



# Bridges to Excellence Provider Incentive Programs

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# Bridges to Excellence

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Bridges to Excellence (BTE) is a provider recognition program from Altarum designed to measure the quality of care delivered, with a focus on managing patients with chronic conditions.

To address widespread diabetes and asthma issues in Texas, Superior HealthPlan is now a proud partner of Altarum's Bridges to Excellence® (BTE) Diabetes and Asthma Care Incentive Programs. These BTE Incentive Programs are clinician recognition programs intended to identify clinicians who deliver high-value care to patients with diabetes and asthma.



## Overview

BTE has recognition programs for health-care professionals who work with asthma and diabetes patients. Each program has three levels of recognition; 3 star, 4 star and 5 star for diabetes care and I, II, III for asthma care, each indicating a different performance level.

Once recognized, providers are eligible for incentive programs from health plans, like Superior, as well as entry in Altarum's Inquire system. Inquire is a consumer resource for finding high-quality providers, and is available online or through a mobile application.

Studies demonstrate that participation in BTE programs leads to improved provider performance, better patient health and reduced costs-of-care.

Find out more at

<http://www.bridgestoexcellence.org/recognition-programs>.

*Studies demonstrate that participation in BTE programs leads to improved provider performance, better patient health and reduced costs-of-care.*



## How to Become a BTE-Recognized Provider

The first step to achieving BTE recognition is to decide which of Altarum's chronic condition programs is the best fit. A provider must treat at least 25 patients with the chronic condition to qualify. Another important consideration is the rewards available for the different programs. Details on the rewards can be found at <http://www.bridgestoexcellence.org/recognition-programs>.

Superior incents providers who participate in the BTE Diabetes and Asthma Programs. Patient records can be submitted through The National Committee for Quality Assurance's (NCQA) Diabetes Incentive Program, through the Bridges to Excellence application, or directly from certain Electronic Medical Records (EMRs) companies. Once the data is received, it is reviewed by a performance assessment organization to see if the provider qualifies for recognition. Review details on how to apply for recognition at <http://www.bridgestoexcellence.org/clinicians-participate-bte>.



## Bridges to Excellence Diabetes and Asthma Programs

To encourage more effective treatment and management, Altarum worked with diabetes and asthma experts to create measures to assess and reward high performing providers. These measures address a broad range of issues affecting patient health and wellness.

**To earn recognition in **diabetes**, clinicians must meet benchmarks on measures such as:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • ACEI/ARB Therapy                            | • Hemoglobin A1C Control (HbA1C)                    |
| • Aspirin Use if 10-year risk > 10%           | • Hemoglobin A1C (HbA1C) Measurement Twice Annually |
| • Blood Pressure Control                      | • Lipid Control                                     |
| • Blood Pressure Measurement Twice Annually   | • Nephropathy Assessment                            |
| • Body Mass Index/Weight/Nutrition Counseling | • Ophthalmologic Examination                        |
| • Cardiovascular Risk Assessment              | • Podiatry Examination                              |
| • Depression Screening Annually               | • Tobacco Use and Cessation Advice and Treatment    |

**To earn recognition in **asthma**, clinicians must meet benchmarks on measures such as:**

- |                                     |                                |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Annual Influenza Vaccination      | • Patient Self-Management Plan |
| • Appropriate Medication Therapy    | • Smoking Cessation            |
| • Lung Function Test and Monitoring |                                |

# Diabetes Incentive Program



## Overview

Superior providers who participate in any product line, have an open panel or are accepting new patients (in the case of specialists), and are BTE-recognized for diabetes will be eligible for Superior’s incentive program.

Incentives are allocated on a Per-Member-Per-Year (PMPY) bonus. The value of each incentive is dependent on the level of recognition achieved.

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3 star: \$100/PMPY

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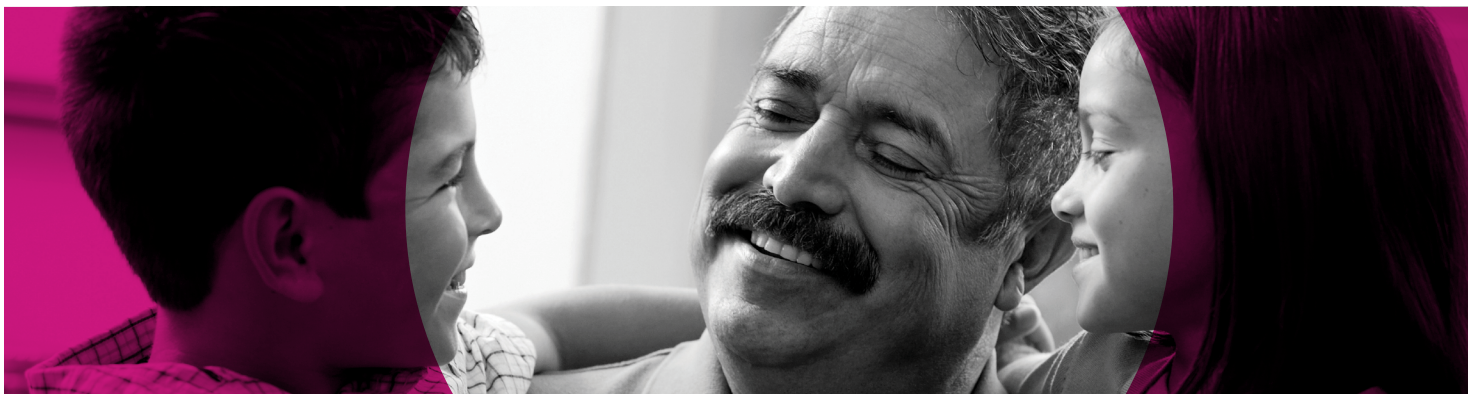
4 star: \$125/PMPY

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5 star: \$150/PMPY

*“Diabetes affects one in three Texans and costs the state more than \$12.5 billion a year. The number of adult Texans with diabetes is expected to quadruple over the next three decades to nearly 8 million.”*

- Texas Health Institute



## Frequency of Payment

Superior will pay the provider 25% of the PMPY amount for each of the first (March 30th), second (June 30th) and fourth (December 31st) quarters, dependent on the highest level of recognition achieved that quarter.

For the third quarter payment (September 30th), Superior will review the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) results for diabetes measures for that provider. If results are above the 90th percentile, 25% of the PMPY amount will be paid.



## Member Identification

Members with diabetes are identified using the following criteria. They must:

- ✓ Be a Superior member.
- ✓ Be five years of age or older.
- ✓ Have at least one claim with a qualifying ICD-10 diagnosis code from the following code groups:
  - E08, E09, E10, E11 and E13 codes – Diabetes
  - E66 codes – Obesity
- ✓ Have submitted a qualified claim within the most recent 15 months of claims history.

Members who have drug-induced diabetes or gestational diabetes are not eligible for this program. Additionally, Coordination of Benefit (COB) claims will not be considered.



## Member Attribution

Attribution is the process of linking a member to a provider for the BTE Diabetes Care Incentive Program. Members are attributed to a BTE-recognized provider using the following criteria:

- ✓ The provider must be an MD or DO, and non-hospital based.
- ✓ The member must have at least one face-to-face claim with an E&M code.

If a member sees multiple providers, the following hierarchy will apply for attribution:

1. Endocrinologist is the first selected provider.
2. If the member sees multiple providers, the provider with the greatest number of claim service dates is attributed.
3. If there are multiple providers with the same number of claims, the provider with the most recent claim service date is selected.
4. If the most recent claim date is the same from multiple providers, then the provider with the largest total allowed dollars is selected.

*Please note: Members are re-attributed to a provider every quarter depending on attribution logic.*



## Enrollment

Providers that meet the Superior BTE Diabetes Incentive Program criteria and wish to enroll can contact the Clinical Nurse Liaison assigned to their area, or email [SuperiorProviderPrograms@SuperiorHealthPlan.com](mailto:SuperiorProviderPrograms@SuperiorHealthPlan.com)



# Asthma Care Incentive Program



## Overview

Superior providers who participate in any product line, have an open panel or are accepting new patients (in the case of specialists), and are BTE recognized for asthma will be eligible for Superior’s incentive program. There are two opportunities for providers to earn a bonus: a BTE recognition bonus and a Potentially Preventable ER Visit (PPV) bonus. Incentives are allocated on a PMPY bonus, paid out quarterly.

The amount of the BTE recognition bonus is dependent on the level of BTE recognition achieved as shown below:

*	**	***
Level I: \$50/PMPY	Level II: \$75/PMPY	Level III: \$100/PMPY

The provider will receive a bonus of \$6.25 per attributed asthma member each quarter (\$25/PMPY), if 57 or fewer asthma-related PPVs/1000 member months was achieved during the measurement quarter.

*“In Texas, approximately 1.4 million adults and 617,000 children have asthma... In 2012, there were 25,158 hospital discharges in Texas that were due to asthma, at a cost of \$652.5 million.”*

- Texas Health and Human Service Commission



## Frequency of Payment

Superior will pay the provider 25% of the PMPY amount for each of the first (March 30th), second (June 30th) and fourth (December 31st) quarters, dependent on the highest level of recognition achieved that quarter.

For the third quarter payment (September 30th), Superior will review the HEDIS results for diabetes measures for that provider. If results are above the 90th percentile, then 25% of the PMPY amount will be paid.





## Member Identification

Members with asthma are identified using the following criteria:

- ✓ Be a Superior member.
- ✓ Be 5-85 years of age.
- ✓ Have at least one claim with a qualifying diagnosis code, 493.XX – asthma.
- ✓ Have submitted a qualified claim within the most recent 15 months of claims history.



## Member Attribution

Member attribution is the process of linking a member to a physician for Superior's BTE Incentive Program for Asthma Care. Members are attributed to a BTE-recognized provider using the following criteria:

- ✓ The provider must be an MD, DO or mid-level, and non-hospital based.
- ✓ The member must have at least one face-to-face claim with an E&M code.

If a member sees multiple providers, the following hierarchy will apply for attribution:

1. Pulmonologist is the first selected physician.
2. The provider with the greatest number of claim service dates is attributed.
3. The provider with the most recent service date claim is selected.
4. The provider with the largest total allowed dollars is selected.

*Please note: Members are re-attributed to a provider every quarter depending on attribution logic.*



## Enrollment

Providers that meet the Superior BTE Asthma Care Incentive Program's criteria and wish to enroll can contact the Clinical Nurse Liaison assigned to their area, or email

[SuperiorProviderPrograms@SuperiorHealthPlan.com](mailto:SuperiorProviderPrograms@SuperiorHealthPlan.com).





## About Superior HealthPlan

Austin-based Superior HealthPlan is a managed care company that employs more than 3,400 people across 8 Texas offices. Superior is a wholly owned subsidiary of Centene Corporation, a leading multi-line healthcare enterprise offering both core Medicaid and specialty services. Superior is licensed by the Texas Department of Insurance and is a Qualified Health Plan issuer in the Texas Health Insurance Marketplace. More information on Superior can be found at [www.SuperiorHealthPlan.com](http://www.SuperiorHealthPlan.com).

## About Altarum

Altarum serves the public good by solving complex systems problems to improve human health, integrating research, technology, analysis and consulting skills. Altarum demonstrates and is sought for leadership in identifying, understanding, and solving critical systems issues that impact the health of diverse and changing populations. Altarum is acknowledged as a valued, collaborative and collegial institute of the utmost competence and integrity. More information on Altarum can be found at <http://www.bridgestoexcellence.org/>.