

# National Community Pharmacy Town Halls to Transform Business and Elevate Patient Care

## Pharmacists Identify How to Impact their CMS Star Ratings and Improve Patient Outcomes

**DUBLIN, Ohio, January 14, 2016** — Pharmacists can understand how to increase their business and position themselves at the forefront of preferred network access through a 31-stop town hall tour throughout the United States. The Reach for the Stars town halls identify how pharmacists can contribute to CMS Star Ratings, ensure accurate reimbursement payments in narrow networks, streamline pharmacy efficiencies and improve patient relationships and health outcomes.

“Pharmacy performance against CMS Star Ratings measures may influence access to pharmacy preferred networks, pay-for-performance programs run by health plans and an ability to drive patient engagement and adherence,” said Steve Lawrence, senior vice president of Retail Independent Sales at Cardinal Health. “It’s more important than ever for community pharmacies to understand how to ‘Reach for the Stars’ and improve their pharmacy performance contributing to CMS Star Ratings.”

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Open to all community pharmacies, the Reach for the Stars town halls address this complex topic through **specific actions** pharmacists can take to improve their business, and most importantly, patient outcomes.

To keep the community pharmacy at the forefront of care and CMS Star Ratings, the focus of the town halls is:

1. **CMS Star Rating education:** Healthcare continues to shift from a fee-for-service model to a value-driven model. To ensure pharmacies understand this ever-changing landscape, **the town halls offer a continuing education credit** revolving around what star ratings are now, what they will be in the future, and how this impacts community pharmacy.
2. **The journey to value-driven pharmacy:** A phased approach to incorporating a value-based revenue stream in a community pharmacy setting through the implementation of patient care services.
3. **The impact of pharmacy performance on preferred Medicare networks:** Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) are implementing various strategies with their preferred networks to improve their CMS Star Ratings. Pharmacists need to understand how their performance impacts these preferred networks; the town halls take a deeper look at what it means to be in a preferred network.
4. **Provide personalized patient care solutions:** Each patient faces different adherence challenges, so to be successful, pharmacies must provide a variety of solutions. The town halls provide actionable ways for a pharmacy to identify and measure pharmacy performance through EQuIPP™, as well as the improved **Cardinal Health Reimbursement Consulting Services dashboard**. Performance can also be measured through Cardinal Health MedSync Advantage™, a new tool that easily identifies patients qualifying for medication synchronization.

“The future of independent pharmacy will revolve around change,” said John Balch, pharmacist and owner at The PharmaCare Network said. “The successful independent will embrace MTM, immunizations, adherence and compliance, and will become the shining star of their community.”

For more information about the Reach for the Stars town halls, including the **town hall schedule**, visit [www.cardinalhealth.com/followthestars2016](http://www.cardinalhealth.com/followthestars2016).

### About Cardinal Health

Headquartered in Dublin, Ohio, Cardinal Health, Inc. (NYSE: CAH) is a \$103 billion **health care services**

company that improves the cost-effectiveness of health care. Cardinal Health helps pharmacies, hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, clinical laboratories and physician offices focus on patient care while reducing costs, enhancing efficiency and improving quality. Cardinal Health is an essential link in the health care supply chain, providing pharmaceuticals and medical products and services to more than 100,000 locations each day and is also the industry-leading direct-to-home medical supplies distributor. The company is a leading manufacturer of medical and surgical products, including gloves, surgical apparel and fluid management products. In addition, the company operates the nation's largest network of radiopharmacies that dispense products to aid in the early diagnosis and treatment of disease. Ranked #26 on the Fortune 500, Cardinal Health employs more than 36,000 people worldwide. More information about the company may be found at [www.cardinalhealth.com](http://www.cardinalhealth.com) and [@CardinalHealth](https://twitter.com/CardinalHealth) on Twitter.

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