

**From:** LaJeunesse, Kristen <Kristen.Lajeunesse@vermont.gov>

**Sent on:** Wednesday, December 11, 2024 10:01:10 PM

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**Subject:** Public Comment: Accountable Care Organization (ACO) 2024-12-11T22:01:07Z

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

**Submit Time:** 2024-12-11T22:01:07Z

**Name:** Jeremiah Eckhaus

**Affiliation:** UVMHN CVMC

**Town/City:** Montpelier

**Topic:** Accountable Care Organization

**Comment:** Dear members of the GMCB. I am a physician in Central Vermont and one of the Regional Clinical Representatives for One Care. Recently, I learned that the GMCB is considering cutting the funding for the RCR role. I realize that I am biased being in this role, but I thought it might be helpful to share my perspective as you deliberate on this matter. In my role as RCR I meet with practices to review their quality metrics data and support them in performance improvement efforts. I see this role as part clinical expert, part facilitator, part coach, and part cheer leader. I am not an administrator, I am a "boots on the ground" practicing physician. As you may be aware, it can be so difficult to do performance improvement and practice transformation within the busy practice environment, and having a resource to help in this way is crucial to the health care reform effort and the mission of the GMCB, in my humble opinion. I realize that the ACO model is evolving, but I can't imagine a scenario where we will not benefit from having the RCR leadership going forward. I hope that you will consider the potential negative impact that cutting the funding for the RCR role might have on our health care reform progress and ongoing efforts. If it makes sense to you to phase this role out, then I hope that you can envision a strategy that continues to support our practices in this way. Respectfully, Jeremiah Eckhaus, M.D.

**Post Comment:** Yes