

PHYSICIAN INTEGRATION MODEL DEVELOPMENT – UPDATE

In recent months, WMPN has been working closely with leadership of many of our member practices to develop broader understanding of the challenges facing independent practice, discuss health system and fellow-physician initiatives regarding physician- hospital alignment, and develop a **vision for the future** of the Grand Rapids medical community.

The process has involved leadership from both WMPN member groups and non-member physician groups, and great effort has been made to ensure the process is open and transparent to all interested physicians. Over the past four months, WMPN has sponsored four meetings of a Physician Steering Committee, two well-attended “All-Physician” meetings, numerous sessions with the leadership of independent groups, and a series of updates with Spectrum Health leadership. All meetings have been physician-led and facilitated with the assistance of outside consultants.

In addition to meeting facilitation, WMPN’s consultants have completed a number of “practice assessments” at the request of private groups. These assessments are intended to evaluate individual groups’ performance and market position relative to the integration concepts being developed by the Physician Steering Committee.

To-date, there have been many questions and broad, general support for the core integration models. These questions and support have come from both physician leaders and from Spectrum Health, the most likely partner in the integration scenarios under consideration.

The Board of WMPN and the Physician Steering Committee have recommended engaging in a series of meetings with Spectrum Health leadership to gain input and determine interest in pursuing a broad-based physician integration strategy with members of the medical staff. These meetings will begin in coming weeks and continue into the fall.

WMPN leadership will continue to update its membership on any and all developments, including an additional All-Physician meeting to be scheduled in late summer. Please feel free to contact WMPN or any of its Board members for additional information.