

Fairview Partners

An Integrated Health Network for Nursing Home Residents

(Summary by Brenda Schmitthener)

Fairview Partners is comprised of LTC facilities and health care providers in the Twin Cities metropolitan area in Minnesota. The goal of the Fairview Partners is to integrate acute and LTC needs of the nursing home population. Their clinical model focuses on disability prevention and keeping people as independent as possible. Case management is a shared responsibility between the primary care team (the physician and the gerontological nurse practitioner) and the SNF staff. Primary care is offered to residents in their rooms saving them the upset of transportation and the disruption of relocation. The overall result thus far has been an improvement in clinical quality, resident satisfaction and a reduction in costs. To be eligible to enroll in Fairview Partners, the enrollee must be at least 65 years of age, receive both Medicare part A&B benefits, and reside in a contracted SNF.

Fairview Partners have restructured the financing system to bring incentives for the SNF resident and the providers into congruence. All involved partners participate in contractual arrangements that share clinical and financial responsibility for patient care from acute to LTC services. A capitated risk-based financing model was developed that supported the clinical model. This integrated health network created three risk pools to bear total financial risk for care delivery for SNF enrollees.