

Accountable Care Organizations: A Brief Overview and Evaluation

Summary of Discussion

Accountable Care Organizations (ACO's) are healthcare structures that are designed to improve the coordination of care to patients through shared savings or shared risk contracts, where payment is linked to health care quality and cost. These payment models have proliferated over time and many have a variety of organizational and payment structures.

Dr. Damberg will provide an overview of Accountable Care Organizations (ACO's) in the marketplace. This review of Medicare ACO's and commercial ACO's will include a description of the variety of ACO organizations, their evolution and their impact on care quality, spending and patient experience.

Dr. Cowling will provide an overview of the findings from several studies of CalPERS experience with ACO's, including the Sacramento ACO created in 2010. These findings will focus on healthcare spending, quality, and utilization. Additionally, the findings from a survey of patient experience among CalPERS ACO's members in 2017 will be presented.
