

Quilted Health partners with Regence on value-based program to improve birth outcomes

TACOMA, Wash., Oct. 18, 2021 (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – Pregnancy care provider **Quilted Health** announced today that they are partnering with **Regence** to bring value-based payment to a midwifery model of care. The Regence EoC program is managed by **Signify Health**, a healthcare platform built to create and power value-based episodes of care programs. EoC compensates providers for delivering improved patient outcomes and lower costs over a patient’s “episode of care” for a procedure or condition – such as a knee replacement or a pregnancy and birth – over a defined period of time.



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The partnership, one of the first focused on maternity for the Regence Episodes of Care (EoC) program, provides a value-based payment structure to support an evidence-based, equity-focused care model that aims to drive better birth outcomes and reduce health disparities. This model is uniquely suited to midwifery care, because better outcomes and higher patient satisfaction often come with less intervention, and therefore lower costs.

The U.S. is the most dangerous country in the developed world to give birth in terms of maternal and infant mortality, according to the [Commonwealth Fund](#). Underlying factors include limited access to care options, especially early in pregnancy when co-occurring disorders can be assessed and managed, high rates of Cesarean births and pre-term births, inadequate postpartum care, and inconsistent communication between members of the care team. Structural racism makes this situation even worse for birthing people of color, [research shows](#).

Well known are the wide disparities in birth outcomes based on race, with Black and Indigenous birthing people two or three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications than their white counterparts, according to the CDC.

Quilted Health puts the pregnant person at the forefront of care with a model led by midwives, partnering with doulas, OB/GYNs, community-based organizations and other specialists to care for patients holistically, with a focus on health equity.

“Partnering with Regence and Signify in this new Episodes of Care payment model is an exciting step forward,” said Christine Henningsgaard, CEO and Co-Founder of Quilted Health. “We hope this spurs further payment reform that integrates and rewards the high-value and whole-person care provided by midwives.”

Through the Regence EoC program, Quilted Health will take accountability for the patient’s entire pregnancy – from first prenatal visit through the birth to postnatal care. Under this fixed price model, providers have the flexibility to take a holistic approach to care, including a focus on health education, timely initiation of prenatal and postnatal care, and other evidence-based services that promote the well-being of the birthing person and the newborn.

Quilted Health exercises this flexibility to provide always-on support, wellness and social resources, and extended postnatal care out to one year after the birth. In addition, they coordinate with insurance for those who need coverage, and cover the cost of doulas.

“Regence works closely with providers like Quilted Health to deliver patient-centered, cost-effective and high-quality care for our members,” said Alex Goolsby, vice president of Network Innovation and Operations at Regence. “Our new partnership will bring the innovative, patient-focused Episodes of Care program to more of our members in Washington.”

Quilted Health is venture-backed by Town Hall Ventures, Oxeon Venture Studio, and Blue Venture Fund.

About Quilted Health

Quilted Health exists to build and champion a model for equitable access to compassionate, human-centered, whole-person pregnancy care. We envision a world where equity and access are at the center of reproductive care for all

people. We believe that everyone, regardless of their race, gender, sexuality, location, ability or income, should have access to evidence-based, inclusive and delightful care. Quilted Health has clinics in Washington State and provides hospital-based births. For more information, please visit <https://www.quiltedhealth.com/>.

About Regence

Regence serves more than 3.3 million members through its Regence health plans in Idaho, Oregon, Utah and Washington. Each Regence health plan is a nonprofit independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Regence is part of a family of companies dedicated to transforming health care by delivering innovative products and services that change the way consumers nationwide experience health care. For more information, please visit <https://www.regence.com/>.

About Signify Health

Signify Health (NYSE: SGFY) is a leading healthcare platform that leverages advanced analytics, technology, and nationwide healthcare provider networks to create and power value-based payment programs. Our mission is to transform how care is paid for and delivered so that people can enjoy more healthy, happy days at home. Our solutions support value-based payment programs by aligning financial incentives around outcomes, providing tools to health plans and healthcare organizations designed to assess and manage risk and identify actionable opportunities for improved patient outcomes, coordination and cost-savings. Through our platform, we coordinate what we believe is a holistic suite of clinical, social, and behavioral services to address an individual's healthcare needs and prevent adverse events that drive excess cost, all while shifting services towards the home. For more information on how we are taking health homeward, visit us at <https://www.signifyhealth.com/>

Signify Health is a separate and independent company that administers episode-based payment programs for Regence members.