

The NC AHEC Program and Area L AHEC are sensitive to and saddened by the persistent and pervasive injustices to Black and Brown people and other multicultural populations as evidenced by recent and historical acts of structural racism, violence, inequities, and power paradigms. We recognize that health disparities are another form of injustice that is disproportionately experienced by these communities.

Tremendous change is needed in our state to address these issues. The NC AHEC Program was established to affect change. We remain committed to our values of diversity, excellence and integrity in all aspects of our program. We will increase our focus to better fulfill our vision where every North Carolinian is healthy and supported by a health workforce that reflects the communities it serves.

Please join us in continuing our work to make this change.

Hugh H. Tilson, Jr., JD, MPH, Director, NC AHEC Program
Debby P. Futrell, PharmD, President/CEO, Area L AHEC

Coronavirus Resources

Weekly COVID-19 Updates Trello Board

This platform provides a streamlined approach to accessing pertinent information and updates to assist physician practices navigate through these turbulent times. You can find resources related to:

- Clinical Guidance
- Billing & Coding/Practice Management
- The latest announcements & recommendations from NCDHHS, CMS, & CDC

To view the Trello Board visit:
<https://trello.com/b/EpwFw3Bt/covid-19>

Online Self-Paced Learning

Reopening after COVID-19:
How to Keep You and Your Team Members Safe
<https://www.arealahec.org/courses-and-events>



The NC AHEC Program COVID-19 Surge Planning Resources.

Ensuring an adequate and appropriately trained workforce in hospitals, health systems, and practices is an essential component of preparation for and management of patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Playbooks

- COVID-19 Workforce Skills Surge Planning for Patients Requiring Critical or ICU Care
- COVID-19 Workforce Skills Surge Planning for Patients in Home-based Care
- COVID-19 Workforce Skills Surge Planning for Patients in Long Term Care
- COVID-19 Workforce Skills Surge Planning for Patients Requiring General Inpatient Medical Care
- COVID-19 Workforce Skills Surge Planning for Patients Requiring Ambulatory Care

Preparedness/Planning Checklists

- Acute Care and Long-term Care Populations
- Home-Based Populations

For more information visit:
<https://www.ncahec.net/?s=covid+playbooks>

Upcoming Programs

Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT) in Primary Care: Why Should I Consider It?
Webinar [September 16](#)

Does Compassion Matter in Health Care? An Examination and Application of the Scientific Evidence
Webinar [September 23](#)

OSHA Laws: Annual Bloodborne Pathogens and Hazcom Update
Live Webinar or In Person [September 25](#)

Health Care Issues and Medications for People Living with Dementia
Live Webinar [September 30](#)

Healthy NC 2030
Live Webinar [October 21](#)

Immune Compromised Patient Care for Children, Eating Disorders, Child Abuse & Neglect and Oral Health Care Providers' Responsibilities
Live Webinar [November 6](#)

Wilson Medical Center Pharmacy CE Symposium
Live Webinar or In Person [November 11 & 12](#)

Pharmacy Law Update 2020
Live Webinar or In Person [December 3](#)

Bridging Military Women's Health and Civilian Healthcare Professionals Symposium
Live Webinar [December 10](#)

Coming this Fall

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Waiver Eligibility Training
Opioid Prescriber Training

Peer Support Specialist Training Certification Course

October 26th - October 30th
8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

For more information on our events visit
<https://www.arealahec.org/courses-and-events>

NC AHEC Scholars, Career Health Connections & Youth Health Services Corps (YHSC)



We offer a variety of opportunities to students in Edgecombe, Halifax, Nash, Northampton, and Wilson counties that are aimed to foster interest and develop skills related to health careers. We hosted students at our Summer Health Careers Boot Camp at Barton College, led by Dr. Susan Bane and Mrs. Faye Duffin. Julia Keck and Michelle Betancourt performed 100 service hours and earned the YHSC Presidential Award.

Career Health Connections is a partnership between Area L AHEC, Wilson Medical Center, Carolina Family Health Centers and the Wilson Education Partnership. To learn more, contact Mrs. Duffin at faye.duffin@arealahec.org



PRACTICE SUPPORT SERVICES

Let's get started in reaching your goals, contact us today.

Please submit your application for Practice Support Services at <https://my.ncahec.net/roles/ipip/qic/addPractice.php>

NC Medicaid Electronic Health Record Incentive Program Announcements

NC-MIPS is Open for Program Year 2020

[NC-MIPS](#) is now accepting Program Year 2020 Stage 3 Meaningful Use (MU) attestations. In Program Year 2020, EPs may use a 90-day MU and clinical quality measure (CQM) reporting period. EPs who attested with another state should email NCMedicaid.HIT@dhhs.nc.gov prior to attesting with North Carolina for Program Year 2020.

To participate in Program Year 2020, all EPs must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Have a [2015 Edition](#) of certified EHR technology CEHRT).
- Meet the required Medicaid patient volume (PV) threshold of 30%, pediatricians may qualify for a reduced payment with 20% Medicaid PV. Note: EPs who were paid for Program Year 2019 using a 90-day patient volume reporting period from calendar year 2019 have the option to use the same patient volume reporting period to attest for Program Year 2020.
- Meet MU and CQMs requirements. In Program Year 2020, EPs will be attesting to [Stage 3 MU](#) and [2020 CQMs](#).

Program Year 2020 Webinar Series

The NC Medicaid EHR Incentive Program's webinar series has been updated to reflect the rules and regulations for Program Year 2020. The webinars are designed with the busy provider in mind, so most of them are about five minutes long. Each short webinar explains a different piece of the attestation process such as updating a CEHRT number, updating a username in NC-MIPS, and submitting an attestation. Other webinar topics include patient volume, audits, MU and CQMs in Program Year 2020 and more. These webinars can be found on the 'Resources and Webinars' tab of the [program website](#).

QPP - Merit-Based Incentive Payment System 2020 (MIPS)

What's New with Improvement Activities in 2020?

- CMS increased the performance threshold for groups and virtual groups to attest to an activity: At least 50% of the clinicians (in the group or virtual group) must perform the same activity during any continuous 90-day period, or as specified in the activity description, within the same performance period.
- CMS clarified patient-centered medical home designation by removing specific examples of entity names of accreditation organizations or comparable specialty practice program.
- CMS concluded the CMS Study on Factors Associated with Reporting Quality Measures. This study is no longer available for credit in the Improvement Activities performance category.

Community Education Series
with NCCARE360



Do you ever feel that your patients have concerns that weigh on them more heavily than their health? Here is an opportunity for you to assist them with those worries and allow them more “headspace” for managing their conditions.

North Carolina has created NCCARE360 - the nation’s first statewide infrastructure connecting healthcare providers and human services providers. In the fall of 2020, Area L AHEC will offer a series of events to introduce healthcare providers to NCCARE360 and demonstrate how the platform can be utilized to improve outcomes for patients/clients. Topics to be covered are: how to get started with NCCARE360, how to use NCCARE360 to help with food insecurity, using NCCARE360 to assist with housing, NCCARE360 resources for employment, using NCCARE360 to provide support with interpersonal violence (IPV) issues, and using NCCARE360 to mitigate transportation problems. For more information contact Monique Mackey at monique.mackey@arealahec.org.

Browse our new
user-friendly website at
www.arealahec.org

