



Catholic Medical Partners
INDEPENDENT PRACTICE ASSOCIATION

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Primary Care of WNY Earns Patient Centered Medical Home Recognition
Six Catholic Medical Partners practices have achieved highest level

BUFFALO, NY – Primary Care of Western New York has achieved important recognition under the national Physician Practice Connections® - Patient Centered Medical Home™ program. The Amherst-based practice was recognized as a Level 3 Patient Centered Medical Home, the highest possible level of recognition.

Primary Care of Western New York is the sixth practice affiliated with Catholic Medical Partners, the area's largest network of independent practicing physicians, to achieve Level 3 recognition.

Administered by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), a private, non-profit organization dedicated to improving health care quality, the Patient Centered Medical Home program recognizes medical practices that use systematic processes and information technology to enhance the quality of patient care. The program's standards emphasize the use of systematic, patient-centered, coordinated care that supports access, communication and patient involvement.

"The patient-centered approach to care is an initiative that is designed to bring practice teams together, with the patient as an integral part, to improve the way care is delivered," said Dr. Cary F. Vastola of Primary Care of Western New York, who serves as the chairman of the Catholic Medical Partners board of directors. "We are extremely proud to have achieved this important recognition."

In order to achieve NCQA recognition as a Patient Centered Medical Home, practices must meet a set of nine standards, including ten must-pass elements, and complete a web-based data collection tool while providing information that validates their responses. The process could result in one of three levels of NCQA recognition, with Level-3 being the highest.

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“The health care landscape is changing and requires new ways of thinking about and delivering care to patients, as well as new levels of patient engagement,” said Dr. Michael Edbauer, Chief Medical Officer, Catholic Medical Partners. “By making a strong commitment to initiatives like the Patient Centered Medical Home model, the adoption and use of technology, office-based care coordination and others, our member physicians are providing the necessary leadership for creating a new health care delivery model here in Western New York and setting an example for other organizations across the country to follow.”

In addition to Primary Care of Western New York, the practices affiliated with Catholic Medical Partners that have achieved Level-3 recognition as a Patient Centered Medical Home are: Southgate Medical Group, Orchard Park Family Practice, East Aurora Family Practice, Parkview Primary Care and Western New York Pediatrics.

A network of nearly 900 physicians, Catholic Health and Mount St. Mary’s Hospital, Catholic Medical Partners is the largest group of independent practicing physicians in Western New York. Through the development and implementation of clinical integration programs, the organization and its members are focused on improving the efficiency, safety and quality in delivering medical care based on coordination, an educated and involved patient population and the sharing of information and resources that will make a difference in patients’ lives. For more information, visit www.CatholicMedicalPartners.org.