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AHA Interest Group Profile: Access to Specialty Care

Aurora Health Alliance (AHA) is a community-based health alliance of over 2,200 members that has been working in and for Aurora, Colorado since January 2010. AHA’s mission is to collaboratively improve access to care and create a healthier Aurora, with a focus on the most vulnerable and underserved residents.

AHA has three goals: **Increasing Access! Expanding Coverage! Building Collaboration!**

AHA works through a variety of interest groups to pursue its mission and goals. One of these is the AHA Access to Specialty Care Interest Group.

Objectives

The Access to Specialty Care Group has four objectives:

- ◆ To approach the problem of access to specialty care in a collaborative, inclusive way.
- ◆ To find areas of common ground among the stakeholders involved and impacted by the problem.
- ◆ To identify and understand the many factors that contribute to the specialty care access problem.
- ◆ To acknowledge and celebrate incremental successes in this complex problem.

Membership

In December 2018, there were 123 individuals signed up as members of the Access to Specialty Care Group. A list of members and their organizations can be found on AHA’s website under “Interest Groups.”

Meeting Format and Schedule - 2019

The ASC group meets every-other month, on the first Thursday from 10-11:30. The meetings usually include a guest presenter and facilitated discussion. *Note: These are planned dates. Check the AHA calendar on our website for updates.*

	FEB		APR		JUN		AUG		OCT		DEC
	8		4		6		8		3		5

Projects/Outcomes

AHA Interest Groups occasionally take on projects or host additional events.

- **Specialty Care Access Survey** – A survey among Task Force members in 2016 revealed the specialties with the worse access problems for those insured by Medicaid were Ortho, Dermatology, Urology, Cardiology, and Rheumatology.
- **eConsult Demonstration Project** – AHA conducted a demonstration project with Doctors Care and Rubicon to explore the impact of econsult on specialty care referrals. The paper appeared in the Colorado Academy of Family Physician’s April 2018 magazine.

To learn more about Aurora Health Alliance (AHA) or the ASC Interest Group, visit our website at aurorahealthalliance.org or contact us at info@aurorahealthalliance.org.