

Updates and Next Steps for the Equity and Practice Transformation (EPT) Payments Program

July 29, 2024

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. A message from DHCS
3. EPT program changes
4. Opportunities for MCPs to support EPT practices
5. Next Steps

Revised EPT Structure

What is the same?

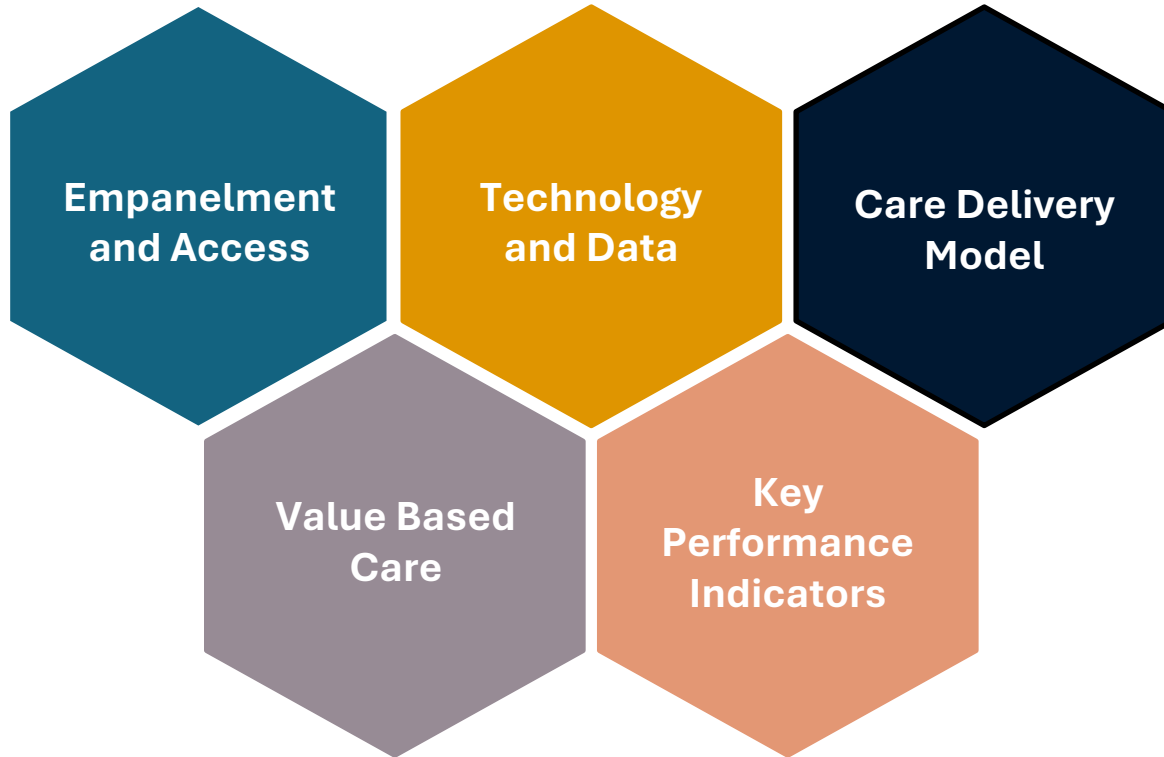
- EPT will support practices to build their PHM capabilities, resulting in improved outcomes and reduced disparities.
- The TA structure includes similar components.
- The deliverable submission schedule is the same.
- The payment schedule is the same for milestones in 2025 and 2026.

What has changed?

- EPT is a 3-year program (1/2024 – 12/2026).
- There are 25 required milestones for all practices. Focus has narrowed.
- Payments for all practices reduced.
- PhmCAT 1 payment is delayed.
- Practices will have the option of opting out of EPT by August 9th.

Population Health Management (PHM)

Building Blocks in EPT Program



PHM Building Blocks

Building Block	Focus
Empanelment & Access	Assign patients to defined clinician/team panels, learn strategies that improve provider continuity, access to care, and appointment availability.
Data to Enable PHM	Assess & improve capabilities to support patient care, close care gaps, and reduce disparities.
Care Delivery Model	Improve care team functioning to perform core PHM activities for the Population of Focus. Includes outreach & engagement, care gap closure, addressing disparities, and screening and linkage to care for Behavioral Health and Social Health.
Value Based Payment (VBP)	Assess readiness to engage in VBP contracting
Key Performance Indicators	Demonstrating improvement or meeting targets on HEDIS or administrative measures.

Revised EPT Milestones

PhmCAT

3 Milestones

- Y1 – 2024
- Y2 – 2025
- Y3 – 2026

Empanelment & Access

2 Milestones

- Assessment
- Policy & procedure

Data to Enable PHM

3 Milestones

- Assessment
- Plan
- Progress report

Care Delivery Model

7 Milestones

- Disparity reduction plan
- Clinical guidelines
- Care team
- Outreach & engagement
- Pre-visit planning
- BH screening & linkage
- SH screening & linkage

Value-Based Payment

1 Milestone

- Assessment

Key Performance Indicators

9 Milestones

- HEDIS-like and process measures required at each deliverable submission

Draft KPI Milestones (1)

Subject to finalization by August 2nd

5 Milestones Tied to HEDIS-like Measures*

- Stratify HEDIS measures by race/ethnic and one additional criteria (1 milestone)
- Demonstrate improvement or reach target** in 3 HEDIS measures (3 milestones total, each HEDIS measure = 1 milestone)
- Demonstrate improvement in one disparity in the reported HEDIS measures (1 milestone)

*Practices are only required to report HEDIS measures for their selected population of focus

**Achievement must be sustained through 2 consecutive submissions

Population	HEDIS Measures
Pregnant People	Postpartum care (PPC) Timeliness of prenatal care (PPC) Postpartum depression screening (PDS-E)
Children/Youth	Child immunization status (CIS) Well child visits first 30 months (W30) Depression screening (DSF)
Adult Preventive	Breast cancer screening (BCS) Cervical cancer screening (CCS) Colorectal cancer screening (COL) Depression screening (DSF)
Adult Chronic Care	Controlling high blood pressure (CBP) Glycemic status assessment (GSB) Depression screening (DSF)
Behavioral Health	Depression screening (DSF) Depression remission or response (DRR) Follow-up after ED for MH – 30 days (FUM)

Draft KPI Milestones (2)

Subject to finalization by August 2nd

- There are 4 milestones tied to process measure reporting.

Empanelment Achievement

Achieve target* for the percent of attributed patients who are assigned to a care team at the practice

Continuity Achievement

Achieve target* for the percent of attributed patient visits with their assigned care team

TNAA Achievement

Achieve target* for average number of days to third next available routine appointment

Assigned & Seen Improvement

Achieve improvement* in gap closure of percent of assigned patients who had at least one primary care visit within a 12-month period

*Achievement must be sustained through 2 consecutive submissions

Revised Activities & Milestones

- PHLC will provide deliverable templates to allow practices to submit evidence of completing milestones. Deliverable templates will be available **August 9th**.
- Bi-annual deliverable submission is the same – May 1st and November 1st.
- The next deliverable submission is **November 1st**.
 - Payment and deliverable cycle is on the next slide.
- Each year, practices will be required to engage in technical assistance, submit KPIs, and demonstrate progress in completing milestones to remain in the program and be eligible for continued payments.

Deliverable & Payment Cycle

Payment Cycle	Practice Submits Deliverable(s) & Key Performance Indicators	Learning Center Completes Review	DHCS Operationalizes Payments	MCPs Receive Payments	Estimated MCP Payments to Practices
Fall	May 1	May 31	June - August	September	October
Spring	November 1	November 30	December – February*	March*	April*

* Of the following year

EPT TA Structure

EPT TA Components

EPT TA has five components that will train and support implementation of PHM best practices.

Participation will enable practices to meet EPT milestones and receive payment.



EPT TA: Learning Communities

Learning Communities

LCs include interactive sessions with experts who will train practices on how to implement PHM best practices to meet milestones.

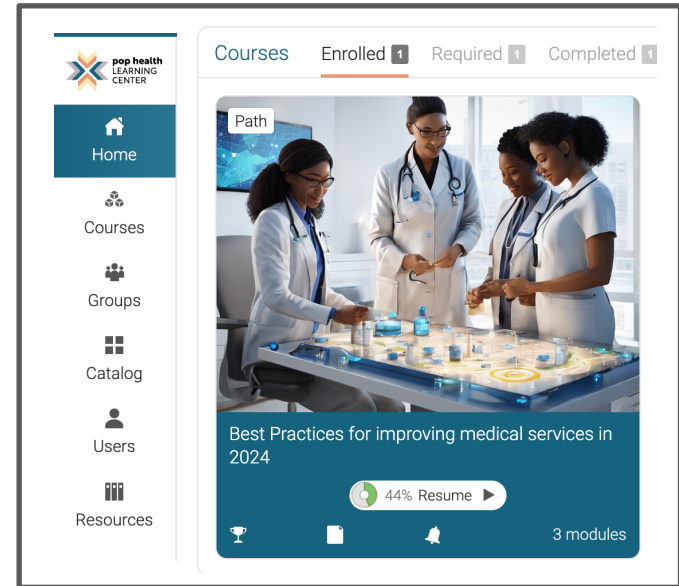
Practices will be organized into three LCs, based on geography.

The first LC will focus on Empanelment and Access. Practices will be invited to one of three sessions on 10/21 from 12-4pm, 10/28 from 12-4pm, or 10/30 from 9-12pm.

LCs will occur virtually for four hours. In 2025-2026, LCs will meet three times per year during October, February, and June.

EPT TA: eLearning Hub

- The eLearning Hub launches **September 9!**
- Once launched, the Hub will include three modules (empanelment, access, data/IT); it will also include training for the November 1 deliverables submission.
- Once the Hub is launched, everyone with a user account will receive an email with a link to log-in.
- A user training will be available in September to help you navigate the Hub and get started on your EPT learning journey.



EPT TA: Practice Tracks & Expert Consultation

Practice Tracks

Practice Tracks provide a small group setting for practices to share about their PHM implementation progress and learn from similar practices.

Practice Track meetings will be hosted virtually and every other month, starting in September.

Expert Consultation

Experts will host office hours to answer questions on content recently presented at the Learning Communities and to prepare practices for deliverable submission.

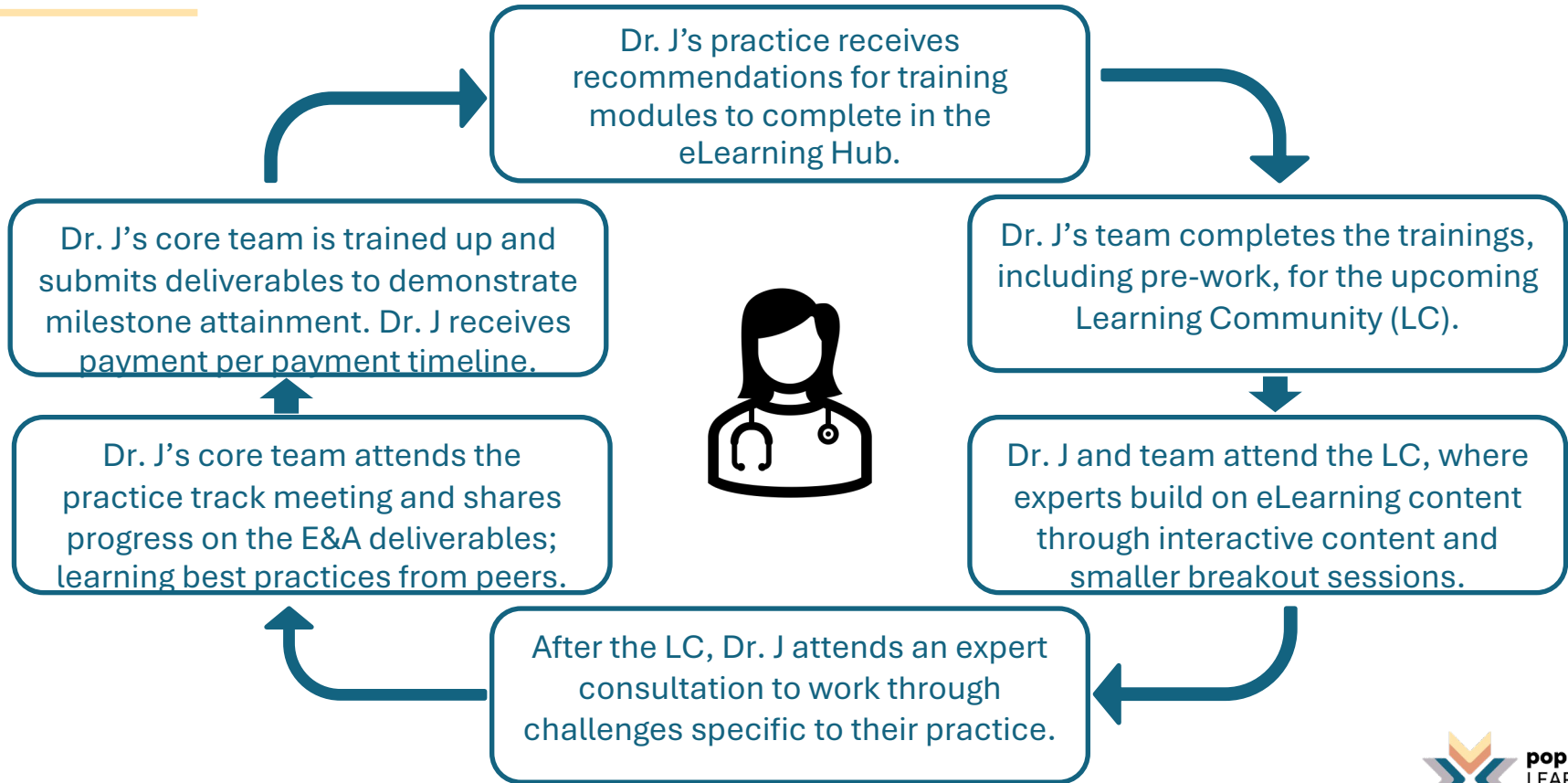
Expert consultations will be hosted virtually and every other month, starting in October.

EPT TA: Optional Practice Coaching

- Coaching provides one on one support to practices to:
 - Assist EPT practices in translating the curriculum and tools into workflows and best practices that improve PHM capabilities and align with practice culture.
 - Test, implement, and measure the impact of changes on meeting milestones and achieving KPIs (HEDIS measures).
 - Support with EPT deliverable submission.
- Practices may select their coach from a vetted pool and desired time commitment.
- **DHCS EPT funding does not cover coaching.**
 - Please let your sponsored EPT practices know if you can fund coaching.
 - Practices may also purchase coaching packages.

Interested in learning more? Contact Rachel Isaacson, Sr. Program Manager, at risaacson@pophealthlc.org.

TA Journey: Empanelment & Access



Content Roll Out

Access, Empanelment,
Data to Enable PHM, and
Key Performance
Indicators

Est. Submitting 3 Deliverables

2024

2025

2026

Continue content from
2025. Provide additional
support to practices as
needed.

Est. Submitting 13 Deliverables

Continue content from
2024. Begin Health
Equity, Models of Care,
and Value Based
Payment

Est. Submitting 9 Deliverables

EPT Practice Expectations

- ✓ Define a core team to engage in the technical assistance offerings. Suggested roles include a clinical champion, front line staff member, operations or quality lead.
- ✓ Engage in required TA. This includes participation on the eLearning Hub and attendance at Learning Communities and Practice Tracks.
- ✓ Complete content modules and deliverables on time.

Opportunities for MCPs to Support Practices

Recommendations for how MCPs Can Support EPT Practices

- DHCS and the Learning Center are **encouraging*** MCPs to support EPT practices in three ways. Please let your sponsored practices know if you can provide support through any of these **optional** ways.

1. **Fund** coaching for sponsored practices.

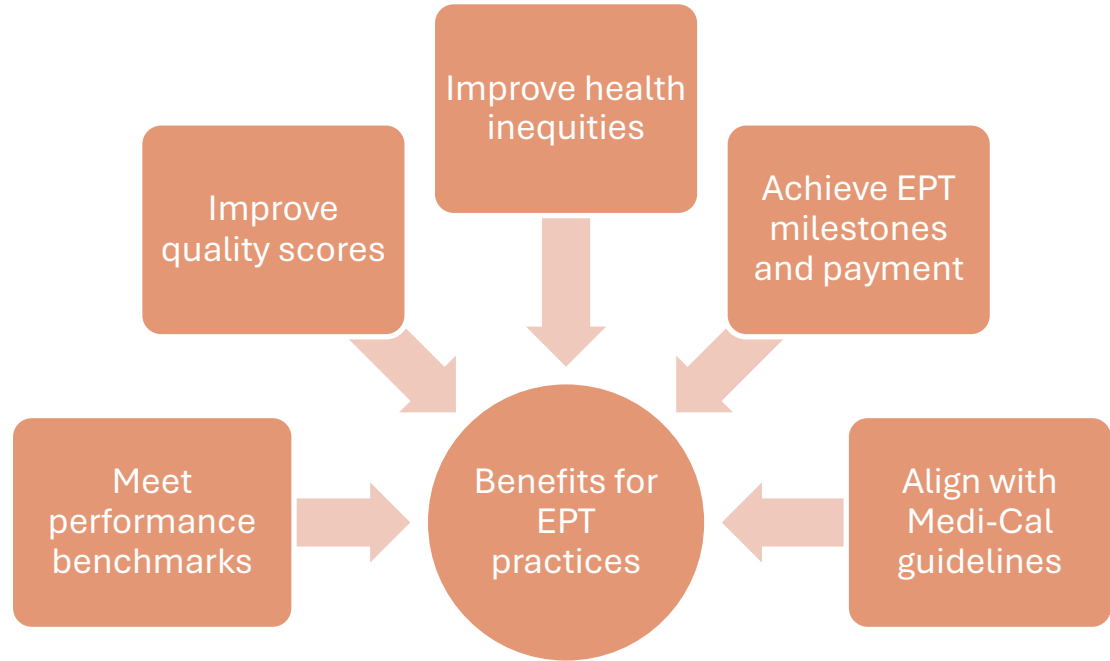
2. **Advance** the PhmCAT 1 payment to sponsored practices if possible. Otherwise, payment will be distributed in March 2025.

3. **Enhance** practice payments where possible as an investment in practices' ability to build PHM capabilities and improve quality.

*This support is recommended but not required. There is no funding from DHCS on the above optional supports.

Coaching Accelerates Practice Improvement

- Two systematic reviews found that practices who participated in coaching, as compared to practices who did not participate in coaching, had:
 - Greater improvements in the quality of care provided.¹
 - Increased uptake of evidence-based guidelines.²



1. Z. Nagykaldi, J. W. Mold, and C. B. Aspy, "Practice Facilitators: a Review of the Literature," *Family Medicine*, Sept. 2005 37(8):581–88.
2. N. B. Baskerville, C. Liddy, and W. Hogg, "Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Practice Facilitation Within Primary Care Practices," *Annals of Family Medicine*, Jan.–Feb. 2012 10(1):63–74.

Coaching Pool Specifics

	Coaching Focuses On...	Time Commitment	Cost
Low Touch	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connecting practices to resources.• Facilitating connections to peers and SMEs.• Providing input on deliverables.	Up to 5 hours	\$27,000
Medium Touch	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advising practices.• Facilitating meetings meetings with peers and SMEs.• Providing input on policies and workflows.• Training on QI tools to improve care.	Up to 10 hours	\$47,000
High Touch	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developing policies, procedures, workflows.• Using QI methods to perform analyses and develop project plans.• Providing project management support on deliverables & EPT activities.	Up to 15 hours	\$67,000

Understanding Support for EPT Practices

- Please reach out to your sponsored practices to understand what support they need! Our goal is to support practices to stay enrolled within EPT.
 - If the restructured program no longer meets practices' needs, they can opt-out by **August 9th**.
- **By August 5th**, please complete a survey indicating if you can support your sponsored EPT practices through funding coaching, advancing the PhmCAT 1 payment, or enhancing practice payments.
 - DHCS and the Learning Center will distribute a spreadsheet showing the original and revised potential practice payments.

Learning Center Service Enhancements

- The Learning Center has additional services available to spread and scale the EPT curriculum to practices who are not participating in EPT.
- There are 3 options available to help practices build PHM capabilities and improve quality metrics. These may include:
 - Access to an eLearning platform,
 - Participation in Learning Communities and/or small group Practice Tracks with the EPT cohort, and
 - General or tailored coaching.
- Practices can enroll starting as early as October.

- Please contact Rachel Isaacson at risaacson@pophealthlc.org for additional information.

Next Steps

Upcoming Dates

Activity	Date	Process
MCP support for sponsored practices	August 5	Please indicate how you can support your sponsored practices here . You can view revised practice payments online .
Opt-Out	August 9	Practice may opt-out if the revised program does not meet their needs
EPT TA Kick Off Webinar	August 12, 3-4pm August 22, 9-10am	Register online
Coach Services Overview Webinar	August 27, 12-1	Registration coming soon!

2024 TA Roadmap

August

- Ask your sponsoring MCP how can they support your EPT practice.
- EPT opt-out period.
- Kick Off Webinars for EPT TA and Coaching.
- Access deliverable templates.

October

- Attend the Learning Community focused on Access and Empanelment.
- Attend expert consultation.

September

- The eLearning Hub launches on Sept 9th.
- Watch modules on Access, Empanelment & Data.
- Receive resources in preparation for the November deliverables.
- First Practice Track meetings.

November

- Second Practice Track meeting.
- Deliverables are due on November 1st.
- The Learning Center will review deliverables by November 30th.

Appendix



Payment Structure & Cycle

- Due to the state budget reduction, there have been modifications to the potential practice payments.
 - All practices, regardless of size, may earn a potential payment of \$250,000.
 - Practices with 2,001+ lives may earn an additional \$20 per assigned life.
 - The maximum potential payment is set at \$3.19M.
 - All milestones are weighted equally.
- The state budget reduction process also impacted the PhmCAT 1 payment timeline.
 - Practices will receive the PhmCAT 1 payment in March 2025.

Max potential payment: \$3.19M

Additional Potential
Payment of
\$20 per Assigned Patient
for Practices with 2,001+
Assigned Patients

**Base Potential Payment
for All Practices:
\$250K**

Learning Center Service Enhancements

Service	Description	Package A Full EPT with optional coaching	Package B EPT-lite with optional coaching	Package C Coaching only
eLearning Hub	Access to asynchronous learning modules, tools, and resources.	Included	Included	
Learning Communities	Interactive sessions with experts to provide training on PHM best practices.	Included	Included	
Practice Tracks	Small group setting to facilitate peer learning on PHM implementation.	Included		
Incentive Payments	MCPs funded incentive payments for achieving EPT milestones.	Included		
General Coaching	Support to build PHM capabilities.	Optional	Optional	Included
Tailored Coaching	Targeted coaching to improve HEDIS scores or specific PHM components.	Optional	Optional	Included