5 Steps for a Successful SNP Model of Care Submission

As required under section 1859(f)(7) of the Social Security Act, every Special Needs Plan (SNP) must develop a comprehensive SNP Model of Care (MOC) that meets all CMS requirements. The MOC must be built on evidence-based practices, demonstrate your health plan's ability to provide high-quality healthcare services to vulnerable populations, and describe your approach to care coordination, member engagement, and other key areas. **Here's how to achieve smooth SNP MOC preparation, submission, and approval.**

1. Develop the SNP Model of Care

Cross-reference NCQA's SNP framework with your MOC submission and the MOC scoring guidelines and matrix to ensure alignment. Define your target population, outline your care coordination strategy, and illustrate how you offer provider network training and expertise tailored to the population's needs.

> **Understanding Your Score**
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> *If your SNP scores below 70% in the initial MOC submission, don't worry! You have an opportunity to improve for a passing score.*

2. Submit the MOC

Submit the MOC to CMS during the submission period, which typically occurs in February. If you have any questions, both NCQA and CMS host training sessions three to four months prior to the submission period. Clearlink also provides personalized guidance for teams navigating the submission process. Contact us for more information.

3. Wait for Approval

Wait for CMS to review and approve your SNP MOC, keeping in mind that the process can take several months and CMS may request clarification or additional information.

> **Approval Period**
> *The approval review cycle varies by SNP type.*
>
> *I-SNP & D-SNP: 1–3 Years*
>
> *C-SNPs: Annually*

4. Implement & Monitor Performance

Once your MOC has received approval, it's time to put your plan into action. Implement the plan and regularly monitor its performance, making any necessary updates as you move forward. CMS requires organizations to report on various quality metrics, including member satisfaction, clinical outcomes, and other measures. Stay on top of these metrics to continuously improve your services.

5. Resubmit During Cure/Off-Cycle Period

Remember, SNPs need to reapply for approval of the SNP MOC every three years. Resubmitting during cure or off-cycle periods ensures that your plan remains up-to-date and compliant with CMS requirements.

Managing the entire process can be complex, time-consuming, and taxing on your staff. Work with Clearlink for end-to-end support, from developing a comprehensive MOC to submitting, implementing, and stabilizing post-implementation. **Contact us today for more information!**

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