



**ADVANCING ARTHRITIS PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITIES  
THROUGH NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (CDC-RFA-DP21-2106)**

**Arthritis Advisory Panel  
Tuesday, September 12, 2023, 10:00-11:30 A.M. ET**



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS**  
Promoting Health. Preventing Disease.

# Funding Attribution

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# Arthritis Care Model Design Partners

Hospital for Special Surgery/ USBJI	Johns Hopkins Arthritis Center	Intermountain Healthcare	Torrance Memorial Medical Center & Harbor-UCLA Medical Center	Vigeo Orthopedics, LLC.	Orcinus Health Solutions	UT Southwestern Medical Center
Iowa State University	AgeSpan	New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services	American Physical Therapy Association	Arthritis Foundation	Osteoarthritis Action Alliance	Exercise is Medicine®
Massachusetts Department of Public Health	American College of Rheumatology	National Recreation and Park Association	Administration for Community Living	YMCA of the USA	Freedmen's Health	Humana
	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	National Association of Chronic Disease Directors	Dartmouth College, Center for Program Design and Evaluation at Dartmouth (CPDE)	Comagine Health	Leavitt Partners	



# Design Sessions



- 1 May 9 **Screening Arthritis Pt's for QoL**
- 2 May 23 **Brief Advice / Counseling**
- 3 June 13 **Referral**
- 4 June 27 **Care Coordination**
- 5 July 11 **Reimbursement and Beyond**
- 6 July 25 **Design Recap/ Evaluation**

Expert Panel  
on 8/9

- Health System Selection Criteria
  - Reimbursement & Incentive Debrief
- State Criteria to host pilot

Expert Panel  
on 9/12

- Final Evaluation Framework (Dartmouth)
- Evaluation & Wrap-up

# Agenda

- Welcome and Agenda Review
- Final Evaluation Framework
- Arthritis Model Diagram
- Next Steps on Health System Pilot
- Thank you and Evaluation of Process



# Arthritis Care Model

## Aim 1: Evidence-Informed Arthritis Care Model

Develop and implement an evidence-informed arthritis care model to conduct function, pain, and physical activity screenings; patient counseling on the benefits of physical activity; and referrals to arthritis-appropriate physical activity and self-management programs and other evidence based “treatments.”



## Aim 2: Demonstrate / Pilot

Pilot the arthritis care model in a healthcare system that serves diverse populations; demonstrate clinical outcomes and total cost of care savings; and reimbursement pathways and incentives for provider screening, counseling, and referral.



## Aim 3: Scale & Spread

Disseminate learnings on a national level and enhance healthcare provider awareness, knowledge, and skills to promote physical activity as an effective, drug-free way to relieve arthritis pain, improve function, and limit arthritis progression among adults with arthritis.





# Final Evaluation Framework

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The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice



**Center for Program Design & Evaluation**

CPDE | Dartmouth College

# Arthritis Care Model Evaluation Framework

September 12, 2023

Karen Schifferdecker, PhD, MPH

Kathleen Carluzzo, MS





# Abbreviations

- AAEBI is Arthritis-appropriate Evidence-based Intervention
- AWV is Annual Wellness Visit
- CBO is Community-Based Organization (or Community Hub)
- EHR is Electronic Health Record
- HRQOL is Health-related Quality of Life
- LPA is Light Physical Activity
- MVPA is Moderate to Vigorous Physical Activity
- PA is Physical Activity
- PAVS is Physical Activity Vital Sign
- PROMIS is the Patient Reported Outcome Measurement Information System



# Project Aims

1. Improve PA and HRQOL of adults with OA-K/H

2. Patients who are screened, counseled, and who are referred to and participate in PT/AEIBs are representative of the practice's eligible population

**Patients**

3. Implementing the Arthritis Care Model is acceptable/feasible/incentivized for the primary care team

4. Referral to and implementation of AEIBs is acceptable/feasible/incentivized for the community-based partner(s)/Hub

**Providers/  
Practices**

5. Implementing screening, counseling, and AEIB referrals provides revenue return on investment (ROI) for practice(s) and cost savings

**System**



# Proposed pathway (Version: May 23)

For patients age ≥18...



## All patients (Universal Prevention for Patient Vital Signs)



## Chief Complaint of Knees/Hips Pain & Function Limitation (no diagnosis)



Evaluation framework primarily focuses here





# Definitions

- Pilot evaluation period: 12-mo period that commences (e.g., upon day 1 of pilot implementation) – referred to here at “pilot period”
- Pilot site: eligible clinics/locations at the health system selected to pilot the arthritis care model
- Eligible visit (baseline): Annual Physical, Medicare AWW, Knee/hip joint pain visit during the pilot period
- Eligible patient: Patients seen at an eligible visit at the pilot site who meet eligibility criteria during the pilot period
- Eligibility criteria: set of criteria (TBD)\* that determine whether a patient is eligible for *each component* of the intervention (screening, counseling, referral)
- Numerator: Note, this is always a subset of the denominator
- Denominator: Total number of eligible patients with OA-K/H with an eligible visit at site during pilot period



# Mixed Methods Evaluation Design

## Quantitative – RE-AIM Framework

Clinical/EHR data and QI tools (e.g., run charts)

Billing code usage

Surveys

Tracking (e.g., participation)

## Qualitative – CFIR Framework (*select domains*)

Document review (e.g., meeting notes)

Semi-structured Interviews and/or Focus Groups

Qual methods will focus on implementation factors that influence fidelity, facilitators, and barriers



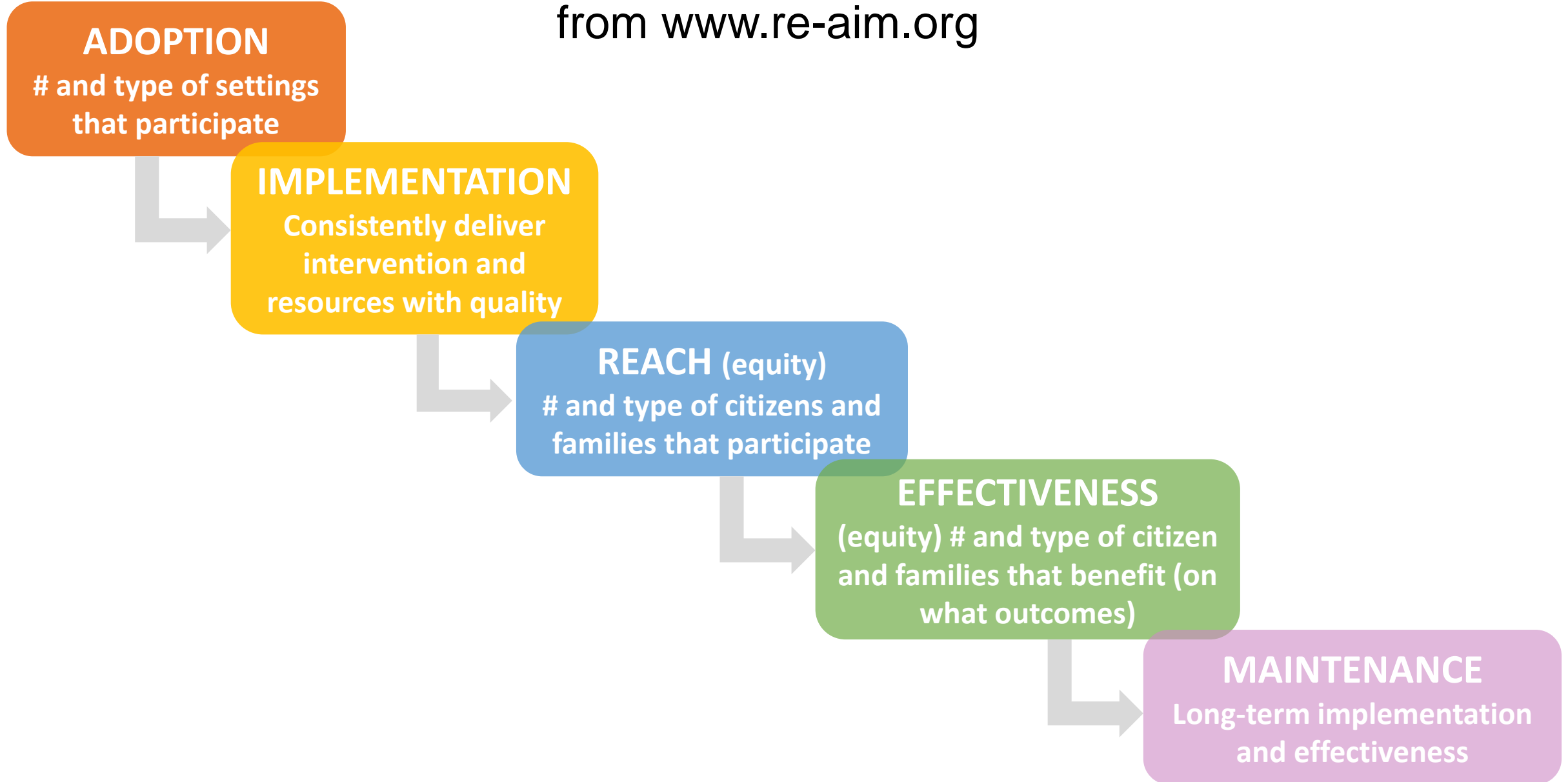
# RE-AIM Framework

<b>Domain</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>REACH</b>	Number, proportion, and representativeness of individuals willing to participate in the intervention; reasons why or why not.
<b>EFFECTIVENESS</b>	Impact of an intervention on key individual outcomes, including potential negative effects, and broader impact including QOL and economic outcomes; and variability across subgroups
<b>ADOPTION</b>	Number, proportion, and representativeness of settings and intervention agents (who deliver the program) willing to initiate a program, and why.
<b>IMPLEMENTATION</b>	Fidelity to intervention's key components (consistency of delivery, time and cost of implementation, adaptations, implementation strategies)
<b>MAINTENANCE</b>	<i>Setting:</i> Extent to which program becomes institutionalized / routine <i>Individual:</i> Long-term effects of program on outcomes post-program



# RE-AIM Outcomes Cascade

from [www.re-aim.org](http://www.re-aim.org)





# Aims Evaluation using RE-AIM

Aims	R REACH	E EFFECTIVE.	A ADOPTION	I IMPLEMENT.	M MAINT.
1. Overarching: Improve HRQOL of adults with OA-K/H	X	X			X
2. Patients who are screened, and who are referred to and participate in PT/AAEBIs are representative of the practice's eligible population	X			X	
3. Implementing the Arthritis Care Model is acceptable/feasible/incentivized for the primary care team	X		X	X	X
4. Referral to and implementation of the AAEBI is acceptable/feasible/incentivized for the community-based partner(s)/Hub			X	X	X
5. Implementing screening and AAEBI referrals provides revenue return on investment (ROI) for practice(s)		X		X	X





# Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR)

## Intervention characteristics

Intervention source, Evidence strength and quality,  
Relative advantage, Adaptability, Trialability,  
Complexity,  
Design quality, Cost

## Outer Setting

Patient needs and  
resources, Peer pressure,  
Cosmopolitanism, External  
policies and incentives

## Individuals involved

Knowledge/beliefs about the intervention,  
Self-efficacy, Individual stage of change,  
Individual identification with organization,  
Personal attributes

## Implementation process

Planning, Engaging, Executing,  
Reflecting and evaluating

## Inner setting

Structural characteristics,  
Networks and communications,  
Culture, Implementation climate

# Selected domains from the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR)

## Intervention characteristics

Intervention source, Evidence strength and quality, Adaptability, Trialability, Complexity, Cost

## Outer Setting

Patient needs and resources, External incentives

## Individuals involved

Knowledge/beliefs about the intervention, Self-efficacy

## Implementation process

Planning, Engaging, Executing, Reflecting and evaluating

## Inner setting

Structural characteristics, Networks and communications, Implementation climate



# CFIR – Example domains to explore

## **Complexity**

How 'easy' is it to implement the arthritis care model into current work flows?

## **Knowledge/beliefs about the intervention**

How much do the medical assistants believe that screening for physical activity is important?

## **Structural characteristics**

Does the practice already collect PROs prior to visits?

## **Executing**

Are all relevant team members involved in implementing the arthritis care model?

## **Patient needs and resources**

How many patients in the practice have hip/knee OA? Do they have access to places or spaces to participate in or carry out AAEBIs?



# Data Sources- triangulation and summaries by Dartmouth

Data Source	Responsible for collection
<b>Quantitative</b>	
EHR (PROs, pt. demos, referrals)*	Clinic/IT staff
QI run charts: screening, counseling, referrals	NACDD
Health care team surveys	Dartmouth
AAEBI enrollment / participation*	Hub/Community-based partner
Billing code usage change(?)*	Clinic admin staff
<b>Qualitative</b>	
Patient interviews	Dartmouth
Provider/staff interviews or FGs	Dartmouth
Implementation meeting notes (e.g., with sites, hub, etc)	Dartmouth



# Primary measure: physical activity

## PAVS + intensity + muscle strengthening

Use to screen all patients (age  $\geq 18$ ) at all visits; <30 sec to complete

**Physical Activity Vital Sign (PAVS)** – formerly, “Exercise Vital Sign”

1. On average, how many days per week do you engage in physical activity?  
\_\_\_ days
2. On average, how many minutes do you engage in physical activity at this level?  
\_\_\_ minutes
3. Rate the intensity of your weekly physical activity:  
light (casual walk); moderate (brisk walk), vigorous physical activity (jog)?

**Calculation** #1 x #2 = Minutes/week light or mod/vig.; (National guideline = 150 min/week MVPA)

4. How many days a week do you perform muscle strengthening exercises, such as bodyweight exercises or resistance training? \_\_\_ days



# Primary measures: HRQOL

## Physical Function (PROMIS, 4 items)

Response options (5): Without any difficulty (5) → Unable to do (1)

*In the past 7 days, are you able to...*

- Do chores such as vacuuming or yard work?
- Go up and down stairs at a normal pace?
- Go for a walk of at least 15 minutes?
- Run errands and shop?

**Calculation:** Raw score is the sum of all 4 items, can be converted to t-scores. Impairment is rated as:  
Within Normal Limits (18-20), Mild (15-17), Moderate (7-14), or Severe (4-6)

## Pain Interference (PROMIS, 4 items)

Response options (5): Not at all (1) → Very much (5)

*In the past 7 days... How much did pain interfere with*

- Your day-to-day activities?
- Work around the home?
- Your ability to participate in social activities?
- Your household chores?

**Calculation:** Raw score is the sum of all 4 items, can be converted to t-scores. Symptoms are rated as:  
Within Normal Limits (4-7), Mild (8-11), Moderate (12-18), or Severe (19-20)



# Primary measures: ROI and cost

## Relevant billing code(s) use

**Numerator:** Total number of eligible patients for whom intervention-related billing codes are used

**Denominator:** Total number of eligible patients with OA-K/H with an eligible visit at site during pilot period

## Falls reduction

Explore: patient self-report vs. available clinic data on patients



# Data Collection

(estimate 18 months, 2024-26)

## Ongoing

PAVS + intensity, Strengthening, PROs, Falls  
(baseline, post – timing TBD)

## Monthly

Screening, Counseling, Referral, AAEBI counts  
Participation tracking (PT, AAEBIs)

## 1-2 times

Interviews or Focus Groups  
Billing code usage review (baseline, post)





# Detailed Evaluation Plan

Aim	Measure/Source	Method	Timing/ Frequency
Increase screening/ counseling/referral	Proportion of eligible patients screened, counseled, referred per EHR data	Run charts	Monthly



# Detailed Evaluation Plan

Aim	Measure/Source	Method	Timing/ Frequency
Implementing the Arthritis Care Model is acceptable/feasible/incentivized for the primary care team	Primary Care team	Interviews or focus group	1-2 times during pilot period
	Primary Care team	Survey (brief)	1-2 times during pilot period
	Meeting notes	Review	Monthly



# Detailed Evaluation Plan

<b>Aim</b>	<b>Measure/Source</b>	<b>Method</b>	<b>Timing/ Frequency</b>
Referral to and implementation of AAEBIs is acceptable/feasible for the community-based partner/Hub	Hub leader or referral lead	Interview	1 time during pilot period
	Meeting notes	Review	Monthly
	Proportion of pilot practice referrals received per practice referral data and Hub data	Summary comparison	1-2 times during pilot period



# Detailed Evaluation Plan

Aim	Measure/Source	Method	Timing/ Frequency
Patients who are screened, counseled, and referred are representative of the practice's eligible population	Proportion of eligible patients in selected demographic characteristics per EHR data	Summary comparison	1 time during pilot period
Patients who participate in PT/AAEBIs are representative of the practice's eligible population	Proportion of referred patients in selected demographic characteristics per Hub data	Summary comparison	1 time during pilot period



# Detailed Evaluation Plan

Aim	Measure/Source	Method	Timing/ Frequency
Improve PA and HRQOL of adults with OA-K/H	Proportion of referred patients who enroll/complete AAEBI or PT per Hub or EHR data	Summary comparison	1-2 times during pilot period
	Improved PAVS and PROMIS through EHR data (individual-level)	Baseline and post referral assessments	Data collection ongoing; summary analyses 2-3x per pilot period



# Detailed Evaluation Plan

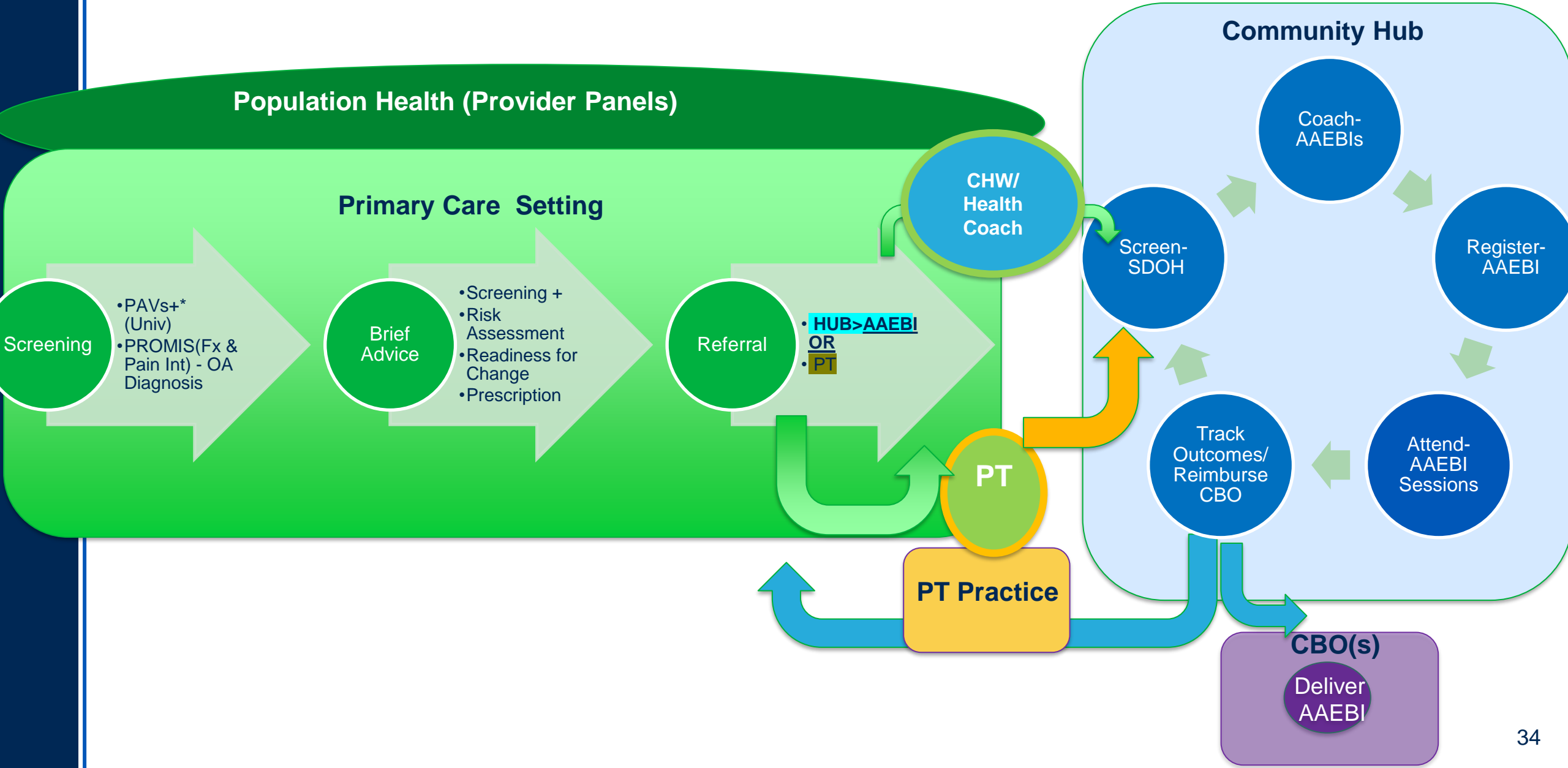
Aim	Measure/Source	Method	Timing/ Frequency
Implementing screening, counseling, and AAEBI referrals provides revenue return on investment (ROI) for practice and cost savings	Proportion of qualifying visits that use intervention-related billing codes (TBD)	Summary analysis	1 time during pilot period
	Falls data through EHR (individual-level)	Baseline and post referral assessments	Data collection ongoing; summary analysis 1x



# Arthritis Model Diagram

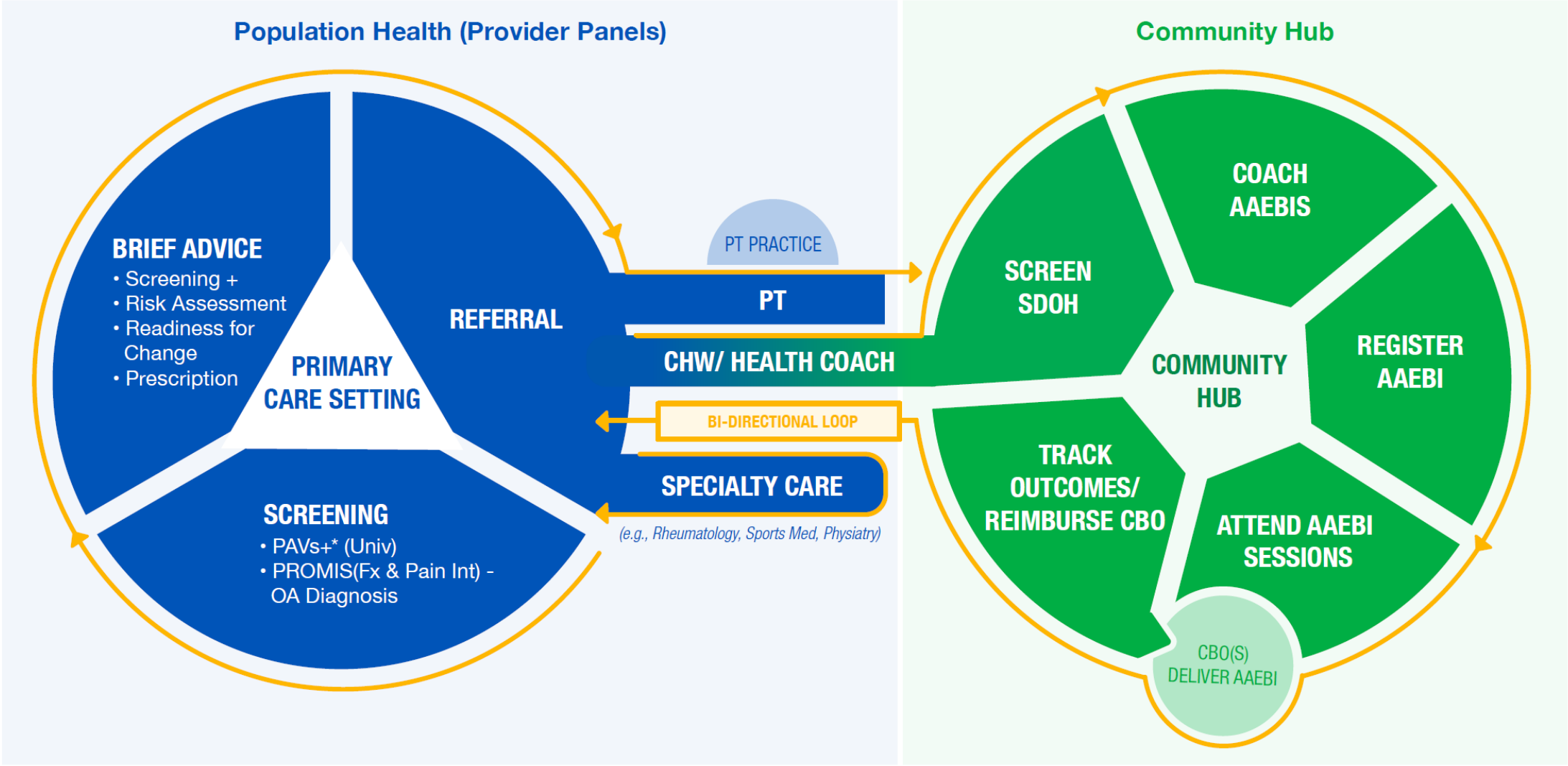


# Arthritis Care Model





# Arthritis Care Model





# Next Steps on Health System Pilot Selection

# Selection Process, Steps & Timeline:

- **Sept 7, 2023 - Solicitation sent to CDC & ACL Grantee Recipients**
- **Sept 14, 2023 - 12:30-1:30 pm ET** - There will be an informational session to address any questions.
- **By Oct 13, 2023** - Entity to submit brief application electronically
- **By Oct 31, 2023** - Informational Interviews of Entities to clarify entity and healthcare system capabilities and capacities.
- **By Nov 17, 2023** - Selection and notification of Entity/Health System Pilot for demonstration pilot.

# Eligibility Criteria - Entity

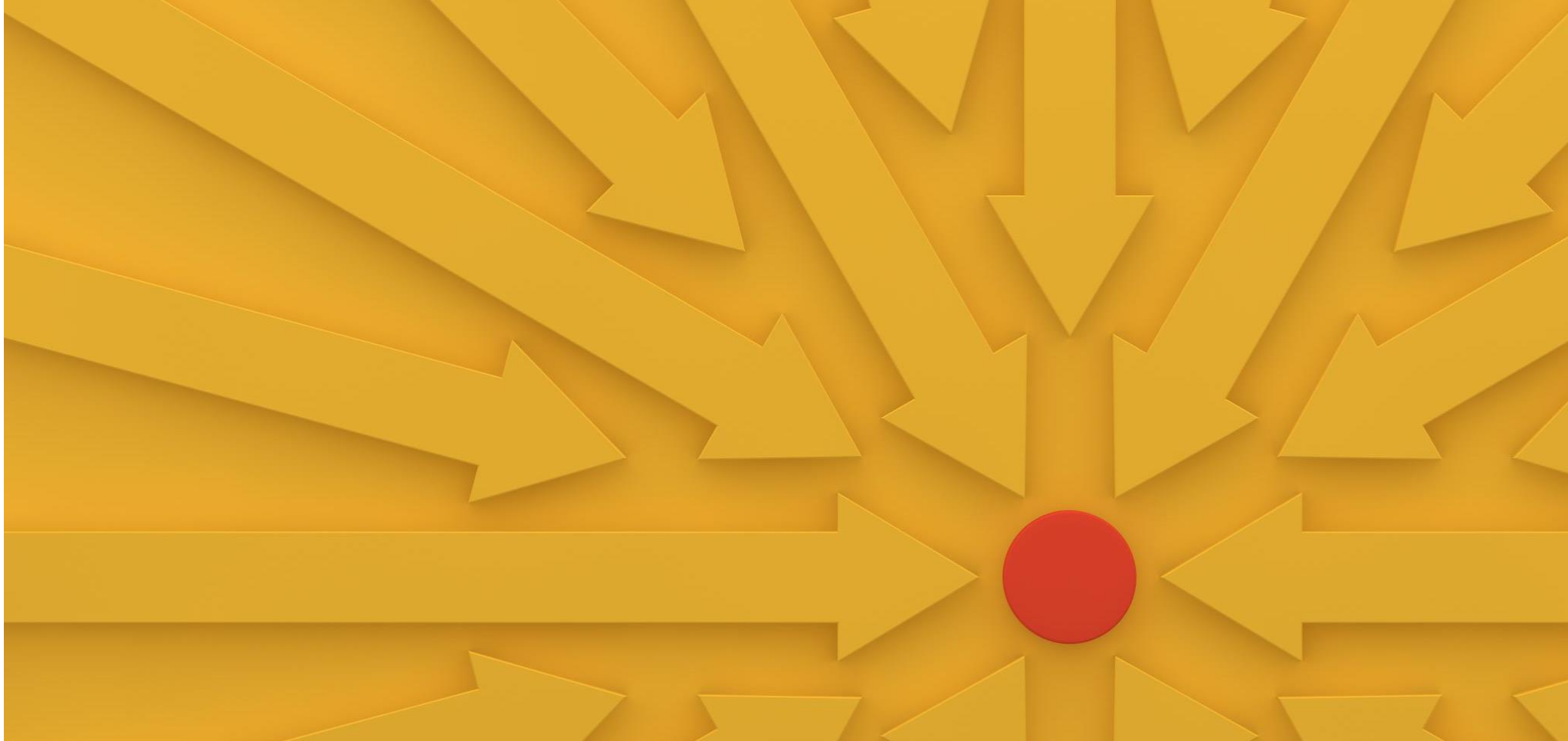
1. **Current AAEBI capacity with the ability to add capacity for the health system pilot as necessary (e.g., patient volume, demographics, and severity of osteoarthritis).**
  - a. At minimum entity must offer at least 2 Physical Activity & 1 Self-Management Education AAEBI to allow for shared decision making; at least one AAEBI, but not all, should be offered remotely.
2. **Internal capacity to sustain health system pilot through September 2025 and is seeking strategies for sustainment beyond 2025.**
3. **Partnerships with Community Care Hubs, as defined by the Partnership to Align Social Care (<https://www.partnership2asc.org/>).**
  - a. In collaboration with the Community Care Hub(s), the entity will ensure the following:
    - 1) Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Screening
    - 2) Individual-level coaching and counseling for AAEBI selection
    - 3) Ability to track participation and outcomes in evidence-based interventions
    - 4) Sustainable reimbursement pathways for AAEBI/health system
  - b. In partnership with the community care hub(s), leverages community health technology enablers (e.g., AAEBI locator, social care plan, billing, workshop management, bi-directional referral)
4. **Entity will ensure health system can collect and share key data according to data standards to be provided, including ability to:**
  - a. Collect and report screening, counseling, and referral data
  - b. Collect and utilize patient reported outcome data

# Eligibility Criteria – Health System

1. **Signed agreement with entity**
2. **Serves diverse, Medicare/Medicaid Populations**
  - a. Ability to work with entity to gather and share diversity and payer mix data.
3. **Ability to dedicate the appropriate program infrastructure and leadership including:**
  - a. Executive Sponsor
  - b. Physician Champion
  - c. Project Leader
4. **Integration of key data elements into EHR and share key data according to data standards to be provided, including ability to:**
  - a. Collect and report screening, counseling, and referral data
  - b. Collect and utilize patient reported outcome data
5. **Participation in monthly Quality Improvement team meetings with appropriate resources allocated.**
6. **Maximize payment arrangement(s) that are geared toward value and prevention.**
7. **Alignment of provider incentives. (encouraged)**
8. **Capability to send and receive referral information with social care entities (e.g., Community Care Hubs) and will ensure the platforms are used for this effort.**



# Evaluation of Process



# Thank you!

