



Quarter 4 STQN Newsletter

Aligning for success: Unveiling the new Transforming Episode Accountability Model (TEAM) and a peek at flu vaccinations



Dates to Remember:

First-Quarter STQN Performance and Operations Committee Meeting

Jan. 13 | 7 a.m. | Ponchatoula Conference Room

First-Quarter STQN Board Meeting

Feb. 16 | 5:30 p.m. | Ponchatoula Conference Room

Second-Quarter STQN Performance and Operations Committee Meeting

Apr. 14 | 7 a.m. | Ponchatoula Conference Room

Second-Quarter STQN Board Meeting

May 18 | 5:30 p.m. | Ponchatoula Conference Room

2025 3rd Quarter Medical Director's Award

Medical Director's Quality Award
Is awarded to Dr. Christine Thurston in recognition of her outstanding care of her patients, as exemplified by her excellent quality scores.



A Message from our Chairman:

STQN Members,

In our effort to continue to drive value to the members of STQN we are excited to announce our collaboration with Vizient's GPO division. This is an opportunity for our members to achieve significant cost savings on products for their practices. Based on our pilot project with LeBlanc Pediatrics, we found savings up to 4% were possible. Depending on what items a practice requires, the saving could potentially be even higher. All members should have received two communications in September on this program. Those emails contained enrollment links as well as instructions for participation. I encourage STQN members to explore this option, and we hope that each of you will find that this program brings value convenience to your practices.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Phillips Jenkins".

L. Phillips Jenkins

An introduction into the new bundled payment model Transforming Episode Accountability Model (TEAM)

TEAM Overview

Model Purpose

- To provide Medicare beneficiaries with coordinated, high-quality care during certain surgical procedures.
- While some hospitals were mandated to participate, STHS elected to participate in the TEAM model



Model Goals

- Quicker recovery after surgery
- Fewer avoidable hospital and ED visits
- Shorter hospital and post-acute stays
- Smoother transitions to primary care
- Lower costs
- More equitable health outcomes



Episode Components

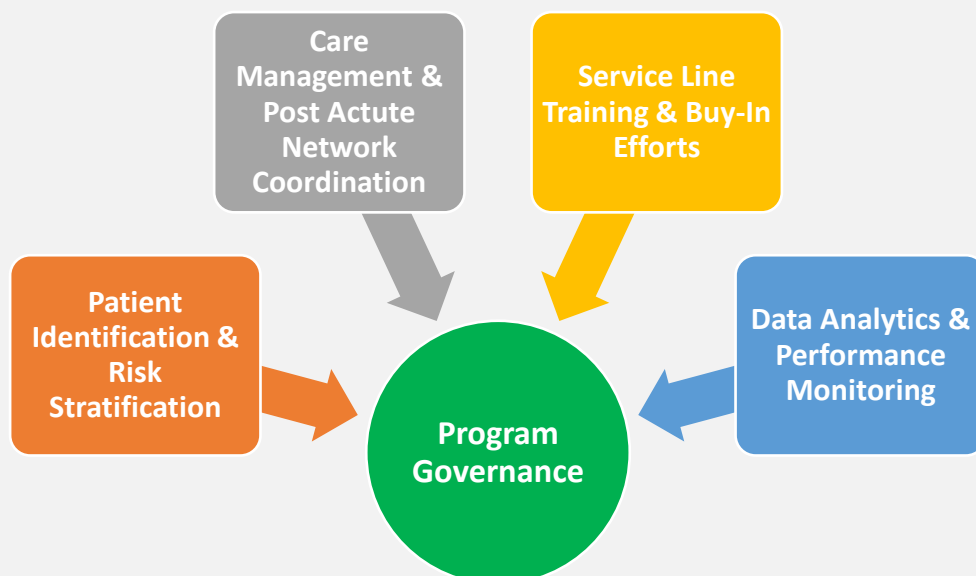
- Lower extremity joint replacement
- Surgical hip femur fracture treatment
- Spinal fusion
- CABG
- Major Bowel procedure



Responsibility

- Participants are responsible for care from admission through 30 days after discharge
- 5-year model with a start date of 1.1.2026
- Provide a primary care referral to beneficiaries prior to discharge from the hospital/outpatient surgical facility

Strategies to Optimize Performance



Help your patients fight the flu

Reviewing 2024-2025 data

- Last year's flu season was among the most severe since 2010.
- Hospitalization rates were highest among adults ages 75 and older.
- 89% of hospitalized patients with the flu had at least one underlying medical condition.



Updates for the 2025-2026 flu season



- Getting a yearly flu vaccination is the best way to prevent flu and its potentially serious complications.
- Everyone 6 months and older, with rare exceptions, should get the flu vaccine every season.
- All flu vaccines in the United States, for the 2025-2026 season, are trivalent.
- Trivalent flu vaccines are formulated to protect against an A(H1N1) virus, an A(H3N2) virus, and a B/Victoria virus.

[2025–2026 Flu Season | Influenza \(Flu\) | CDC](#)

Access to no-cost or low-cost flu vaccines

Where:

- Healthcare providers
- Pharmacies
- Employers
- Schools
- Local health departments

When:

- The CDC advises most people to get their flu vaccine in September or October for optimal protection.



Unlock Savings with STQN & Vizient

Empowering Practices to Maximize Value Across Spend Categories

Pilot Success: LeBlanc Pediatrics

LeBlanc Pediatrics participated in a data review led by STQN and Vizient GPO representative Brenna Hahn. Through this analysis, they identified significant opportunities for savings through Vizient's non-acute division, Provista. The review revealed that a 2.3% savings could be achieved on certain products with no changes to current purchasing habits, while adjusting purchasing strategies could result in up to 4% savings on other office-based medical products. The results clearly showed that cost reductions are attainable both with and without modifying purchasing behavior and emphasized that many practices may not be fully aware of the extensive benefits available through the contract portfolio.

How can you enroll your practice?

- Complete online enrollment: <https://register.provista.com/?cpId=e9081212-1c12-4266-88f6-06537d8d7b44>
- Submit 12-month purchase history, using provided templates, to brenna.hahn@provista.com



Accounts
Payable_Vendor Level



Med-Surg Data
Collection Template -

- Share distributor rep contact info. **Please send the name, email address, and phone number for your distributor representative(s) to brenna.hahn@provista.com.**
- Identify upcoming equipment needs for Vizient-aligned quotes

Vizient will provide dedicated support to STQN members through our representative, [Brenna Hahn](#). Once the required information is submitted, Vizient will conduct a comprehensive savings analysis within 2–3 weeks. Our team will coordinate with your distributors to ensure seamless implementation of identified savings opportunities. Following the analysis, findings will be presented along with recommended next steps for your practice.

Ready to Discover Your Savings Potential?

Contact our representative to begin your STQN review today!



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