



## the ACORN newsletter summer 2020 edition

### what's going on

#### **Redesigning Primary Care to Address the COVID-19 Pandemic in the Midst of the Pandemic**

In this edition of *Annals of Family Medicine*, Drs. Alex Krist and Jen DeVoe explore the impact of primary care on the COVID-19 pandemic and highlight the necessity of primary care as the first line of defense. In Virginia, and across the United States, primary care rapidly transformed itself to meet the needs of patients, staff, and clinicians. The actions that primary care took to meet the demands are outlined [here](#). The paper advocates for policy reform and payment to support primary care.

#### **practice spotlight**

an overview from Dr. Lerla Joseph

##### **Central Virginia Coalition of Healthcare Providers, LLC**

CVCHIP, LLC was awarded its first contract as an ACO with the Medicare Shared Savings Program on Jan 1, 2016. The group is a coalition of mostly independent primary care, specialists, a pharmacy, and a home health company. The group cares for patients in central VA, the Tidewater, and northeast NC. Their goal is to achieve the Triple Aim of the MSSP and ensure sustainability of independent medical practices.

CVCHIP has been successful for 3 consecutive years; only 30% of those participating in the ACO meet MSSP goals and CVCHIP was able to achieve these goals. CVCHIP decided to join Emergent ACO (TN based) to pursue further success.

*Sustaining* independent practice is paramount; CVCHIP's leadership began looking for resources to assist during COVID-19. Surveys were distributed assessing PPE, telehealth, and impact. CVCHIP has invited content matter experts to provide clinicians with up to date healthcare changes. Most recently, Congressman Bobby Scott, addressed members about the Payroll Protection Program and Dr. Rebecca Etz, shared the path forward for primary care.

#### **get involved**

Consider joining ACORN in ongoing practice improvement. You can sign up right now for two studies we have going on: Unhealthy Alcohol Use & Enhanced Care Planning – respond to this email to learn more. For future work, follow the QR code and take the survey to let us know what kind of research interests you!



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