



Achieving Excellence in Virtual Care: Standardizing High-Quality Care with Real-World Insights



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Topics Covered:

- Introduction
- NCQA History
- Virtual Care Program Overview
- Firefly Accreditation Process and Value
- Live Q&A Session
- Conclusion



Introducing Your Presenters

Speakers



Claire Mendelson
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Senior Clinical Programs
and Quality Manager

Virtual Care Program Overview

Virtual Care Program Structure

Fitting Market Needs with Modular Design

Domain-Specific Modules

Module-specific standards applicable to specific care domains. NCQA has launched standards for **primary and urgent care**, with **behavioral health** in development. With subsequent rollouts, we also will expand the scope of virtual care we are able to evaluate. *Organizations can come through multiple modules if they provide services in multiple domains.*

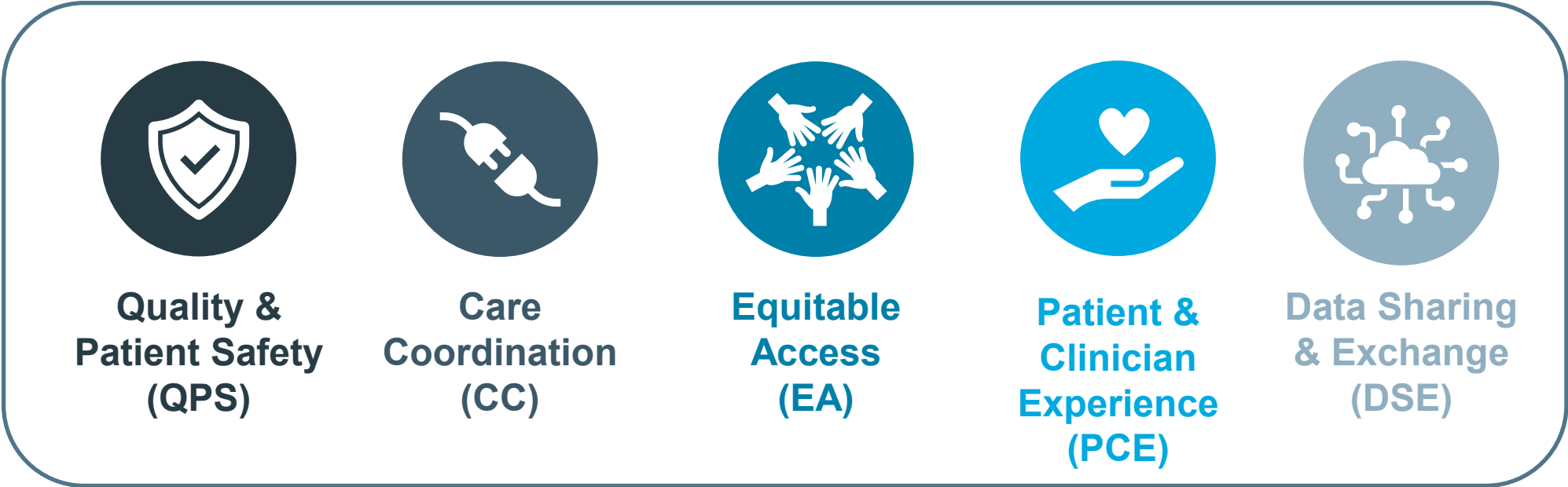
Primary
Care

Urgent
Care

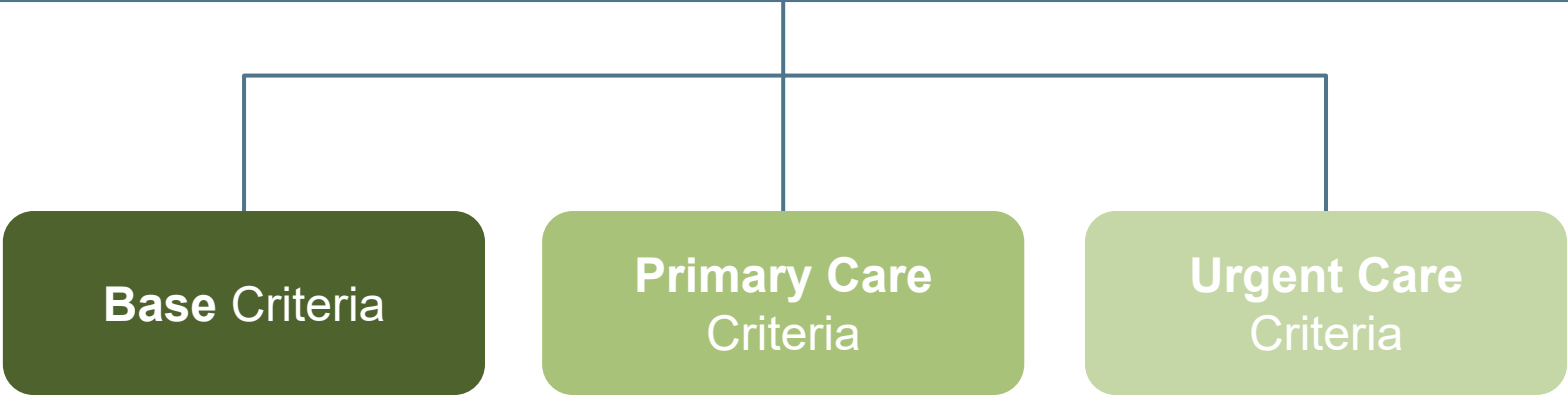
Additional
Modules

Program Structure

Five Standard Concepts



Within Each Category...



Who are you?

Services-Focused Approach with Eligibility



**Provider
Groups &
Health Systems**



ACOs



**Care Delivery
Organizations**



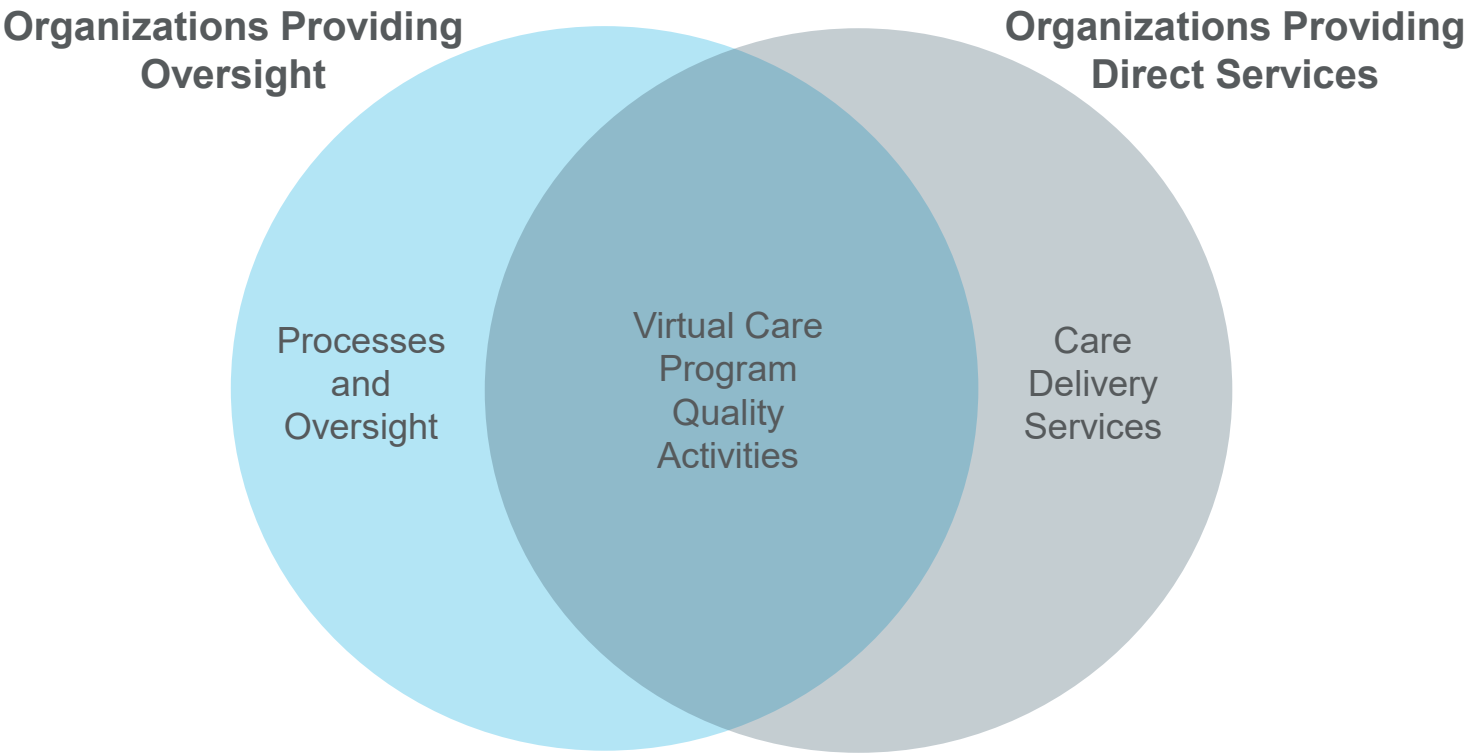
Health Plans



Retail Health

Outcome: Two Different Seals

Keeping a Services-Focused Approach in Mind



Steps to Achieving Accreditation



Commit

Org works with an NCQA representative to develop an evaluation schedule.



Org works with NCQA representative to identify support and education for transformation.



New NCQA Virtual Care online education resources support the transformation process.



Transform

Org submits initial documentation and checks in with its evaluator



Org submits additional documentation and checks in with its Evaluator.



Org submits final documentation to complete submission and begin NCQA evaluation process.



Practice earns NCQA Status (Accredited/Denied).



Succeed

Practice demonstrates continued readiness and high-quality performance through annual check-ins with NCQA.

Firefly Accreditation Process & Value



Advanced Primary Care

Founded by physicians in 2017
Team-based | Virtual-first



Gold Standard For Virtual Care

Firefly Health Drives
Virtual Care Quality as
1st National Primary Care
Practice to Achieve
NCQA Accreditation

Our Hypothesis?

To be more effective, primary care must reorient itself to be:

1

Team-based

with clearly defined
roles and workflows,
detailing who does what and
when

2

Outcomes-driven

Measured in terms of
efficacy, cost, and
satisfaction

for physicians **and patients

3

Virtual-first

leveraging readily
available technology
for greater efficiency and
less burden on our clinical
team

A strong operational foundation is essential to support all of this:

1

Team-based

with clearly defined roles and workflows, detailing who does what and when

2

Outcomes-driven

Measured in terms of efficacy, cost, and satisfaction

****for physicians and patients**

3

Virtual-first

leveraging readily available technology for greater efficiency and less burden on our clinical team

Data Reconciliation

Standard Repeatable Processes

Integrated Care

Asynchronous Communication



A woman with dark hair and glasses is sitting in a bed, holding a smartphone. She is wearing a light blue shirt with a floral pattern. The background shows a wooden headboard and a white pillow.

In 2024 there were
~894
businesses
classified
as “**telehealth
services**”

Our advice?



**You are showcasing
existing efforts**



**Win-win situation
for everyone**



**Start documenting
NOW**

Unexpected insights from the process:

1. **Always room to grow**

EX: Identifying gaps in digital literacy and assessing true clinical/operational alignment.

2. **Data is your friend, not your foe.**

When all else fails, look to see what the numbers and let them illustrate the real story.

3. **NCQA is a collaborator**

It's a guided application path with 3 structured check-in rounds to refine submissions and address issues.



Make this a company-wide effort

Achieving accreditation requires collaboration across every part of the business, which, while daunting, drives accountability



We found some opportunities:

- *Medication reconciliation process*
- *Referrals/lab follow-up*
- *Care plan utilization*
- *Annual team trainings*
- *Assessing health literacy*
- *Reducing health disparities*



FDIC
INSURED



Members



**Business
Partners**



Internal staff



Now...what else do you
really want to know?

Live Q&A Session

Today's Presenters

Moderator



Shacarra DeFreitas
NCQA
Senior Marketing Manager

Speakers



Claire Mendelson
NCQA
Manager



Avae Thomas Quartey
Firefly Health
Senior Clinical Programs
and Quality Manager

Stay Connected

Contact Us

For information on Virtual Care Accreditation, visit [ncqa.org/virtualcare](https://www.ncqa.org/virtualcare).



VIP Access: Whitepaper

Check your email for post-webinar details and complimentary access to two NCQA Virtual Care whitepapers.



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you're invited!

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Closing