

Grand View Health forms partnership

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Grand View Health and several local primary care offices have formed an integrated delivery network known as Grand View Healthcare Partnership, focused on delivering coordinated, high quality care at lower costs.

In an integrated delivery network, doctors, hospitals and other health care providers work together with the goal of ensuring that patients — especially those with chronic conditions — get the right care at the right time, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of services.

Grand View Healthcare Partnership includes more than 50 primary care physicians, mid-level practitioners and a host of specialists from the health system and its own Grand View Medical Practices, as well as Perkasie-based TriValley Primary Care, Dr. Kim Kuhar's internal medicine practice in Silverdale, County Line Medical Associates in Hilltown, Harleysville Medical Associates in Lower Salford, and Dr. Steven Sklar's family medicine practice in Hatfield Township.

Beginning this year, the partners are participating alongside more than 2,900 primary care practices nationwide in Comprehensive Primary Care Plus, a five-year alternative payment model developed by

the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and its Innovation Center.

The public-private partnership brings together payers from CMS, state Medicaid agencies, commercial health plans, self-insured businesses and primary care practices, and “seeks to improve the quality of care patients receive, improve patients’ health, and spend health care dollars more wisely,” according to CMS. The participating practices will receive care management fees and enhanced payments from the payer partners and will transform care for all of their patients, regardless of their insurance.

“A robust primary care system is essential to achieve

better care, smarter spending, and healthier people,” Acting CMS Administrator Patrick Conway said in a news release. “For this reason, CMS is committed to supporting primary care clinicians to deliver the best, most comprehensive primary care possible for their patients.”

As a result of the partnership, patients may notice that doctors have longer and more flexible hours, use electronic health records, coordinate care with other doctors and patient caregivers, and work more closely with patients — especially those with multiple chronic conditions and complex needs.

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(File) As a result of a new partnership, patients may notice that doctors have longer and more flexible hours.