



Newsletter | Volume 4, Issue 5

COVID-19 Resource Hub | affirmant.com/covid-19



The current healthcare landscape is rapidly changing. We understand the extraordinary challenges our Members face daily and how difficult it can be to keep up with the most recent COVID-19 developments. The COVID-19 Resource Hub is a tool we have developed to deliver you the latest news trending in healthcare.

If you haven't visited our site in a while, we have also added a few new focus areas:

- Children and COVID-19
- Resuming Care
- PPE
- Racial and Ethnic Disparities in COVID-19

We hope you find it useful and would greatly appreciate your feedback, needs and suggestions at info@affirmant.com.

August 2020 Highlights

Current Focus

- 1 ACO 2021 Recertification - Track B
- 2 Implementing Validation Team Process
- 3 COVID-19 Mitigation - Patient Outreach

Top Decisions Made

- CMS reported our 2019 final Federation ACO Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) quality score is 95.6%
- The Board of Managers approved creation of Risk Capture (HCC) Work Group
- The HCC roundtable approved risk capture best practices to spread across all Chapters
- The Clinical Transformation Committee approved the 2020 Chapter Scorecard

Federation ACO | [MIPS Quality Score Results](#)

In 2019, the Federation ACO earned a performance-based MIPS score of 95.6%

	Quality 	Promoting Interoperability (PI) 	Improvement Activities 	
Federation ACO Score	50/50	22.4/30*	20/20	95.6% = Quality Score
Activity	The Federation ACO reported on quality measures on behalf of all participating providers	Providers reported on PI objectives <i>*The combined effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on providers and the late change in CMS guidance on use of the hardship exception contributed to the decline in our PI score from 2018 to 2019.</i>	Participating providers automatically received points based on the requirements of participating in the Federation ACO	

CMS recently reported our 2019 final Federation ACO Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) quality score is 95.6%. This is the third straight year in which our MIPS score has exceeded 95%. As a result, the MIPS payment adjustment for exceptional performance for Federation ACO participating providers will be 1.49%. Congratulations on this extraordinary accomplishment!

Zoom update | Passcode Requirement



New this month, Zoom is requiring passcodes for all meetings. We are working diligently with Zoom to find a simple solution to the transition. You will likely receive an updated meeting invitation for any meetings in September and later. If you plan to attend the meeting, please accept the invitation as if it were new, even if you have already accepted it. This should update your calendar to include the new meeting information. We have encountered a few meetings that are unable to be updated correctly. We are working with Zoom on a fix for these issues. Lastly, please check the meeting information in AIMS which has the meeting URL, meeting ID number and passcode.

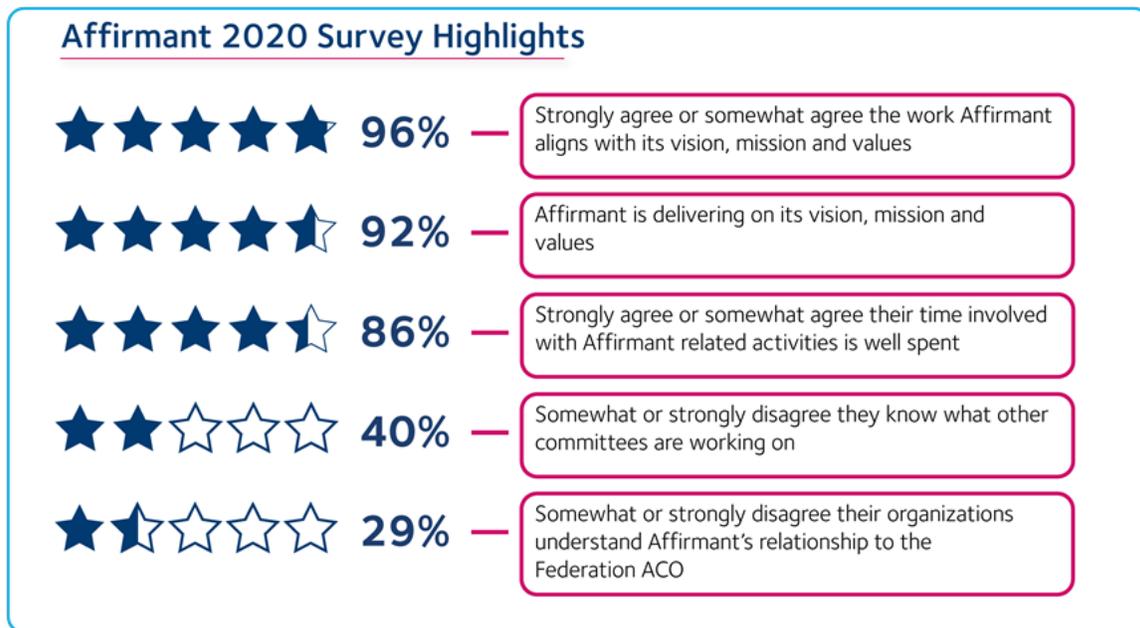
If you have any issues or concerns, contact erik.pye@affirmant.com.

Affirmant 2020 Survey | Results

In January 2020, the Affirmant Team conducted a 22-question survey of our Board,

Committee, Subcommittee and Workgroup members to measure satisfaction and solicit feedback on where we can make improvements. A total of 56 participants (41% of committee members) completed the survey; all seven Chapters and 12 Committees (Subcommittees and Workgroups) were represented in the results.

Quantitative highlights from the survey include:



Participants were also asked to respond to qualitative questions.

- When asked about Affirmant's greatest strength, participants commented on our network's scale and size, best practice sharing, common Epic platform and collaboration.
- When asked about Affirmant's greatest opportunity, themes included growth beyond our current Members, expanding our contracting strategy, accountability to each other, data integrity, enhancing collaboration and best practice sharing.
- When asked how Affirmant can improve its value to our network, respondents asked for greater involvement of practicing physicians, developing a stronger negotiating strategy with payers, improving data analytics and expanding best practice sharing.

Affirmant 2020 Survey Results

Measures Development | 2020 Scorecard Approval

The Clinical Transformation Committee approved the proposed performance methodology for the Chapter Scorecard for the performance year 2020, which is similar to that approved for the 2019 Scorecard. In the event CMS provides further guidance related to quality and utilization measures for performance year 2020, the

Measures Development Subcommittee (MDS) will consider appropriate changes to the Scorecard.

IT/BI | Quality Measures Dashboard Updates are Now Live!



The Affirmant Epic Healthy Planet Link Quality Measures dashboard has received a makeover. The Affirmant IT team has developed a short video explaining the changes to the dashboard. Please visit the link below to learn more about the changes recently made.

[Quality Measure Updates Video](#)

The Quality Measure Validation Team met in early August to review the documentation for the first six scored quality measures. The quality metric rules were evaluated and documentation now contains diagnosis, codes and other groupers used to evaluate the rules that populate the Affirmant dashboards. The validation team will meet again on 9/2 to recommend standard definitions that will be brought to the Measures Development Subcommittee.

Congratulations, Wright Lassiter!

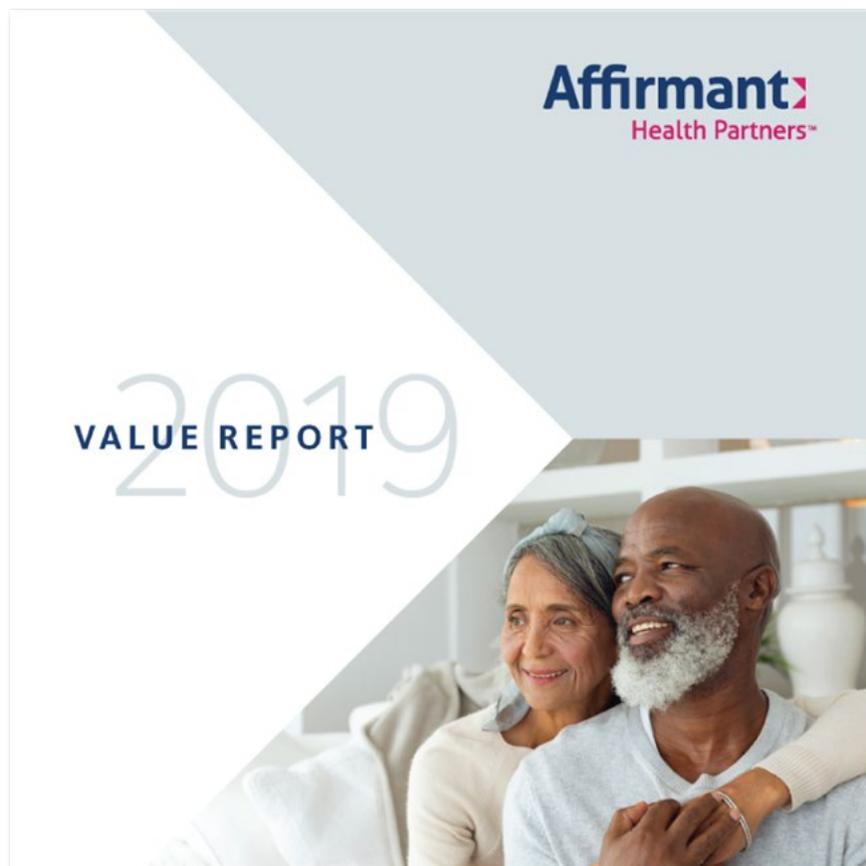


On July 20, the American Hospital Association (AHA) announced their selection of Wright Lassiter, Henry Ford Health System president and CEO and Affirmant Board member, as its chair-elect designate. Lassiter will become the AHA Chair starting 2022.

We have included a link to the AHA announcement below

[AHA Board selects Wright Lassiter as chair-elect designate](#)

2019 Value Report is Available Now!



We are happy to announce Affirmant's 2019 Value Report is available to view digitally. Print copies are available by request.

If you would like to request a pdf or print copies, please email angela.johnson@affirmant.com. View the report now on Affirmant's website.

[Affirmant 2019 Value Report](#)

Leadership Retreat Update

Rescheduled for Spring 2021



The 2020 Affirmant Leadership Retreat, scheduled for 2020, has been postponed and rescheduled for Spring 2021. All sessions will be virtual. We will communicate with our network once we have more information.

Connect with us on Social Media

Affirmant is on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) to connect with current and potential stakeholders. This is also a great way for us to highlight the important work our member systems are doing. If you are active on any of these platforms, please find us and comment or tweet at us @Affirmant.



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