

Section 1: What is QIPS?

For over 30 years, Independence Blue Cross (Independence) has promoted high-quality, accessible, and cost-effective care through our Quality Incentive Payment System (QIPS) program.

QIPS is Independence’s Total Care-designated program and offers primary care practices (PCPs) financial incentives for providing quality health care and effectively managing the care of their HMO and PPO populations, including the management of BlueCard® PPO members. We believe provider office teams are the keys to coordinated and patient-centered care, so we designed QIPS and Independence’s other value-based programs to bring both PCPs and specialists together to work with our hospital network toward aligned goals and incentives.

The QIPS program is evaluated throughout the year — including feedback from providers and Population Health Specialists, input from market changes, and company-wide initiatives — to ensure it is driving high-value, quality experience, and outcomes. As such, we reserve the right to make changes to QIPS upon prior notice through various channels. For example, this might be an email to the address provided when you opted in, a message on our dedicated [QIPS Resources](#) page, or a PEAR notification.

There are two distinct programs dedicated to addressing the concerns of the eligible primary care specialties in the program: 1) Pediatric and 2) Adult, which includes family/general practice (FP/GP), internal medicine (IM), and geriatrics.

Program Components	Adult Practices*	Pediatric Practices
QPM score program	X	X
Improvement Incentive	X	
Engagement Incentive program	X	
Pharmacy Cost	X	X
Medical Cost Efficiency	X	X
ED utilization for potentially preventable ED visits	X	
Transition of Care†	X	
Potentially avoidable ED visits and urgent care utilization		X

*Tandigm Health Practices (adult practices only) are eligible for all programs except for Engagement Incentive program and are paid on a specific member population. Refer to the applicable program for more details and the “Other important terms and conditions” section.

†Transitions of Care includes patient engagement after inpatient discharge, medication reconciliation post-discharge, and follow-up after ED visit with chronic conditions.

Total CareSM program

The QIPS program is recognized as a Total CareSM (TC) program by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association (BCBSA).

TC is composed of value-based programs from across the country. It identifies physicians and hospitals participating in programs that are designed to lower costs through better coordinated, patient-centered care and determines payments based on performance and outcomes.

To be considered for TC designation, a practice must be part of a value-based program with a local Blue Plan that meets BCBSA's selection criteria. Recognized TC practices are identified within Independence's online "Find a Doctor" tool and on the BCBSA's National Doctor and Hospital Finder.