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Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CJR) Collaborator Partner Selection

PURPOSE:

St. Tammany Parish Hospital Service District No. 1, d/b/a St. Tammany Parish Hospital ("Hospital") is an acute care hospital in the state of Louisiana. Due to the location of the hospital within the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) 35380, termed "New Orleans-Metairie, LA", the institution will participate in Medicare's Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CJR) model. CMS will measure and provide data by hospital Provider ID # for purposes of measuring episode spend. The effective date of participation commencement was April 1, 2016 with the program set to continue until December 31, 2020.

The CJR model holds participant hospitals financially accountable for the quality and cost of a CJR episode of care and incentivizes increased coordination of care among hospitals, physicians, and post-acute care providers. The episode of care begins with an admission to a participant hospital of a beneficiary who is ultimately discharged under MS-DRG 469 (Major joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity with major complications or comorbidities) or 470 (Major joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without major complications or comorbidities) and ends 90-days post-discharge in order to cover the complete period of recovery for beneficiaries. The episode includes all related items and services paid under Medicare Part A and Part B for all Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries, with the exception of certain exclusions.

All providers and suppliers will continue to be paid under the usual payment system rules and procedures of the Medicare program for episode services throughout the year.

An optional condition of participation in the federally mandated CJR program is the ability to construct and implement a gainsharing program between the hospitals and physicians. Gainsharing is a process by which physicians who assist hospital partners in reducing costs can then share in the economic results of their efforts. The goal of such a program is to encourage and enjoin physicians in the overall process of care redesign across the care continuum, placing special effort upon increasing quality, improving efficiency, reducing cost (both to Medicare and to the participating hospitals), and ensuring that the proper patients receive the proper care in the proper setting, thereby furthering Medicare's stated goal of achieving the "Triple Aim" of "better care, better population health, and lower costs". The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), through the Secretary of Health and Human Services and as authorized by Section 1115A(d)(1) of the Social Security Act, provides for several waivers related to laws both civil and criminal that will enable gainsharing to take place provided that several conditions are met.

DEFINITIONS:

Collaborator – a provider that has entered into a collaborator agreement with Participant Hospital.

Collaborator Agreement – a written agreement between a Participant Hospital and a CJR Collaborator for the sole purpose of making gainsharing payments under the CJR Episode Payment Model.

Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CJR) – a bundled payment program for selected hospitals aimed at improving the care of Medicare Beneficiaries undergoing lower extremity joint replacement surgery while lowering the 90-day episode costs. (42 CFR Part 510).

Participant Hospital – a SCL Health inpatient prospective payment system hospital participating in the CJR episode payment model (EPM).



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Procedure:

Participant Hospital will enter into Collaborator Agreements only with orthopedic surgeons that meet the following qualifications:

Physician represents, warrants and covenants that, at all times during the Term, Physician will:

- Possess a valid and unlimited license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana
- Maintain in good standing medical staff and clinical privileges on the medical staff of the Hospital
- Maintain unrestricted federal and state drug enforcement registration numbers as applicable to scope of practice
- Maintain a participating provider agreement with Medicare and not be excluded from participation in, or sanctioned by, any state, federal or local healthcare program, including without limitation, Medicare and Medicaid

Program-Specific Requirements:

- Collaborator Agreements will be offered to orthopedic surgeons performing elective total knee, hip, or ankle replacement surgery.
- Orthopedic surgeons participating in Collaborator Agreements may be employed by St. Tammany Parish Hospital or independent.
- Orthopedic surgeons participating in Collaborator Agreements must agree to participate in and contribute to the Participant Hospital's care redesign strategies.
- Orthopedic surgeons participating in Collaborator Agreements must sign a written CJR Collaborator Agreement that will include parameters and metrics related to quality, care provision, and savings payment triggers appropriate for the services provided.
- Orthopedic surgeons entering into Collaborator Agreements must have (or their practice entity must have) a compliance program that includes oversight of the Collaborator Agreement and compliance with CJR requirements.

Participation in a Collaborator Agreement is voluntary and without penalty for nonparticipation.

Participation in a Collaborator Agreement will not be based on volume or value of referrals or business otherwise generated by the Collaborator. CJR A. No Collaboration agreement shall be executed which is directly or indirectly conditioned on the number and or value of referrals made from or to the Collaboration partner.

All requests for Hospital's consideration of contracting any CJR Collaborator shall be made to the CJR Steering Committee

If during the term of the Agreement, Physician does not meet any of the above qualifications and/or is placed on the List of Excluded Individuals and Entities of the Office of Inspector General ("LEIE") or any other sanctions list, excluded from government healthcare programs, or convicted of a felony or any crime relating to healthcare, Physician will immediately notify Hospital in writing of the event. In such event, Hospital will have the right to terminate this Agreement immediately by written notice to Physician.