

Unleashing Cost & Utilization

Insights to Maximize VBC Opportunities



Today's Presenters



Heather Simpson
Director of Value Based
Programs
Ohio Association of
Community Health Centers



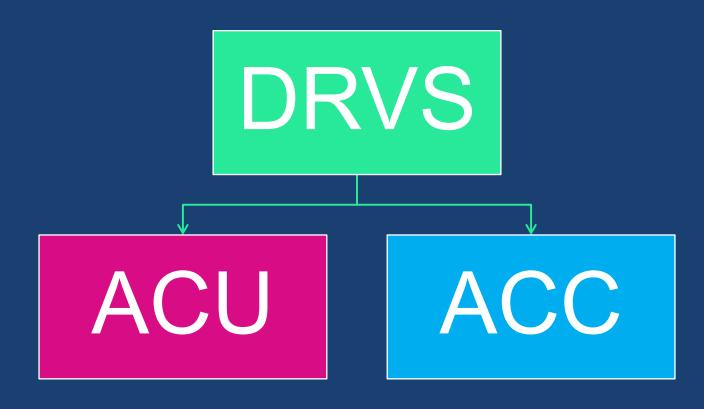
Sara Weede Product Manager Azara Healthcare

Introduction to Azara Cost & Utilization (ACU)



Powered with DRVS Plan Data

Azara Cost & Utilization (ACU) leverages payer data from DRVS to facilitate management of value-based care arrangements through analytics and visualizations.



Value of ACU



Improve success in value-based care contracts



Understand medical and Rx costs across the provider network



Track utilization for primary care episodes outside of the members assigned practice



Monitor avoidable inpatient and emergency department (ED) utilization



Promote to ACC for triage and evaluation by Care Management resources







VALUE BASED CARE IN OHIO

OHIO ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

VBC IN OHIO





PCA VBC Support:
Ohio Comprehensive
Primary Care

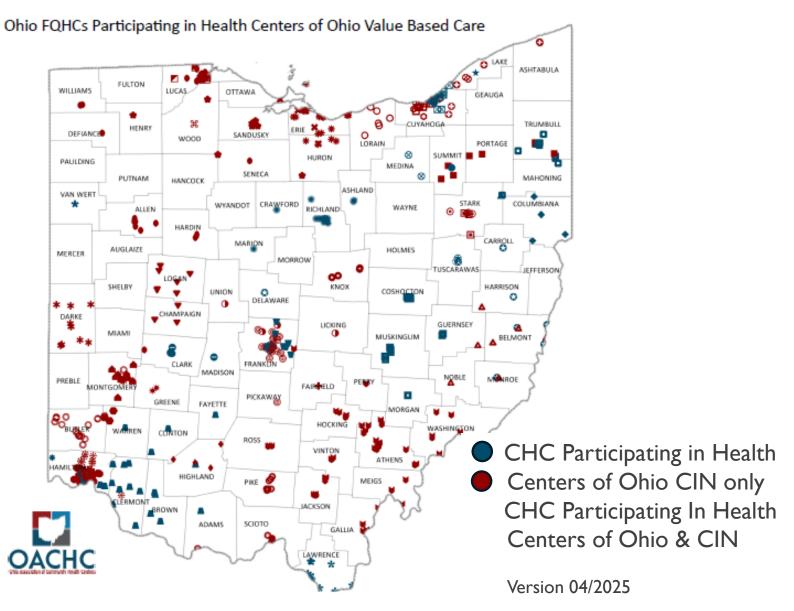
Comprehensive Maternal Care



Current: Primarily Medicaid Focus with 4 active Medicaid Contracts

Future Additions: Medicare Advantage/Commercial

Medicare Shared Savings Program Advanced Investment Payment Model



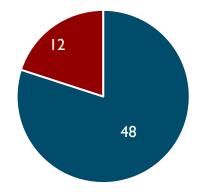
VALUE BASED CARE IN OHIO

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2025 USE OF AZARA FOR VALUE BASED CARE

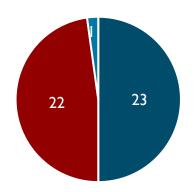
Network Use of Azara DRVS

Azara DRVS UsersNot Participating



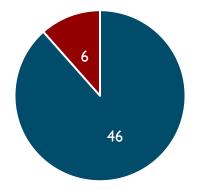
Azara DRVS Data Sharing Payer I

- Data Sharing Only
- Azara Payer Integration and Data Sharing
- Eligible, but not Sharing Data



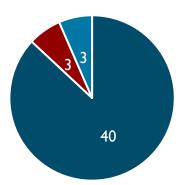
CIN Use of Azara DRVS

- CIN Azara DRVS Users
- CIN Participants not using Azara DRVS



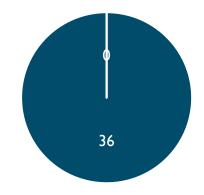
Azara DRVS Data Sharing Payer 2

- Data Sharing Only
- Azara Payer Integration and Data Sharing
- Eligible, but not Sharing Data



ACO Use of Azara DRVS

- ACO Azara DRVS Users
- ACO Participants not using Azara DRVS



ACO Use of Azara DRVS

- Azara Payer Integration and Azara Cost and Utilization
- Eligible, but not Sharing Data



KEYS TO SUCCESS IN MEDICARE SHARED SAVINGS PROGRAM (MSSP)

KEYS TO SUCCESS IN THE MEDICARE SHARED SAVINGS PROGRAM WHERE DOES YOUR HEALTH CENTER NEED SUPPORT AND EDUCATION?













Data Infrastructure:

Utilize ODIP (Ohio Data Integration Platform) powered by Azara DRVS and Azara Cost and Utilization to analyze, identify trends and opportunities for cost reduction and quality improvement.

Annual Wellness Visits:

Conduct Medicare
"Annual Wellness
Visits"—a
comprehensive visit
paid for each Medicare
beneficiary once a
year—to maximize
attribution.

HCC Capture and Recapture:

Implement a coding specificity improvement program, to appropriately link ICD-10 codes to HCC groups which drive the target baseline cost.

Focused Quality Improvement:

Develop standards around key ACO quality measures to ensure that savings created are paid to the ACO.

Care Management:

Conduct care management activities for high and rising risk patients to support self-management, improve health outcomes and impact cost.

Transitions of Care:

Implement a
structured follow-up
program for patients
post discharge from a
hospitalization or
emergency
department visit
improving health care
quality and patient
experience and
reducing hospital
readmissions and cost.

CHOOSING OUR PARTNER AND PLATFORM



Network accessibility

One Platform, One login

Streamlines Health Center workflow

Reporting capabilities

Why use Azara Cost and Utilization?

CMS File Structure

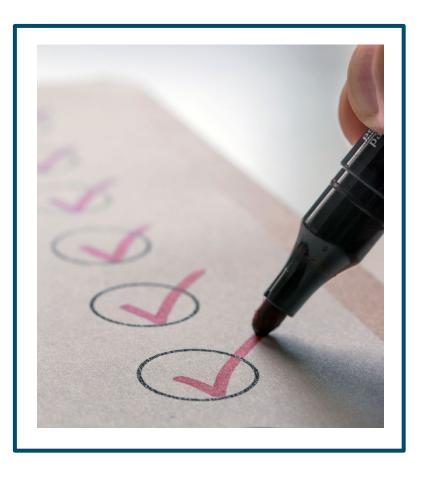
Attention to cost and utilization to impact total cost of care

Data Visualization

Simplification of data Management/ Standardization

Strategy to Improve VBC Success

VALUE BASED CARE PRACTICE ASSESSMENT TOOL



VBC Practice Assessment Tool

- VBC Practice Assessment Tool implemented with Health Centers Ouarter I 2025
- A Value-Based Care Practice Assessment Tool is designed to help healthcare organizations evaluate how effectively they are implementing value-based care principles in their practices. This tool helps assess various aspects of care delivery to ensure it aligns with the core goals of value-based care: improving patient outcomes, reducing costs, and enhancing the patient experience.
- The goal of the Practice Assessment Tool is to provide a comprehensive overview of the organization's readiness and effectiveness in value-based care.
- The results should highlight: strengths that can be leveraged for success in VBC, areas for improvement where resources and strategic initiatives are needed and prioritization of improvement opportunities based on their potential impact on patient outcomes, cost efficiency, and overall care delivery.

VALUE BASED CARE PRACTICE ASSESSMENT TOOL

3 Assessment Categories

Value-Based Care Framework & Strategy

Care Delivery

Population Health & Data Analysis

Objective	Definition
Comparing	A structured process to track progress on value-based care goals, including total cost of care and quality improvement, with
	ongoing comparison of expected vs. actual performance in both outcomes and revenue
	Identify and engage high utilizers, high-risk members, and high-cost individuals to implement targeted interventions, improve
Transitions of Care	care coordination, and reduce unnecessary healthcare utilization Establish a transitions of care process to manage individuals being discharged from the hospital or other healthcare institutions, ensuring seamless coordination, follow-up care, and addressing any gaps in treatment to prevent readmissions and
Unnecessary ED Visits	promote continuity of care. Follow up on preventable ED visits by contacting members who have used the emergency room for non-urgent care, addressing underlying health issues, enhancing care coordination, and implementing strategies to reduce future unnecessary ED visits
Tracking and	Regularly track and report on performance indicators relevant to contracts, using a performance dashboard to capture key benchmarks and variances at both the care team and overall practice level.
Cost Analysis and Management	Analyze total cost of care per member, prescription drug costs, and high-cost members through data analysis to identify cost drivers, optimize formulary management, and implement targeted interventions to improve care efficiency, reduce unnecessary expenditures, and better manage high-cost care

VALUE BASED CARE PRACTICE ASSESSMENT TOOL | RESULTS



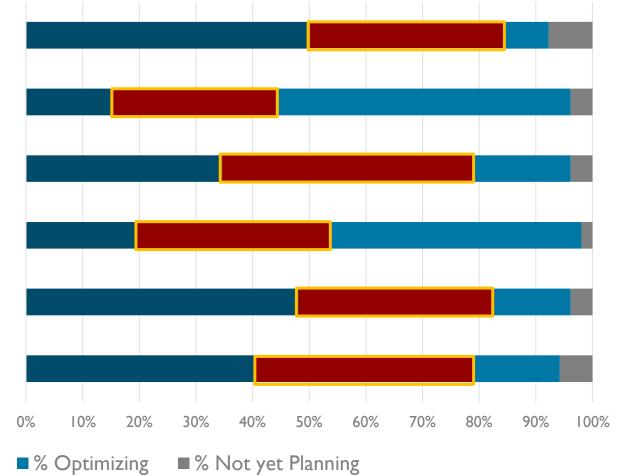
Performance Tracking and Reporting

Preventing Unnecessary ED Visits

Transitions of Care

Engagement of High Utilizers & High-Cost Members

Tracking & Comparing Performance & Financial Outcomes



■ % Planning ■ % Implementing

NETWORK USE OF AZARA COST & UTILIZATION (ACU)

NETWORK USE OF AZARA COST AND UTILIZATION (ACU)

October 2024

Pilot Launches

December 2024

Pilot ends, Lessons learned

February

2025

Start Monthly focus topics













November 2024

Pilot Centers have I on I Azara Support

January 2025

Launch ACU to All MSSP Health Center and Train Health Centers

March

2025

Health
Centers new to
MSSP in 2025:
Data Access
available

AZARA COST AND UTILIZATION: MONTHLY TOTAL COST OF CARE FOCUS

Health Center's and Network have Access to Data

- Networking Call: Review of Monthly Total Cost of Care Focus
- Individual Health Center Meetings: Focus on Health Center Specific Data, Challenges, Workflows, and Successes

Monthly Total Cost of Care Topic:

- Strategy:
 - All Value Based Care Contracts have a monthly focus on Total Cost of Care.
 - For MSSP, all data comes from Azara Cost and Utilization
- Why:
 - Keep Health Center's engaged in Total Cost of Care
 - Break workload down into smaller more concrete actions
 - Monthly list of patients to research and outreach
- Intended Outcome:
 - Monthly impacts on Total Cost of Care to slowly decrease cost

MONTHLY TOTAL COST OF CARE FOCUS NETWORK AND HEALTH CENTER LEVEL

January
Demo and Training on
ACU

February
Executive Dashboard
overview & Showing
Target settings

March
Top Cost Members

April
Resource Utilization
Bands (RUBs)/
Hospital Readmission

May
HCC Capture and
Recapture

June Emergency Dashboard

July Inpatient Dashboard August
Member Review
Dashboard

September RX Dashboard

October
Network and Primary
Care Leakage

November
Top Cost Members

December

Best Practice Wrap

up from the Year

MONTHLY TOTAL COST OF CARE FOCUS EXAMPLE: READMISSION DASHBOARD

This dashboard provides an overview of utilization trends for inpatient readmissions as well as the opportunity to identify patterns for potentially preventable or avoidable admits as defined by Hopkins ACG.

The following visit classifications are categorized as 'Avoidable':

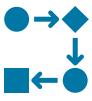
- Non-emergent: presenting symptoms or medical conditions indicate that immediate care was not required
- Emergent, Primary Care Treatable: immediate care was required, but the condition did not require resources that are primarily available in the ED. The same treatment could have been provided effectively and safely in a primary care setting
- Emergent, ED Needed Preventable/Avoidable: emergency treatment and ED resources were required, but the condition could have been prevented or avoided with adequate care in an ambulatory setting

MONTHLY TOTAL COST OF CARE FOCUS EXAMPLE: HOSPITAL READMISSIONS



Goal:

Reduce Avoidable Readmissions



ACU Workflow:

Inpatient Readmission Dashboard

→ Review Avoidable IP Admits

Measure → Analyze by
groupings/filters → Review patient
details and add in "avoidable" Visit
Classification → Analyze members
in Member Profile

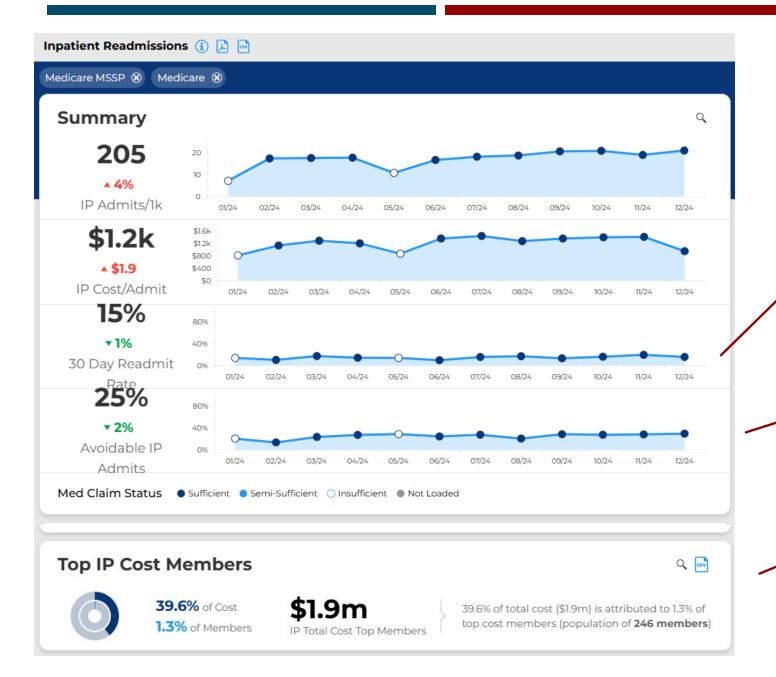


Impact:

What can you provide at your health center?

Develop TOC process, Leverage telehealth etc.

READMISSIONS DASHBOARD



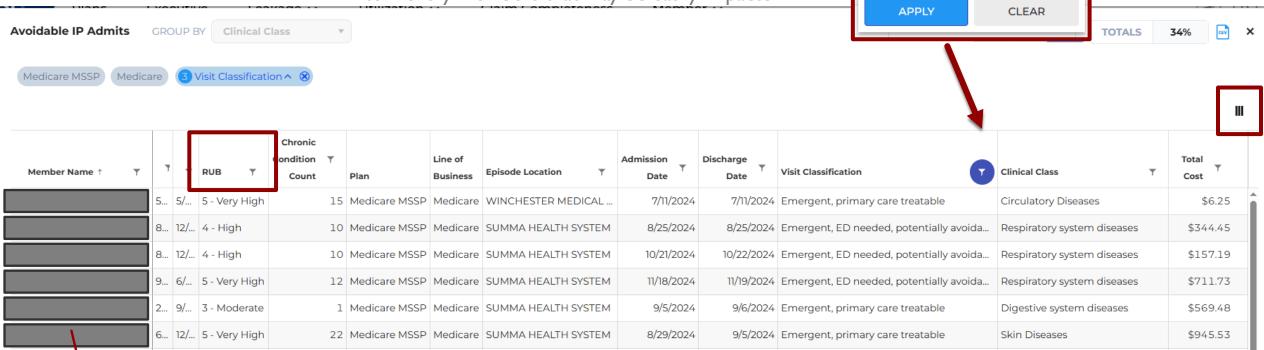
Use to track efficiency of Transitions of Care (TOC) efforts

Identify members with avoidable admits

Identify members that are driving the cost

READMISSIONS DASHBOARD - AVOIDABLE IP ADMITS

- Add Visit Classification Filter
- 2. Filter by avoidable classifications
 - Emergent, Primary Care Treatable
 - Non-emergent
 - Emergent, ED Needed, Potentially Avoidable
- 3. Filter by a low Resource Utilization Bands (RUB) to identify members that may be easily impacted



Visit Classification filter

✓ Non-emergent

☐ Injury, severe

Search items...

Emergent, ED needed, potentially
 Emergent, primary care treatable

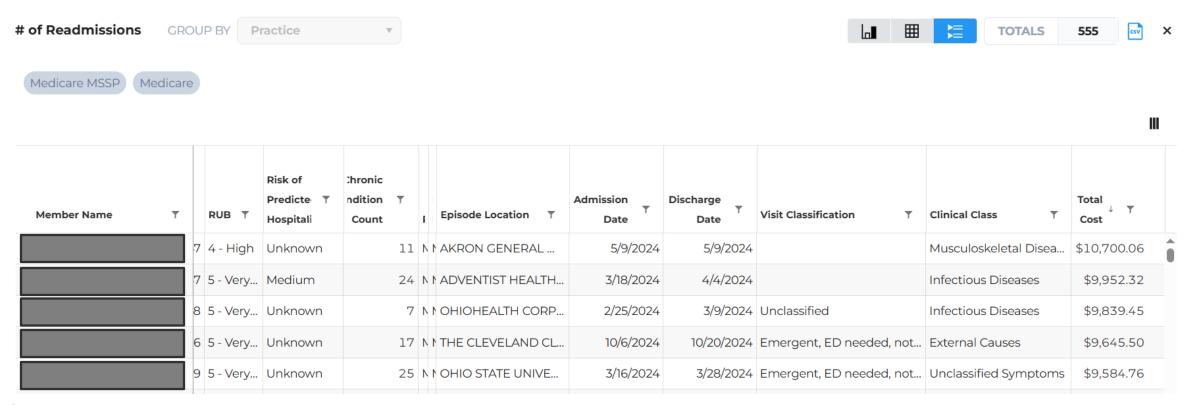
Emergent, ED needed, not poten

3/6

Filter by Items:

Click on patient name to view Member Profile

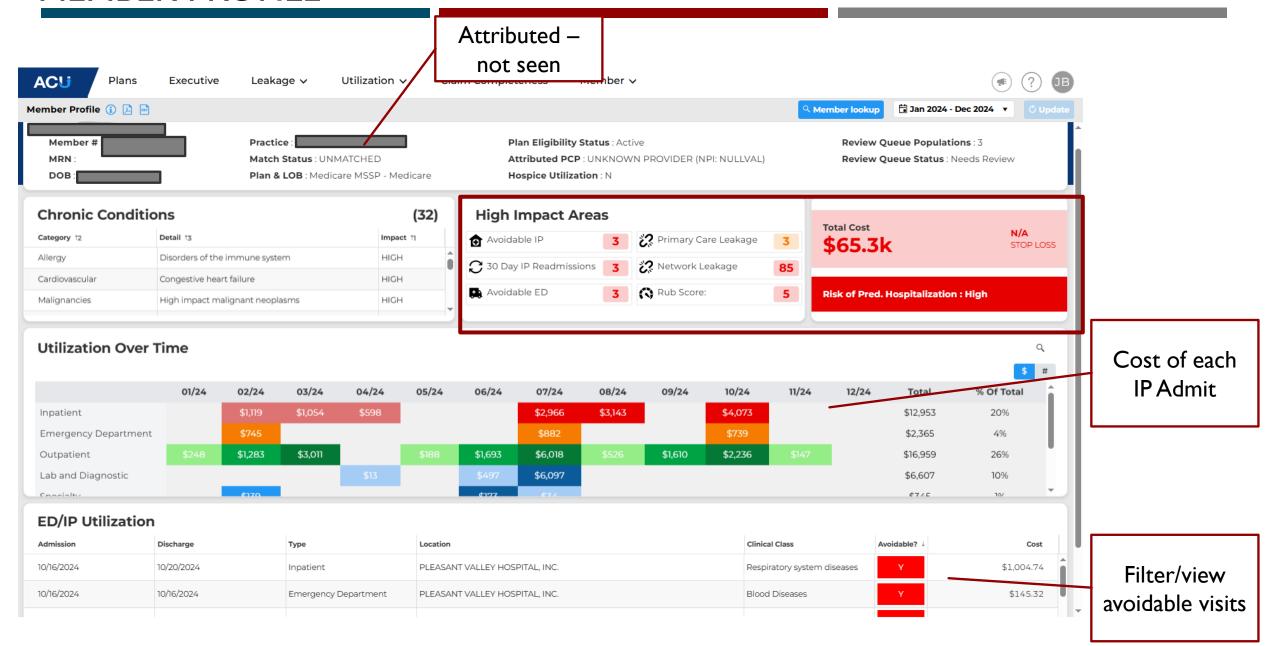
READMISSIONS DASHBOARD



Analyze members by

- Frequent flyers
- Risk of Predicted Hospital Readmission
 - Likelihood of an inpatient hospitalization within the next 12 months, categorized as High, Medium, Low, or Unknown.
 - This risk assessment is based on the Hopkins ACG model.
- Visit Classifications avoidable
- Low RUBS

MEMBER PROFILE



EXPECTATIONS FOR USE





Review Data Trends

Review Utilization Focus of the Month

Address Member level data



Addressing Non-Utilization

Monthly tracking of Utilization

Outreach to Individual Health Center to troubleshoot issues and challenges

Network overview discussion of expectations

Network discussion of success and challenges

ADDRESSING INPATIENT READMISSIONS: WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Proactive Risk Identification:

e

• Identify high-cost patients early

Identify Patterns in Avoidable Readmissions

Provide targeted interventions for frequent fliers

• Identify avenues where preventative care/early intervention could support

Establish a TOC Workflow

 Leverage TOC Integration in DRVS or CliniSync Notify to proactively follow up

Care Coordination:

• Assign care managers, improve specialist referrals, and integrate behavioral health

Chronic Disease Management:

• Implement evidence-based protocols, remote monitoring, and personalized care plans

Preventive & Urgent Care Access:

• Expand same-day visits, telehealth, and urgent care to reduce ED visits

Medication Management:

Conduct medication reconciliation, deprescribing, and pharmacist-led interventions

Social Drivers Support:

• Address food insecurity, housing instability, and transportation barriers

Patient Engagement & Education:

Offer health coaching, self-management tools, and motivational interviewing

EARLY SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

Successes

- Senior Leadership Tracking
- Member Linkage to Case/Care Management for support and monitoring
- Leverage data with Local Hospital to show high inpatient admits than Regional Hospitals
- Data used to drive conversations to support community change
- Brought attention to identified focused diagnoses
- Easily Identifies where Health Center can take action
- Data are used to direct attention and identify areas where care management can focus, with the goals of improving patient outcomes and reducing costs
- Pulling data for monthly review with Chief Medical Officer (CMO) and Quality Improvement (QI) teams to identify opportunities for impacting high-cost users

Challenges

- Time
- Staffing
- Limited ability to impact external cost
- Timing of Pilot and launch to all centers

STRATEGY AND NEXT STEPS



Potential to Expand to CIN Payer Data

Will drive increased use of Azara cost and Utilization thus more focus on Total Cost of Care

One stop shop for all VBC contracts to address cost and utilization thus more attention to all contracts



Approach Payers to Cover Cost

Payer cost for both Azara Cost and Utilization and Azara Payer Integration

Show payer return on investment of decreased total cost of care



Ohio Data Integration
Platform (ODIP) Practice
Assessment Tool (PAT)

ODIP PAT includes ACU with the goal to assess usage and provide tailored T/TA for each health center



Collaboration with the OACHC HCCN

Next Wave of HCCN, expected to start this summer, has a VBC focus T/TA focus on ACU and VBC

NETWORK EXPANSION STRATEGY IN FUTURE YEARS

STRATEGY FOR WORKING WITH PLANS



Health Center Strategy

Encourage Data Sharing for all eligible plans
Encourage Payer Integration for Plans with Large
Membership

Require Cost and Utilization Platform and Payer Integration for ACO Participation, funded by ACO

Troubleshoot Data Validation Issues with Health Center
Optimization of ODIP



Plan Strategy

Only establish Network Connection to ODIP with VBC Agreement

Troubleshoot Data Validation Issues with Plan

Propose Plans Help cover costs of Payer Integration and Cost and Utilization

Promote Success of Payer Integration and show impact on Plan Data

QUESTIONS?



Heather Simpson MSW, PCMH-CCE

Director of Value Based Programs

Ohio Association of Community
Health Centers

hsimpson@ohiochc.org

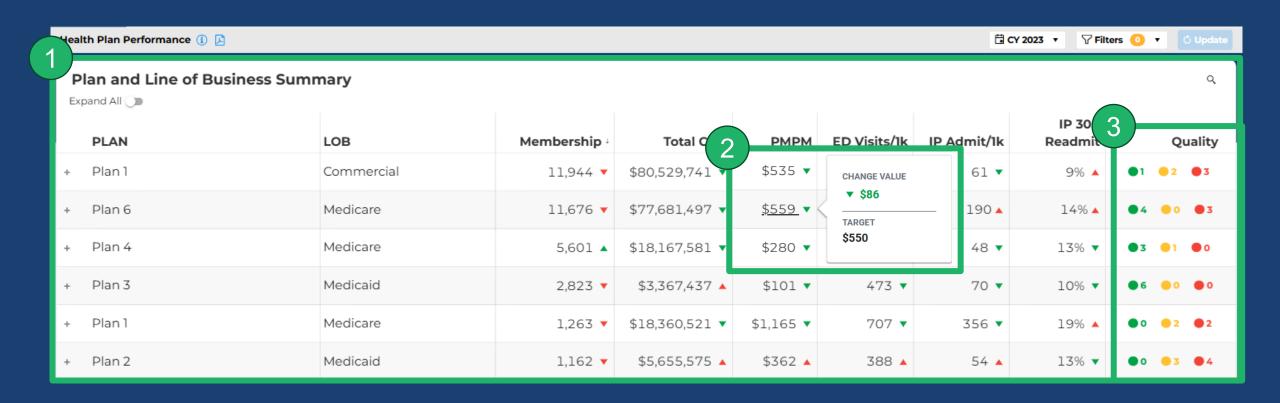


Azara Cost & Utilization (ACU) Dashboards



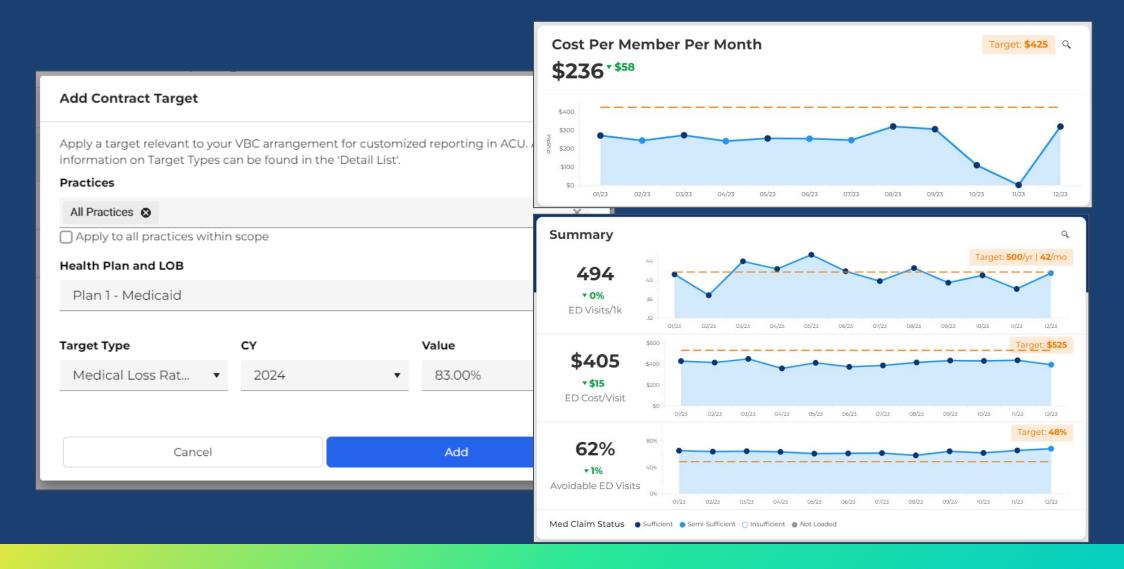
Plan Performance Dashboard

Track performance across arrangements and identify contract opportunities.



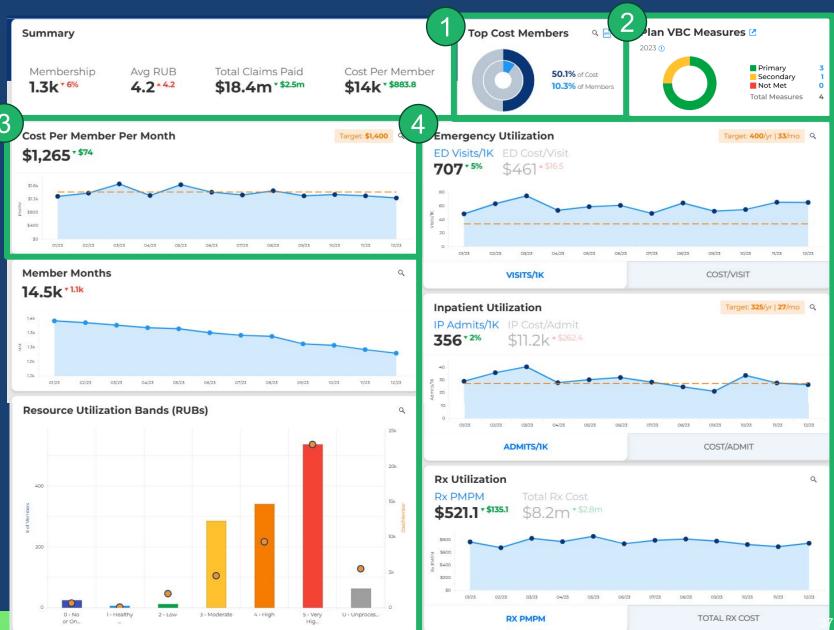
Contract Administration

Track and monitor measure performance against VBC goals.



Executive Dashboard

Analyze overall contract performance.



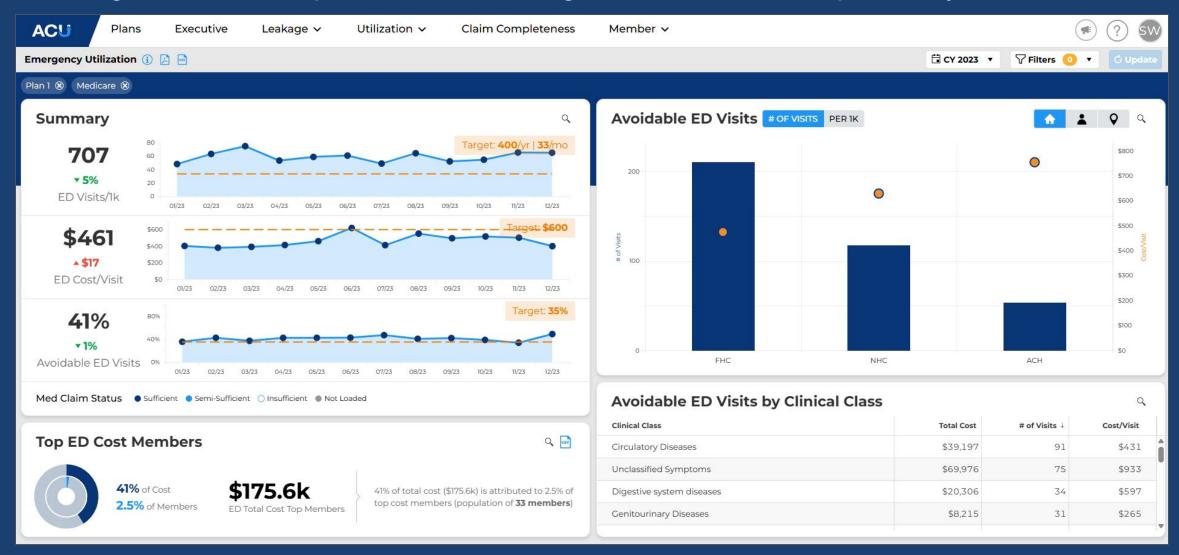
Emergency Utilization

Identify patterns in avoidable ED visits.



Drill Down Modal

Investigate measure performance using the Azara default path or your own.



Rx Utilization

Manage Rx costs and identify more efficient prescribing patterns.

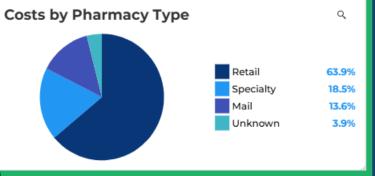


Costs by Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) Classification





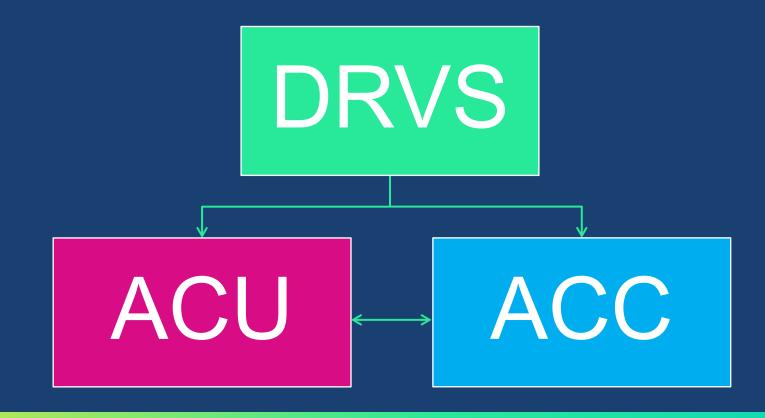
costs by Anatonneal Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) classification				
ATC Classification	Total Cost ↓	% of Generic Dispenses by Total Cost	# of Members	Cost/Member
ALIMENTARY TRACT AND METABOLISM	\$1,839,369.04	3.49%	906	\$2,030.21
ANTINEOPLASTIC AND IMMUNOMODULATING AGENTS	\$1,464,227.94	22.92%	112	\$13,073.46
BLOOD AND BLOOD FORMING ORGANS	\$612,959.25	0.99%	278	\$2,204.89
RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	\$471,676.60	11.53%	492	\$958.69
NERVOUS SYSTEM	\$446,737.22	21.54%	739	\$604.52
ANTIINFECTIVES FOR SYSTEMIC USE	\$384,039.45	12.1%	639	\$601.0
CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM	\$365,160.79	27.76%	1,157	\$315.61
OTHER	\$363,889.13	3.65%	1,737	\$209.49
DERMATOLOGICALS	\$107,616.34	1.86%	89	\$1,209.17
GENITO URINARY SYSTEM AND SEX HORMONES	\$81,225.78	16.99%	270	\$300.84
SYSTEMIC HORMONAL PREPARATIONS, EXCL. SEX HORMON	\$55,530.01	18.68%	232	\$239.35
SENSORY ORGANS	\$46,262.12	14.87%	264	\$175.24
ALICOLUS CUELETAL CASTELA	410.000.7		707	457.00



Costs by Fill Location			
Location Name	Total Cost +	# of Members	Cost/Member
Health Meds	\$741,089.09	226	\$3,279
Smith Specialty Pharmacy	\$249,416.91	5	\$49,883
Ortiz Pharmacy	\$247,100.03	17	\$14,535
Rx Specialty	\$223,427.46	7	\$31,918

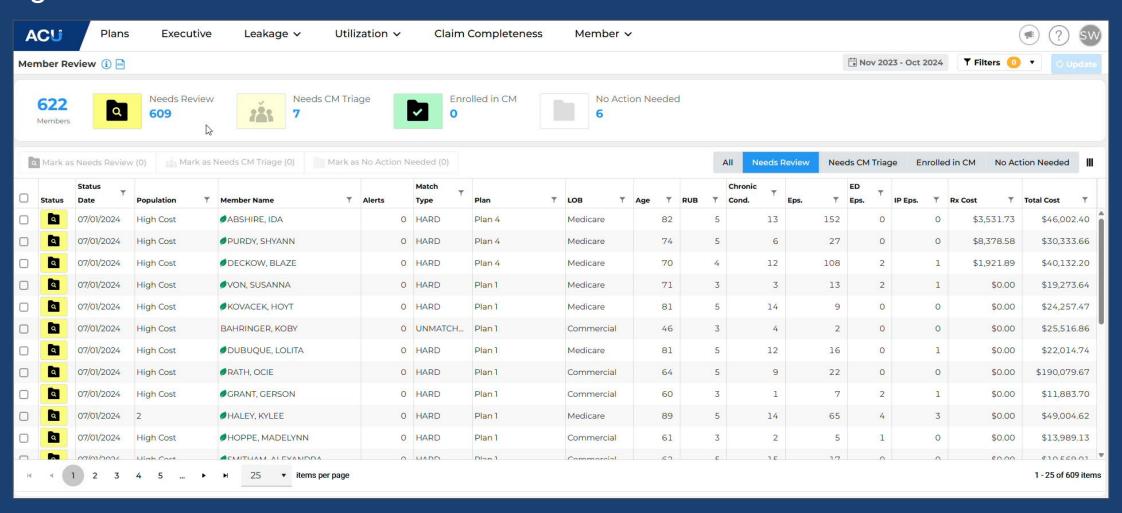
ACU and ACC

- Identify members who could benefit from a Care Management program
- Send members from ACU to Azara Care Coordination (ACC)
- Track costs and utilization for members enrolled in CM



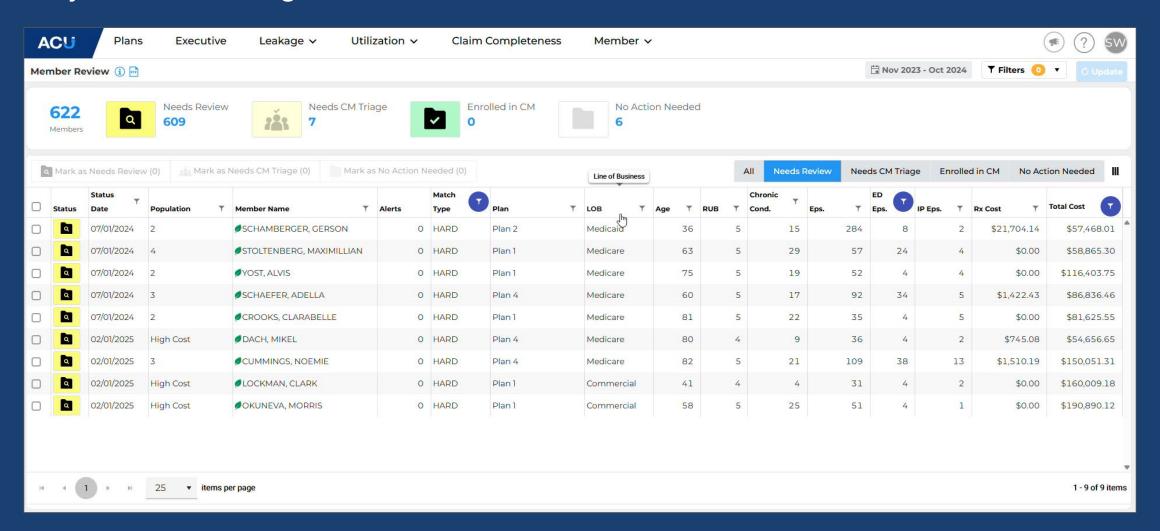
Member Review Queue

Review members for intervention and send directly to ACC for care management triage.



Member Profile

Analyze and investigate chronic conditions, costs, and utilization for a member.



Other ACU Dashboards



Primary Care Leakage: Identify members receiving primary care outside of the defined network for potential reassignment by the health plan.



Network Leakage: Identify members with any episode of care (ex. Inpatient, Emergency, SNF, etc.) outside of the defined



Claim Completeness: Track claim lag trends to identify complete reporting periods and data feed concerns.

Dashboard Use Cases

Dashboard	Use Case(s)
Plan Performance	 Track performance across arrangements to identify areas of opportunity and contracts requiring analysis
Executive	• Identify focus areas of a contract that require further drill down (i.e. ED, Rx, etc.)
Network Leakage	 Find where members are going for care outside the network and/or with non-assigned PCP,s how much that care costs, and the services most utilized. Improve continuity of care by keeping members in-network while controlling cost of care and keeping revenue inside the network
Primary Care Leakage	 Identify members with primary care episodes that did not occur at their plan assigned practice (both inside and outside of the defined network) for roster reassignment with the health plan
Emergency Utilization	 Monitor and track emergency utilization trends Identify patterns in avoidable ED visits to implement condition specific programs, thus reducing future avoidable visits
Inpatient Utilization	 Monitor and track inpatient utilization trends Identify patterns in avoidable IP admits to implement condition specific programs, thus reducing future avoidable admissions

Dashboard Use Cases (cont.)

Dashboard	Use Case(s)
Inpatient Readmissions	 Monitor and track 30-day inpatient utilization trends Identify patterns in 30-day IP admits to implement condition specific programs, thus reducing future readmissions
Rx Utilization	 Manage Rx costs while identifying areas of opportunity for cost savings and/or more efficient prescribing patterns
Claim Completeness	 Understand timing and sufficiency of claim volume, informing when and how to view data
Member Review	 Review recommended members who have been identified based on cost, utilization, or risk of predicted IP hospitalization for promotion to Care Management for better care coordination
Member Profile	 Investigate costs & utilization by member to identify if member may benefit from higher levels of care

Key Takeaways



Keep lists manageable so staff can effectively manage outreach and interventions



Prioritize by Impact to VBC performance and shared savings opportunities



Continue leveraging DRVS for TOC efforts, while monitoring the impact of efforts in ACU



Target members who are risky and/or have a risk of predicted IP hospitalization and intervene before they accrue costs and utilization

"We've got a lot of data in the industry, and not a lot of information.

I think understanding important elements of data for the purposes of maximizing quality and lowering cost of care is just a weakness that everyone has.

We need to focus on what data sources and what data processes and methods and solutions will get us to the right answer, cheapest, quickest and most effectively."

— Craig Samitt, M.D.





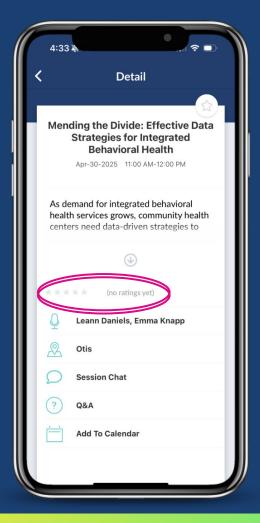
Questions?



We want to hear from you!

Click on the session from your agenda in the conference app.

Click the stars in the center of your screen to rate and provide feedback.







Rate the session and the speaker(s)



Provide brief feedback or ideas



Help us continue to improve

Achieve, Celebrate, Engage!



ACE'd it? Share your DRVS success story and become an Azara ACE!

Show your organization has used DRVS to Achieve measurable results, Celebrate improvement in patient health outcomes, and effectively Engage care teams and/or patients. Stories should showcase how DRVS helped your organization overcome a challenge, the tools and solutions used to drive improvement and details of the successes that resulted from your initiatives. ACEs should be able to provide examples that quantify quality improvement, cost savings, operational efficiency or patient health improvement.

Benefits:

- Azara will help tell your story and provide a client-branded version for your use
- Potential to create a 2-4 minute video or hour-long Azara-hosted webinar
- Potential to be featured at next year's Azara User Conference
- Win Azara swag!

Submit your success story by completing the form at this link.







Thanks for attending!

