

Dunkirk Family Practice, PA  
2025 Chaneyville Road, Suite 200  
Owings, MD 20736

Updated: May 2017

We're writing to let you know that Dunkirk Family Practice, PA is participating in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ("Medicare")'s Million Hearts® Cardiovascular Disease Risk Reduction Model, or the MH Model.

### **What's the MH Model?**

The MH Model is a program to help people cut their risk for heart attacks and strokes. This model supports the broader Million Hearts® Initiative, a national health initiative launched in 2012 whose goal is to prevent one million heart attacks and strokes by 2017. Lessons from the MH Model will help Medicare take better care of future patients.

### **What does this mean for me?**

Your doctor or nurse will screen you for your 10-year risk of a heart attack or stroke using the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association (ACC/AHA) 10-year Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease (ASCVD) calculator, also known as the Risk Calculator. The Risk Calculator uses several pieces of information about your health—including your age, gender, blood pressure, cholesterol level, and smoking status. Your health care team will then work with you to understand your risk, and together, we'll discuss ways you can cut your risk for having a heart attack and stroke during the next 10 years. We'll share with Medicare the information we collect to put together your risk score. There will be no cost for you aside from your normal copay.

### **Is there anything I need to do before I visit you?**

You don't need to do anything differently.

### **What are my rights?**

Your Medicare benefits will not change and, like all people with Medicare, you still have the right to choose which practice or doctor you use. You also don't have to share your health information with the MH Model if you don't want to—if so, just tell your doctor or nurse.

You still have all the same Medicare rights and protections including the right to report concerns of inadequate care to Quality Improvement Organizations and to 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

You still have all the same privacy rights under HIPAA, including the right to see and get a copy of your medical information maintained by your doctor.

If you believe your care has been negatively affected, please call 1-800-MEDICARE, speak with your doctor, or contact your local Quality Improvement Organization (QIO). You can find the QIO for your state at <https://www.medicare.gov/homehealthcompare/Resources/Quality-Improvement-Organization.html>.

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**Whom do I contact if I have concerns or if I want more information about the MH model?**

If you have questions or would like more information about this program, please:

- Call my office at (410) 286-3865 or send an email through your patient portal
- Contact the MH Model Team at [mhmodel@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:mhmodel@cms.hhs.gov) or call their help desk at 1-844-711-2664, Option 3.
- Visit the MH model website at: <https://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Million-Hearts-CVDRRM/index.html>

Respectfully,

Dunkirk Family Practice, PA  
(410) 286-3865