
 CRAIN'S HEALTH CARE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT	Thurs., Oct. 15, 2009 Rock Financial Showplace 46100 Grand River, Novi 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Who Should Attend: ■ Employers ■ Health care insiders ■ Hospital trustees ■ Physicians ■ Health care technologists	 A report from Washington By Paul Keckley, Ph.D. Executive Director Deloitte Center for Health Solutions	Register HERE
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10:47 am, October 1, 2009

Michigan HMOs recognized for health care improvement practices

By [Jay Greene](#)

Five Southeast Michigan health maintenance organizations were among seven HMOs in Michigan recognized for their health care improvement programs this week by the Lansing-based **Michigan Association of Health Plans**.

The awards identified 13 separate programs developed by the HMOs that led to greater efficiencies, lower costs and improvements in patient care services.

"The Pinnacle Awards are among the most important ways health plans can ensure best practices are recognized and adopted in our state," said Rick Murdock, MAHP's executive director, in a statement.

The five HMOs in Southeast Michigan are Detroit-based **Health Alliance Plan**, and **Priority Health** in Farmington Hills; and three Medicaid HMOs, **Midwest Health Plan**, Dearborn; **Great Lakes Health Plan**, Southfield, and **Health Plan of Michigan**, Detroit.

Other health plans recognized by MAHP were **Grand Valley Health Plan** in Grand Rapids and Lansing-based **Physicians Health Plan of Mid-Michigan**, which last month agreed to be acquired by **Blue Care Network**.

- Priority Health was recognized for its spine centers of excellence program, which has reduced the number of spinal surgeries by ensuring patients have explored all treatment options.
- Midwest Health Plan was recognized for increasing the number of women enrolled in preventive programs, primarily by adding Arabic and Spanish speaking customer service representatives.
- HAP improved antidepressant medication compliance through a disease management and outreach program that involved physicians and members.
- Great Lakes Health Plan provided home monitoring devices to its congestive heart failure patients, which helped to reduce unnecessary hospitalizations.
- Health Plan of Michigan used information technology to enhance its case management outreach program to reach a higher percentage of members for preventive care assistance.

MAHP also named Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, as its 2009 "MAHP Legislator of the Year."

Bishop's positions were "consistent with the Michigan Association of Health Plans' mission of the promotion and advocacy of high quality, affordable, accessible health care," MAHP said.

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