified for this role. Not only does he have more than 37 years of experience in health information technology executive management, but he has also been intimately involved with Affirmant and our stakeholders. Before his four-year tenure with Bronson, he served as the CIO for Beaumont Health, Michigan's largest healthcare system, for 30 years. Paul is a highly regarded healthcare CIO and has installed and worked extensively with the Epic electronic health records platform as an early adopter in Michigan and was instrumental in helping Epic develop the Community Connect program.

In addition to his impressive work history, Paul is active in numerous Health Industry Councils and is a founding member and past-president of

the Detroit Chapter of the Society for Information Management. He also is a founding member and former VP and Board member of the San Diego Chapter of SIM. He has served on the Board of Kettering University, has taught Executive MBA courses at Oakland University and helped the Western Michigan University Homer Stryker, MD School of Medicine develop a Clinical Informatics Certificate and MBA program.

Paul will work three-quarters time with Affirmant, spending two weeks per month in Michigan and the remainder of his time working remotely from his home in San Diego. Please welcome Paul to the team!

## 2017 Quality Expo

Henry Ford Health System hosted their 2017 Quality Expo in late October. For 25 years, the Quality Expo has provided a platform for employees to showcase and be recognized for their work that leads to improved quality, safety and performance as well as new clinical innovations and best practices. This year, for the first time, Dr. Mayer from Affirmant attended and participated as a judge. Thank you, Henry Ford Health System, for letting Affirmant be a part of your day and for your continued drive to improve quality!

