

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

Submit Time: 11/29/2023

Name: Linda Andrews

Affiliation:

Town/City: Bristol

Topic: ACO-Reach

Comment: I understand that the Mountain Community Health Center, where I receive care, is being targeted to privatize their Medicare clients who have traditional medicare. We have not been educated on this plan named "ACO REACH". The deadline for public comment ,even though extended to Dec 5, is not long enough. It should be similar to the length of the enrollment period for Medicare Advantage which was from Oct 15 to Dec 7th. In an attempt to quickly educate the public before the very short deadline, the Bristol Democratic committee is hosting an educational forum tonight, Wed, Nov 29th. It is being announced on FPFs and to all Addison County Democratic members. Mountain Community Health has been invited. Here is the announcement and link. It would be great if you could join us. "The Bristol Democratic Committee is hosting an educational Zoom meeting on Wednesday, November 29th at 7 p.m. on "ACO REACH." Here is the link to register for this program.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpfuqppj4vGNGam4\\_fljTgrX8X62PDuoQh](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpfuqppj4vGNGam4_fljTgrX8X62PDuoQh) On November 15, 2023, a New York-based private equity financed firm, "Vytalize Health" made a presentation to the Green Mountain Care Board requesting GMCB support for their implementation of an "ACO REACH" entity in two primary care centers in Vermont--one in Bradford/Wells River, and the other in Bristol. The ACO REACH model transforms the financial flows primary care practices face in their care of patients covered through traditional Medicare, with the goal of cutting costs. Vytalize is a for-profit firm, funded with private equity capital. Dr. Betty Keller, M.D., president of Vermont Physicians for a National Health Program (VT PNHP), and Dr. Marvin Malek, M.D., MPH, an internist in Berlin, Vermont, and past president of VT PNHP, will lead the discussion and take questions after their presentation. The program will be recorded and available for viewing on NEAT TV website and on Comcast CH1080. This plan is also referred to as the ACO Realizing Equity, Access, and Community Health (REACH) Model. You can read about this at the following link,

<https://pnhp.org/corporations-are-reaching-for-traditional-medicare/> The GMCB public comment period ends at "noon" on Tuesday, December 5th. To comment to the Green Mt. Care Board, regarding this ACO policy, go to this link: [https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=O5O0IK26PEOcAnDtzHVZxm2sWssBnnJHpO34bJFS\[...\].Wcu](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=O5O0IK26PEOcAnDtzHVZxm2sWssBnnJHpO34bJFS[...].Wcu)

Post Comment: Yes