

## Who we are

GBUACO is an Accountable Care Organization (ACO) that provides a platform for various providers of health care (primary care physicians, specialists, hospitals and other healthcare providers) to work closely together in delivering improved quality, lower costs, and improved experience to Medicaid Fee-for-Service patient populations and Commercial Populations. Our network of healthcare providers allows you to remain independent and receive the support you need for care transformation and movement towards Patient Centered Medical Home designation.

## Why Join GBUACO?

We are a trans-formative model designed to make the patient experience in our network an excellent one by helping you, the provider, develop the tools for care transformation population oversight, and delivery of quality care. We endeavor to achieve this by following evidence-based medical guidelines, increasing communications by all participants of the healthcare team including the patient, optimizing chronic care clinical pathways, and avoiding readmission and medical errors.

We supply the information technology, infrastructure, medical management expertise, and care transformation support to allow your practice to be part of the new healthcare compensation environment and succeed within it. We have secured strategic partners who understand that a physician governed entity is necessary for success.

## Questions?

Call GBUACO at 716-247-5282 or NYSDOH Medicaid at 1-855-355-5777. View our ACO education video on-line at [www.gbuaco.org](http://www.gbuaco.org)

**Greater Buffalo United Accountable Care Organization**  
Provider Relations Department  
393 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14202



*GBUACO physicians focus on patient-centered principles of improved access to care, whole person orientation, evidence-based care, and enhanced care coordination.*



## About ACOs

An Accountable Care Organization (ACO) provides the platform for various providers of health care (primary care physicians, specialists, and hospitals) to work closely together in delivering improved quality, lower costs, and improved experience to Medicare Fee-for-Service patient populations and Commercial Populations. In order to reach these goals the providers become both clinically and financially integrated and agree to share specific structures and processes. Clinically, they provide new protocols, technology and resources that allows for improved patient access to care, care coordination, and compliance with evidence-based guidelines. GBUACO providers embrace new work-flow and measurement processes that drive improved patient outcomes.



### Here are six important reasons you should join GBUACO:

#### 1 Reduced costs and increased savings.

Like any business, it's important for practices to keep their costs low. GBUACO achieves this by incentivizing physicians to keep their patients healthy and out of the hospital through prevention and avoidance of unnecessary hospitalizations, emergency room visits, and tests and procedures.

#### 2 Strategic partnerships with other providers.

In its broadest terms, GBUACO is a group of providers including hospitals, practices, and other healthcare systems that share in savings by working together to meet quality-of-care objectives and reduce costs. Providers are required to improve care coordination across all GBUACO partners, increase patient engagement, and use technology, such as a referral management system to better track patient care.

#### 3 Greater reach within provider networks.

The healthcare landscape is evolving. ACOs are increasing all over the country by non-hospital organizations, such as physician-led ACOs. What this means for physician practices not already in an ACO is they'll have the opportunity for greater reach within provider networks by partnering with providers who were previously out-of-network.

#### 4 Increased retention and acquisition of patients.

Unlike HMOs, patients become the focus (not the insurance companies). Our network healthcare providers communicate more efficiently which leads to better-informed decisions. This results in better care, and, therefore, enhanced retention (and acquisition) of patients. Simply put, patients who receive better care are more likely to stay, and encourage other patients to follow.

#### 5 More control over patients' care.

In contrast to an HMO, GBUACO is physician-led and centered around the patient's needs, not the dictation of insurance companies. Federal and State government incentives and cost savings benefits are a factor of quality outcomes rather than the volume of services. Aligning incentives with results allows the control back into the hands of primary care physicians. Physicians are therefore able to administer the appropriate care, rather than unnecessary tests and procedures for the sake of reimbursement.

#### 6 Access to more advanced technologies.

One of the greatest benefits of joining an ACO is that you get access to better back-end operational and administrative technologies that you might not normally get (or can afford) as a sole practitioner.