



# North Carolina AHEC Practice-Based Services

## Helping you meet the challenges of primary care

### Expert On-Site Consulting for Primary Care Providers

Get started today:

[www.ahecqualitysource.com](http://www.ahecqualitysource.com)

Incentives to support transformation of primary care practice continue to emerge. Proven practice-based strategies once regarded as innovative are now familiar.

- Patient-centered medical home
- Practice redesign
- Team-based care
- Performance measurement and improvement
- Same-day scheduling
- Electronic health records

While you likely want to pursue one or more strategies, demands on your time and energy are increasing exponentially. Fortunately, the NC Area Health Education Centers Program (AHEC) can help.



AHEC's mission is to meet North Carolina's health and health workforce needs through educational

programs provided in partnership with academic institutions, health care agencies, and other organizations committed to improving the health of the people of North Carolina.

Each regional AHEC employs consultants with expertise in:

- practice redesign
- clinical improvement
- electronic health records

AHEC consultants work in practices with provider-led clinical teams to help you meet the demands of your primary care practice. Services are provided at no charge to your practice.

No matter where you are in your journey to improving care, NC AHEC's services can help you get there.

**Southern Regional AHEC - Regional Extension Center**  
(910) 339-5210  
[www.southernregionalahec.org](http://www.southernregionalahec.org)

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### IMPROVING PERFORMANCE IN PRACTICE

Access proven tools, systems and support to provide consistently high quality care to all patients, all the time, through NC AHEC's Improving Performance in Practice (IPIP) program. Learn to use clinical data from your EHR to guide improvement in patient care; an important component of EHR "meaningful use." With effective, practice-based improvements as its core, IPIP is a national initiative delivered via state- and local-level agencies as part of the North Carolina Healthcare Quality Alliance. In North Carolina, your regional AHEC offers IPIP at no charge to your practice.

### PARTNERS

- NC Healthcare Quality Alliance
- Community Care of NC
- NC Academy of Family Physicians
- The Carolinas Center for Medical Excellence
- NC Pediatric Society
- NC Medical Society Foundation
- NC Chapter of the American College of Physicians

### REGIONAL EXTENSION CENTER

Federal incentives to primary care practices using certified electronic health records (EHR) begin in 2011. Expert assistance to help you qualify is available now through AHEC, one of 60 federally-designated "Regional Extension Centers (RECs)." Funded by the US Dept. of Health and Human Services' Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, the goal of the REC program is to help over 100,000 primary care providers across the US select, implement and use EHRs to improve quality and safety of clinical care.

AHEC's REC services help North Carolina primary care providers implement new EHRs and optimize existing EHRs. If you have an EHR, AHEC's REC services can help you meet federal standards for "meaningful use" of your EHR. If you use paper charts, AHEC's REC can help you prepare for, select and adopt a certified EHR so you can meet "meaningful use" standards. Your regional AHEC provides individualized, on-site electronic health record (EHR) consulting tailored to your practice's specific needs at no charge to you.

### MEET NATIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

AHEC's services for primary care practices help you meet national program requirements.

- HITECH Act Meaningful Use Incentive Payments
- Maintenance of Certification Part IV credit
- Category 1™ CME credit
- NCQA Recognition for Patient-Centered Medical Home