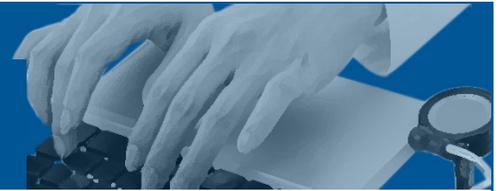


# Improving Health for Populations and Communities: *Improve Prevention and Cardiac Health*



## Health Care Impact in Leveraging EHRs to Improve Preventive Health

Electronic health records (EHRs) have great potential to help clinicians ensure that all patients reliably and safely receive the care they need. However, getting full value from an EHR requires new approaches to daily work that optimize the capabilities of the technology and the clinical team.

*HealthInsight* New Mexico helps practices use their EHR systems improve delivery of preventive care services by maximizing their EHRs' capabilities and receiving incentives by reporting measures to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS).

We are assisting 45 providers in reporting to PQRS through their EHRs. Our staff members are recognized leaders in training clinical staff on pulling quality reports from their systems and using them as part of a systematic quality improvement process. This work involves complex, hands-on technical assistance with a variety of EHR systems and agility in navigating the CMS submission process. We also offer statewide face-to-face events, remote technical assistance, and webinars for physician offices.

Million Hearts™ ([millionhearts.hhs.gov](http://millionhearts.hhs.gov)) is committed to preventing a million heart attacks and strokes in the nation by 2017. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and CMS are leading this campaign, in partnership with federal agencies and private sector organizations, to impact cardiovascular disease.

In partnership with Million Hearts™, we are convening a learning and action network to improve cardiac health. Currently 34 medical practices and 28 community partners are participating to improve the "ABCS" of cardiac population health: **A**spirin therapy, **B**lood pressure control, **C**holesterol control and **S**moking cessation. We are also informing the public about the importance of making healthy choices and improving care for heart health.

### Impact:

- We have partnered with the New Mexico Department of Health to provide education on tobacco cessation and entering data into the state's confidential, web-based, immunization information system that keeps immunization records of people vaccinated in New Mexico.
- In partnership with the New Mexico Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center, we have provided PQRS toolkits, "Prevention in Practice," to 115 participating providers to further assist them in reporting measures into PQRS.
- *HealthInsight* New Mexico is encouraging New Mexicans to pledge their support for Million Hearts™; so far, we have secured 175 pledges.

*Source: Provider-level data submitted voluntarily by organizations participating in quality improvement projects August 2011-July 2014 and compiled and analyzed by HealthInsight New Mexico staff.*



### The Situation

- The national Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act promotes the adoption and meaningful use of electronic health records (EHRs). The goal of this act is to support 100,000 primary care providers in implementing and efficiently using EHR systems.
- So far, almost 150,000 providers have adopted such systems.

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