



Goal Getter!

## Premier Medical Associates

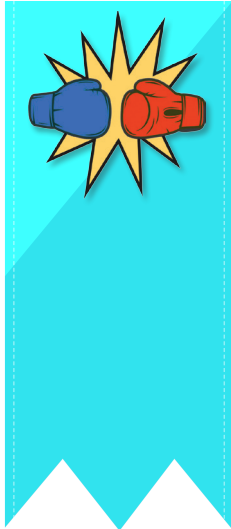
Enhancing Performance by Going Head to Head with Cardiovascular Disease Risk



### Team Stats

Premier Medical Associates (PMA) is the largest multispecialty physician practice in the Greater Pittsburgh area, consisting of 100 providers and offering 23 specialties, including endocrinology and cardiology.

An affiliate of the Allegheny Health Network, PMA serves more than 100,000 patients through 10 locations. The organization provides care to approximately 4,500 people living with Type 2 diabetes.



### Challenge

As a participant in AMGA Foundation's Diabetes: Together 2 Goal® campaign, PMA submitted baseline data to the campaign on five measures: HbA1c control; blood pressure control; lipid management; medical attention for nephropathy; and a diabetes bundle measure consisting of all four of these measures.

In reviewing the campaign's blinded comparative baseline data report for all Together 2 Goal® participants, PMA discovered the organization outperformed the group-weighted average for all campaign measures. However, the culture of PMA fosters continuous improvement in care delivery and quality metrics, and with that mindset, the organization focused on advancing its lowest performing measure—lipid management. Baseline data revealed that 69.0% of PMA's patients with Type 2 diabetes received lipid management, compared to the group-weighted average of 66.3%



## Game Plan

Equipped with evidence supporting the use of statins to reduce cardiovascular risk among patients with Type 2 diabetes and the Together 2 Goal® Toolkit for guidance, PMA took the following steps to advance lipid management:

- ✓ Educated clinicians and care team members about the importance of cardiovascular risk assessment for patients with Type 2 diabetes
- ✓ Included point-of-care alerts for the lipid management (statin prescribed) measure to assist in pre-visit planning
- ✓ Began the use of the ACC/AHA 2013 Cardiovascular Risk Assessment Calculator for patients with Type 2 diabetes over age 40
- ✓ Delegated the use of the risk calculator to nurse navigators as part of standardized workflow
- ✓ Incorporated automated tools in the EHR to calculate cardiovascular risk
- ✓ Created a discrete data field in the EHR for cardiovascular risk scores
- ✓ Engaged clinicians and team members, including clinical pharmacists, to close gaps in statin prescriptions



## Wins

PMA recognized measurable improvement after implementing the aforementioned game plan. The organization's performance on lipid management rose more than seven percentage points during the first year of the campaign, from 69.0% (Q1, 2016) to 76.9% (Q4, 2016). As a result, PMA boosted its overall rank on this measure among campaign participants from 35th (Q1, 2016) to 13th (Q4, 2016) place. The organization set a lofty goal to further improve performance of this measure—83% by the completion of the Together 2 Goal® campaign in 2019.



## Head Coach

**Francis R. Colangelo, M.D.**  
Chief Quality Officer and Vice President  
of PMA Board of Directors  
Premier Medical Associates  
[fcolangelo@pmamail.com](mailto:fcolangelo@pmamail.com)

**“Show  
me the  
data”**



## Playbook

To view the ACC/AHA 2013 Cardiovascular Risk Assessment Calculator, visit <http://www.cvriskcalculator.com/>.

The Together 2 Goal® Campaign Toolkit's "Assess and Address Risk of Cardiovascular Disease" chapter may be a helpful additional resource. Visit [http://www.together2goal.org/Improve/toolkit\\_improve.html](http://www.together2goal.org/Improve/toolkit_improve.html) for more information.