

**Maine Health Management Coalition
Pathways to Excellence Program
NCQA & BTE—Comparison of National Physician Recognition Programs**

➤ **Recognition for Clinical Outcomes**

NCQA Diabetes & Heart Stroke Physician Recognition Programs	Bridges to Excellence (BTE) – Diabetes Care Link & Cardiac Care Link
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Available for participation now ▪ Requires practice to submit data on sample of 25 patients with diabetes or 35 patients IVD¹ per physician, <i>or</i> practice may submit data on full patient population if submitting electronically from EMR ▪ Recognition based on data submitted at time of application (i.e. information “static”) ▪ Fee \$450 per individual physician applicant per program; discounted fee \$360 available² (see fee schedule at www.NCQA.org) ▪ BTE acknowledges recognition received via NCQA ▪ NCQA will assess for BTE levels I & II if BTE mentioned in application ▪ NCQA already has relationship with ABIM (MOC Part IV) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ E-submission currently available through select BTE-approved vendors ▪ Requires practice to submit data electronically on each physician’s full patient population with diabetes or IVD (minimum average of 25 patients/physician w/ at least 10/physician) ▪ Recognition updated, based on ongoing data submission (information dynamic) or through BTE e-portal ▪ No fee to BTE if submitting through recognized “data aggregator”³; if submitting individually through BTE e-portal, fee estimated @ \$95/ physician ▪ NCQA does not acknowledge BTE recognition ▪ BTE offers Level I, II, III clinical recognition ▪ BTE currently defining their relationship with ABIM (MOC Part IV)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Both use same clinical measure sets for diabetes and IVD, though BTE Levels II & III include composite measure sets ▪ Both NCQA & BTE recognition can⁴ result in MHMC PTE “blue ribbon” ▪ Both NCQA & BTE provide recognition at individual physician level; MHMC PTE will continue to provide recognition at the practice level³ ▪ Both NCQA & BTE recognizes outcomes for 3 years (<i>new for BTE!</i>), though BTE anticipates moving to 2-year recognition <i>after 12/31/09</i> ▪ MHMC PTE Program developing a process whereby practices not able to meet NCQA or BTE minimum thresholds for required number of patients can obtain “Maine” recognition 	

➤ **Office System Survey Comparisons**

NCQA Physician Practice Connection (PPC)	BTE Physician Office Link (POL)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fee \$440 for each individual physician applicant; discounted fee available if applying as group or with BTE as sponsor² ▪ Application process is paperwork intensive ▪ NCQA uses slightly different survey for Patient Centered Medical Home recognition (PPC-PCMH) ▪ Possibility of on-site “audit” although not routinely done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fee \$255 for first physician, and \$95 for each additional physician (See POL specifications for more detail on pricing) ▪ Application process reported as less intense ▪ BTE’s Patient Centered Medical Home recognition requires POL, NCQA PPC or PCMH, <i>and</i> two BTE clinical Physician Recognition programs ▪ On-site assessment is routinely done--part of POL process

¹ IVD = ischemic vascular disease

² Discount from NCQA available for practices submitting as group or provider organization, or if applying with BTE as sponsor

³ BTE is collaborating with several EHRs and registries to serve as “data aggregators” for electronic submission of data

⁴ To receive PTE blue ribbon, physicians recognized by NCQA or BTE must care for at least 80% of total practice population
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