Iowa RHC Performance Improvement



Our Agenda

Iowa State RHC Benchmarking Project and Statewide Network

02

3

94

05

Context

The relevance of rural primary care and RHCs

Taking Stock

Iowa Rural Health Clinics at-a-glance POND[®]

Benchmarking system for rural primary care practices

20 Questions

Understanding RHC performance priorities

Next Steps

Building the POND database in Iowa



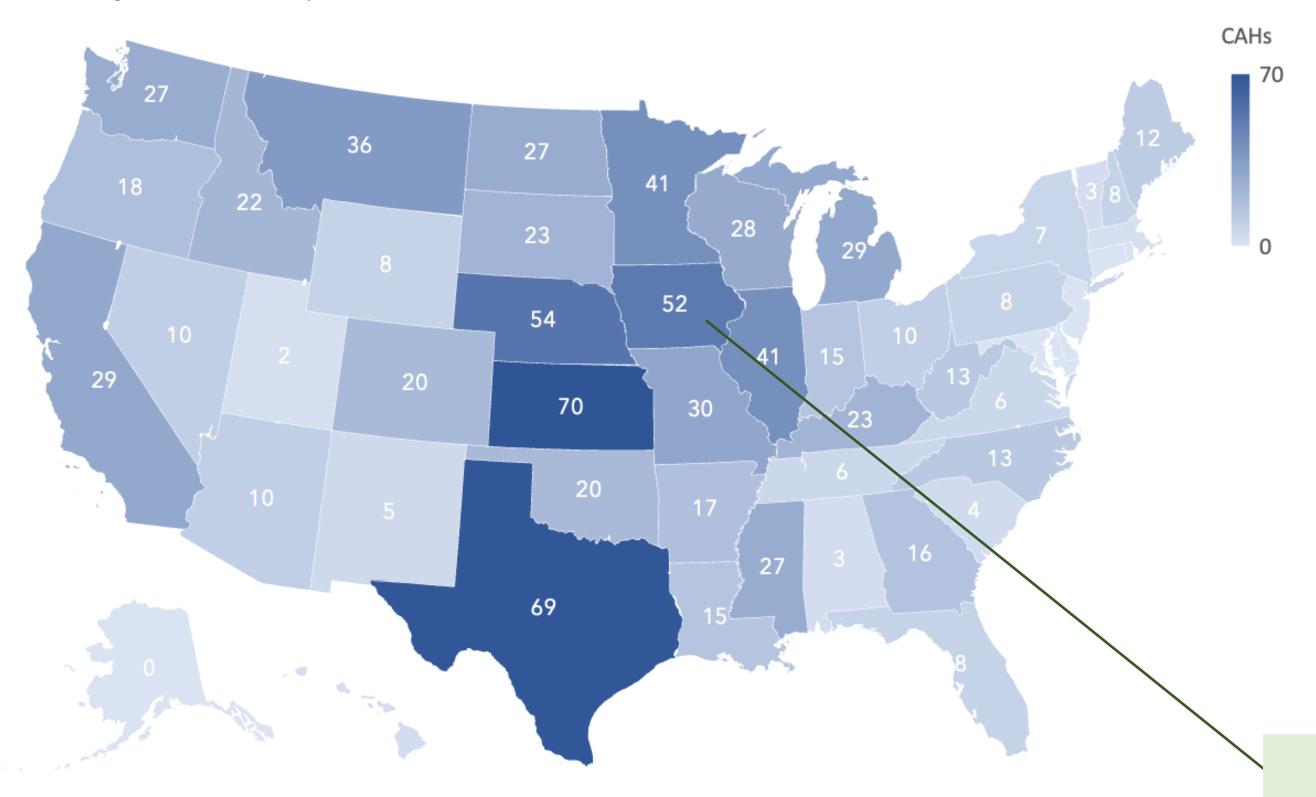
Context

The relevance of rural primary care and RHCs



CAHs with Provider-based RHCs by State

Map A: State Comparison of CAHs that Own Provider-based Rural Health Clinics (2019)



890

In 2019, there were approximately **1,350** Critical Access Hospitals in the US. Among those organizations, **890** owned and operated at least one Provider-based Rural Health Clinic. Collectively, these CAHs owned **1,649** PB-RHCs. The distribution of PB-RHCs largely reflected the distribution of CAHs across rural America, with a large percentage of PB-RHCs located in the Midwest.

Iowa has 52 CAHs with Provider-based RHCs Representing 183 of 203 RHCs (90%)



RHCs with Cost Per Visit Rates >\$250

 Table D: Summary All RHC Cost Per Visit Rates with \$250 Threshold (FY 2019)

PAYMENT	>\$250	<\$250	TOTAL		
Capped Rate	115	1,235	1,350		
Uncapped Rate	1,085	1,819	2,904		
Total	1,200	3,054	4,254		
In FY 2019, nearly three-quarters of all RHCs had a per-visit cost less than \$250.00 (3.054 of 4.254 RHCs or 72 %)					

Note that **4,254** RHCs had complete, accurate and traceable cost report submissions

1,200

Prior to the Act, PB-RHCs were eligible for an uncapped payment rate while RHCs that are owned and operated by hospitals with 50 beds or greater, as well as Independent RHCs, were subject to a capped per visit payment rate.

The relevant threshold of analysis for RHC Cost per Visit rates is \$250.00 given the current distribution of rates across the 4,254 RHCs and the projected per-visit reimbursement levels established in the RHC Modernization section of the Act.



RHC Cost Per Visit Rate Bands





90%

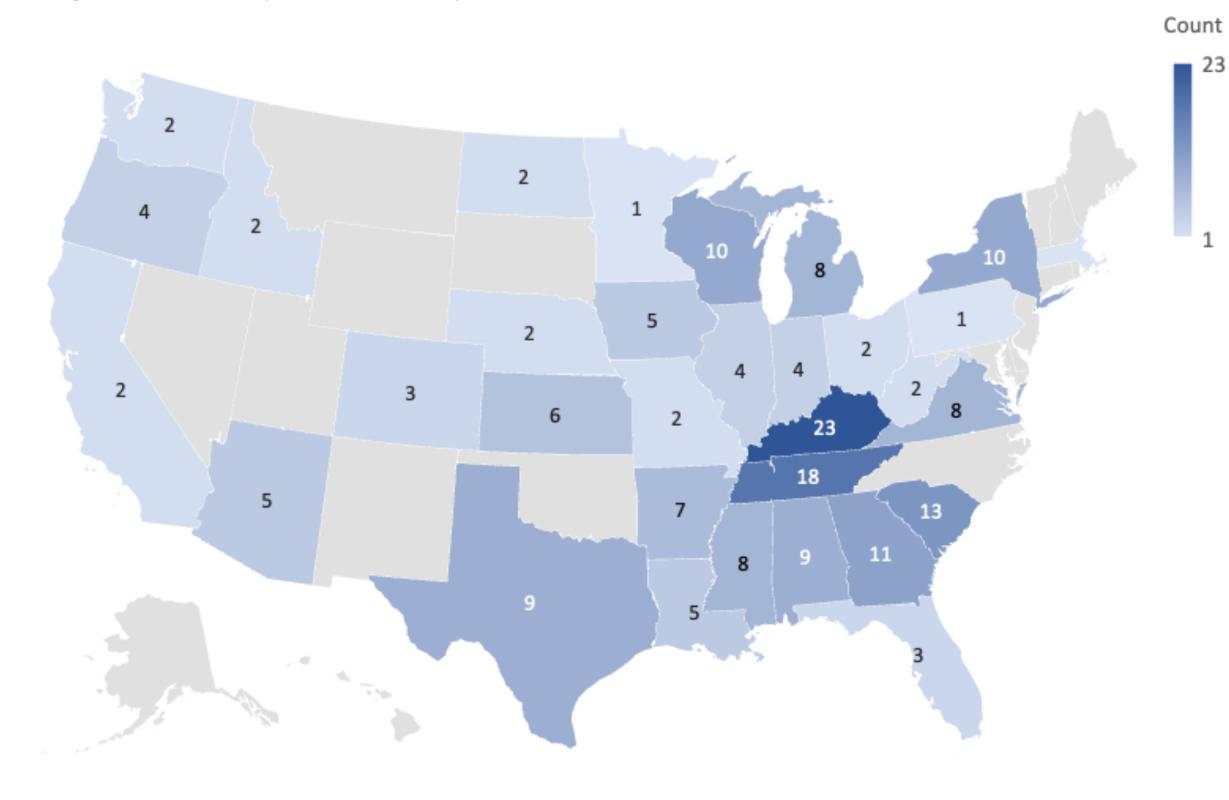
Chart A displays cohorts based on cost per visit rates calculated as Total Costs divided by Total Visits. We constructed 13 bands based on the cost per visit rates for all RHCs for FY 2019. This analysis includes all RHCs (Independent and Hospital-owned) and excludes those clinics whose Medicare cost reports contained material errors, omissions or irregularities (n=293). For each band we calculated its percentage of total RHCs.

In FY 2019 for the 4,254 RHCs that had complete, reliable and traceable Medicare cost report submissions, **90%** of RHCs report a Cost per Visit rate lower than \$325



CYTD 2021 New Rural Health Clinics

Map A: State Comparison of Newly Certified Rural Health Clinics (CY 2021)



192

110 of the 192 RHCs are Provider-based while 21 RHCs are operated by hospitals with greater than 50 beds. 61 RHCs are Independent.

STATE	<50 CAH	<50 STAC	>50 STAC	IND
Kentucky	6	2	0	15
Tennessee	0	0	5	13
South Carolina	0	12	0	1
Georgia	0	6	3	2
New York	4	6	0	0



NRHA Grassroots Update



Hello NRHA members.

We want to provide a few updates on legislative packages making their way through Congress and inform you of NRHA's newest advocacy campaign.

The House of Representatives is expected return to Washington, D.C. next week to begin consideration of the \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure package. Timeline for final passage of the bipartisan legislation is still unsure in the House of Representatives, but NRHA will keep members apprised of all developments.

Additionally, Congress has begun negotiating the details of the \$3.5 trillion Build Back Better (BBB) reconciliation package, and NRHA is advocating Congress include funding and support for rural health care providers and patients within the legislation. We believe support for the rural health workforce and rural health safety net providers should be an integral part of this bill, which aims to improve what President Biden has dubbed "human infrastructure."

NRHA is advocating Congress include provisions within the BBB to:

- Provide capital funding to improve rural health care infrastructure using the framework provided within the LIFT America
 Act (<u>H.R. 1848</u>), which includes \$10 billion for hospital infrastructure. Congress must include a 20 percent carveout for
 rural providers in any hospital capital investment.
- Make substantive changes to rural Medicare GME policies and other rural workforce programs through inclusion of the Rural Physician Workforce Production Act of 2021 (<u>S. 1893</u>).
- Improve rural maternal health and health care access through inclusion of the Rural Maternal and Obstetric Modernization of Services Act (H.R. 769 / S. 1491).
- Permanently extend CARES Act telehealth flexibilities for rural health clinics and federally qualified health centers and increase their reimbursements for telehealth services, as is done through the Protecting Rural Telehealth Access Act (<u>S. 1988</u>) and the CONNECT for Health Act of 2021 (<u>H.R. 2903</u> / <u>S. 1512</u>).
- Establish an Office of Rural Health within the Centers for Disease Central and Provention (CDC).

 Medaraiza and improve the sural health clinic program by removing the cap for provider based sural health clinic
- Modernize and improve the rural health clinic program by removing the cap for provider-based rural health clinics in exchange for voluntarily submitting to quality measure reporting.

We encourage you to utilize our <u>advocacy campaign</u> to urge your Members of Congress to include rural health provisions within the BBB reconciliation package. By using the campaign, you can reach your members of Congress with one click, while customizing content as needed, to allow you to maintain your unique voice.

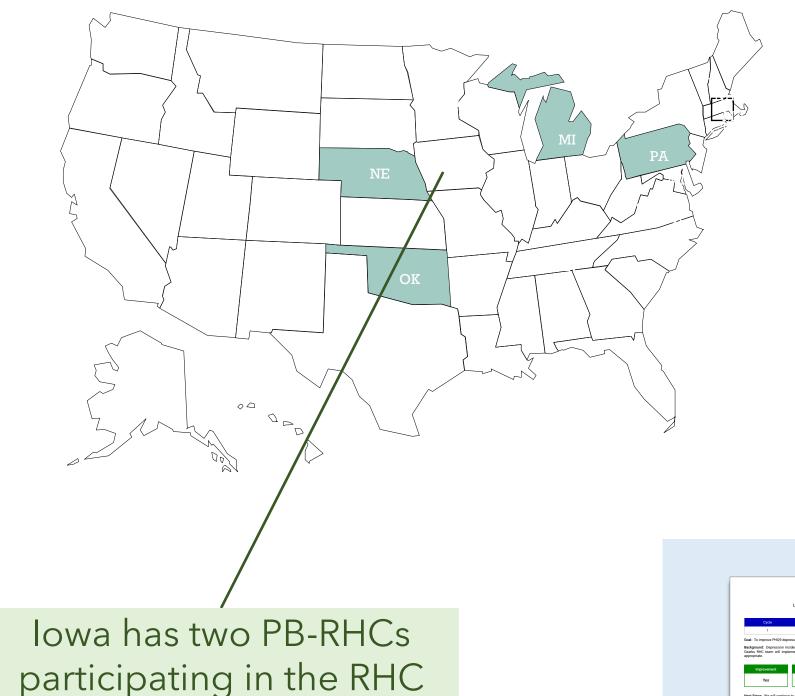
Sincerely,

Thursday, August 19, 2021

"Modernize and improve the rural health clinic program by removing the cap for provider-based rural health clinics in exchange for voluntarily submitting to quality measure reporting."

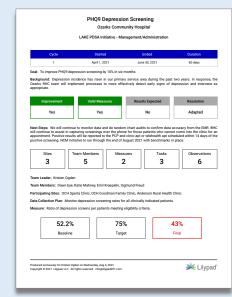


4-State Flex QI Project and FORHP Innovation Lab



Process measures for the project include the number of RHCs that submit data, the number of PDSA projects completed, and the number of participants in cohort educational and/or networking sessions.

Outcome measures for the project include the number of RHCs demonstrating improvement in the focus area and the cohort-wide quantitative improvement in the focus are metric (through the process of applying pre- and post-initiative probes).





A secure web application that enables RHCs to create, manage and document performance improvement initiatives using the PDSA methodology

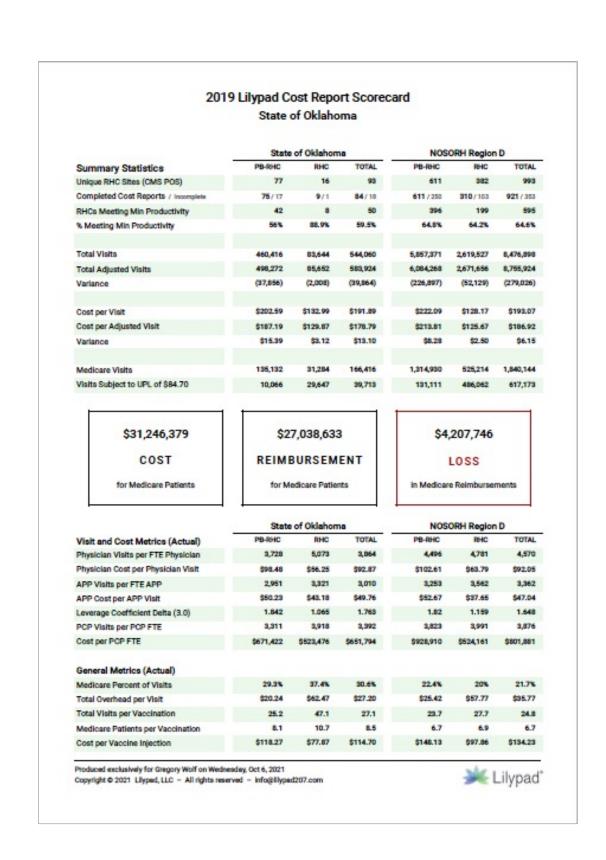


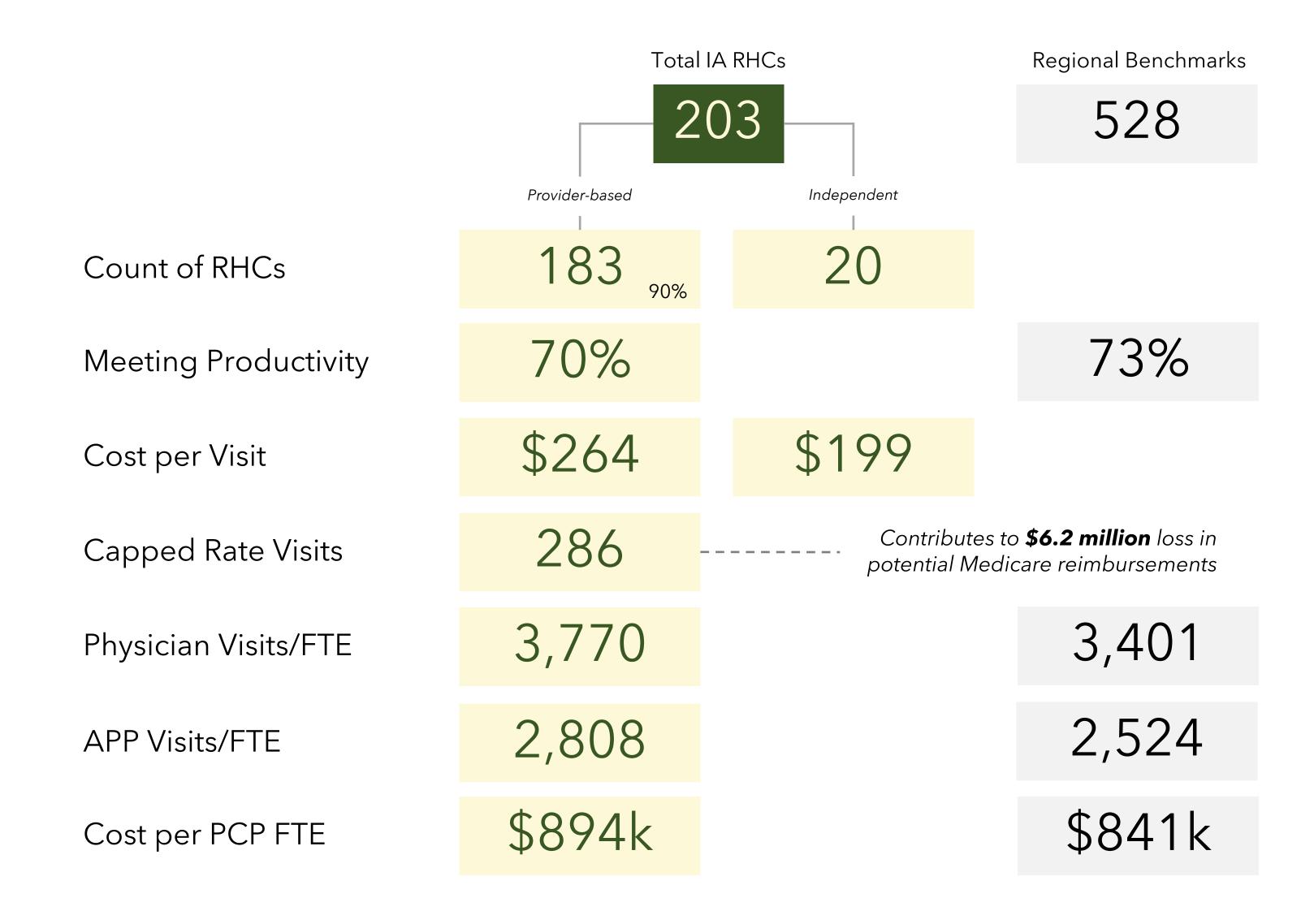
QI Project

Taking Stock lowa RHCs at-a-glance



Iowa State RHC Scorecard





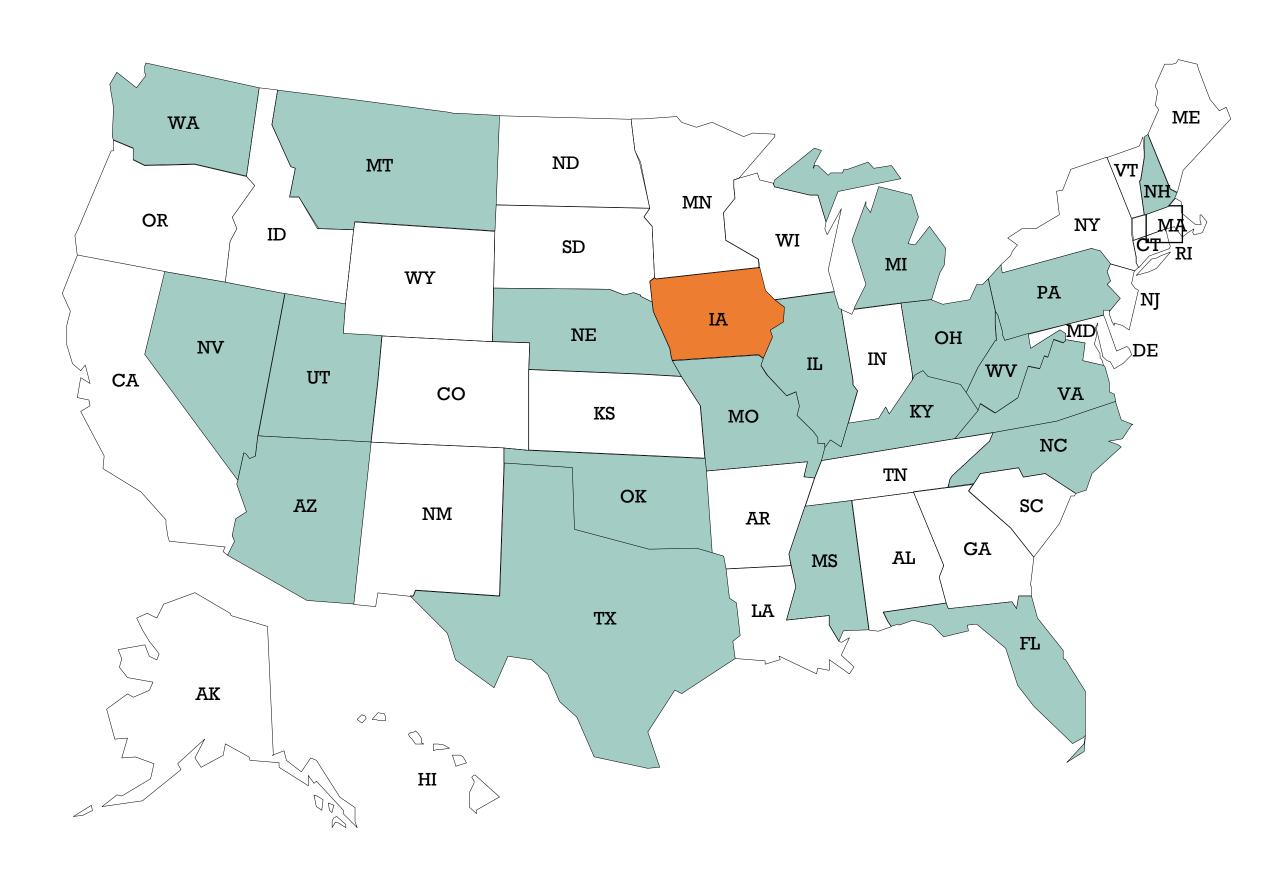


POND®

Benchmarking system for rural primary care practices

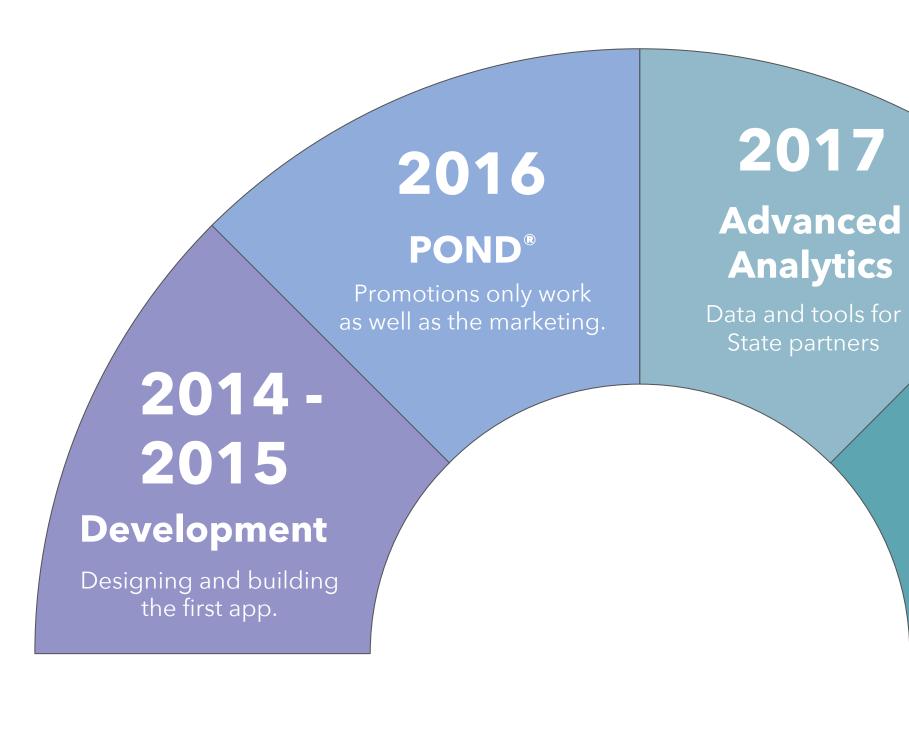


Our Current States



If you are located in one of these states you have access to the POND program right now





Our History

Every year we try to get better, grow and add new data products and tools to address what we see as rural clinic needs





How Does It Work?

Cost Report Scorecards

POND Analytics



To gain access to these reports and tools the required data must be entered into the POND web application

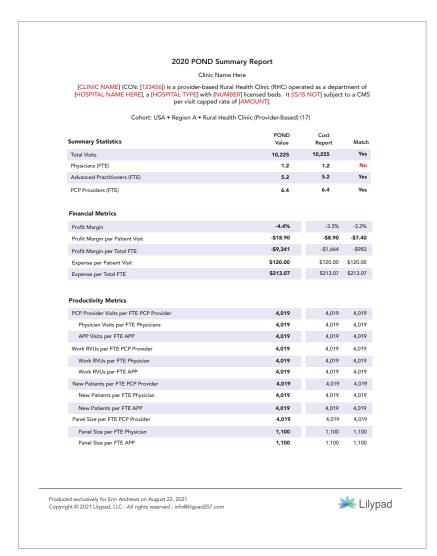


20 Questions

Understanding RHC performance priorities



RHC 20 Questions for Business Literacy



POND® Summary Report

- 1. Why do visit volumes matter so much?
- 2. What is the right mix of physicians and APPs?
- 3. Are our providers "busy"?
- 4. What is the difference between gross charges and net revenue?
- 5. How come our clinic does not make money?
- 6. What quality measures should we track?
- 7. Are our providers appropriately compensated?
- 8. Do we have the right number of support staff?
- 9. How can we control our cost per visit?
- 10. Why is important to track "new patients"?
- 11. What is most important? Managing visits, revenue or expenses?
- 12. What is the right mix of clinical and non-clinical staff?
- 13. What level of performance should we expect for quality measures?
- 14. How do we increase our profit margin per patient visit?
- 15. Should performance standards be different for PA and NPs?
- 16. How does patient panel factor into overall performance?
- 17. What is the best model to compensate physicians?
- 18. How does visit volume relate to Work RVUs?
- 19. Why are our productivity scores low?
- 20. Do we need to hire more providers?

Webinar A

Webinar B



Q4. Gross Charges and Net Revenue



Gross Charges are the retail prices assigned to all medical services and procedures via the hospital or clinic Chargemaster

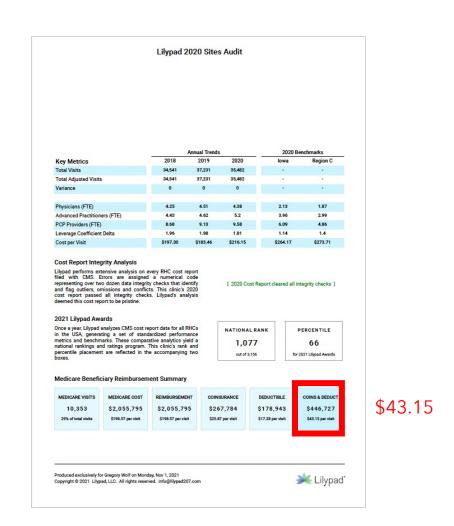
Net Revenue is the amount of actual income (dollars) generated by the hospital or clinic

Why does this matter for an RHC?

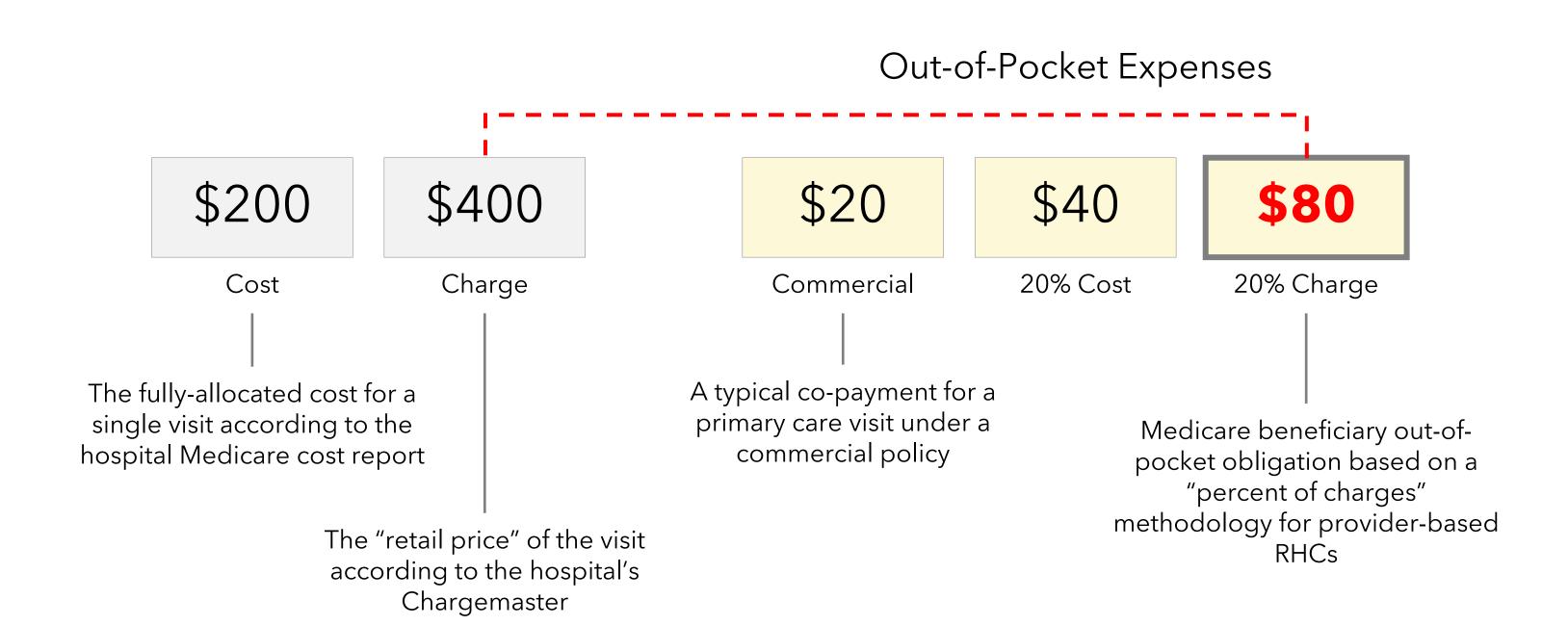


60-Second Case Study

The interaction of different metrics can reveal underlying opportunities for improvement



The **POND Site Audit** combines data from multiple public sources to provide summary statistics as well as a proprietary Medicare Cost Report integrity analysis and an evaluation of the out-of-pocket obligations for Medicare patients.

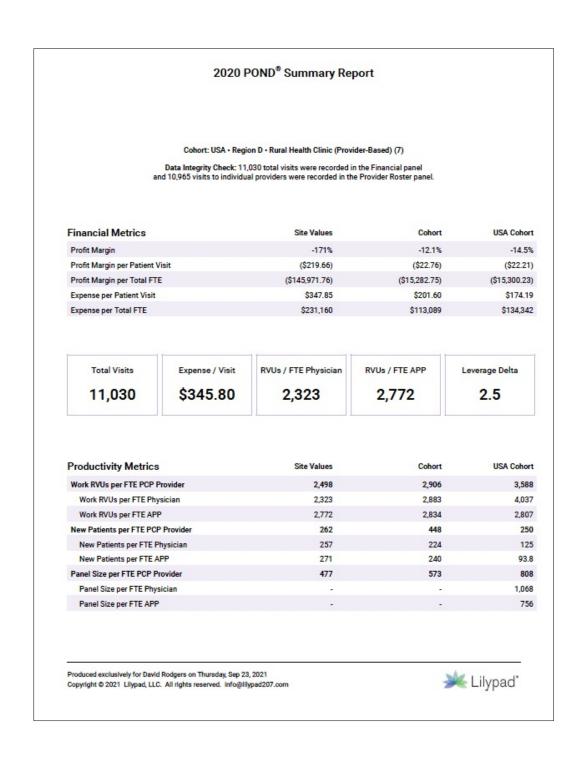


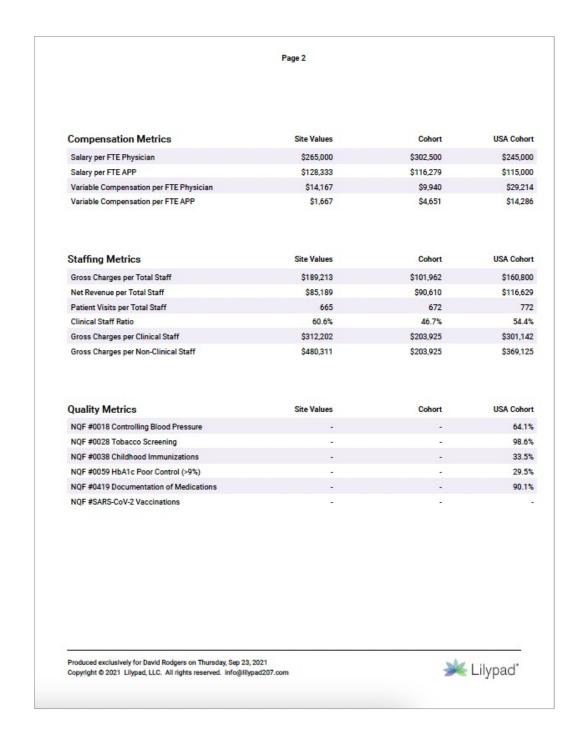
An inflated CAH chargemaster passes on cost to your Medicare patients



New POND® Summary Report

We redesigned and expanded the core POND Summary Report to set up more effective data analysis and decision making for RHC leaders



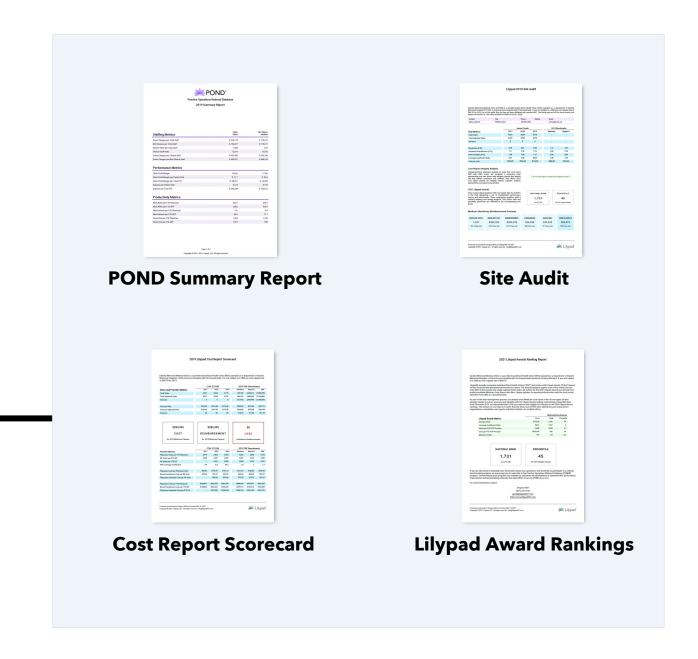




What's Next?

If you have not already used POND:

- 1. View the Online Tutorial
- 2. Enroll your RHC
- 3. Enter data
- 4. Generate reports
- 5. Spread findings







Lilypad is a Maine-based analytics firm that provides mobile and web-based applications for rural primary care practices. We adhere to a core business principle that accountable physicians/clinical leaders and administrators require sound data and simple, innovative tools to be successful in their roles within the emerging value-based care delivery environment.

Gregory Wolf, President

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