



## **Florida West Coast Health Alliance Joins Established Clinically Integrated Network Tampa Bay Health Alliance**

Florida West Coast Health Alliance, LLC, (FWCHA) has become a participant in Tampa Bay Health Alliance (TBHA), a clinically integrated network (CIN) composed of five leading medical groups in the Tampa Bay area ([tbhahealth.com](http://tbhahealth.com)). The clinically integrated networks (CINs) are composed of forward-thinking medical professionals with adjacent service areas combining to provide one of the region's largest networks. FWCHA was developed through support from Bayfront Health St. Petersburg, who recognized this network as a way to improve the quality of care in measurable ways by aligning Bayfront Health St. Petersburg with physicians throughout south Pinellas County.

"Joining with TBHA is a fantastic opportunity for our patients and our medical community. Ultimately, it allows for enhanced care coordination, clinical collaboration, and information systems that demonstrate quality, cost-contained, exceptional medical care," said Trina Espinola, MD, Chairman of the Board for FWCHA. "Physicians and health care practitioners in our network will have greater data integrity and the ability to share best practices and statistics so that we can enhance care for our patients."

FWCHA's goal is to deliver high-value health care services to the community and to become a leader in value-based care along Florida's gulf coast marketplace. Together with TBHA, healthcare providers will have the opportunity to follow evidence-based clinical quality guidelines and create a healthier population in Florida.

"We are very excited to collaborate with FWCHA in our pursuit of value-based care, said Dan Vukmer, TBHA's Chief Executive Officer. "Membership and footprint are important but it is paramount that we add organizations who share our vision of improving quality, creating more satisfied customers and reducing costs. FWCHA is clearly a great fit for us and creates a lot of potential for growth."

The relationship with TBHA allows for FWCHA to provide greater access to high quality and cost-effective care and allows participating practices to better connect and coordinate health care for patients in Pinellas County and the Tampa Bay area.

"Our intent is to transform how healthcare is delivered across Tampa Bay, and eventually beyond, and improve the health of millions of people in the region," said Joseph W. Smith,

Executive Director of FWCHA. “The aim is to do a better job, both in terms of clinical outcomes and cost. Our vision is to further expand our network of quality physicians to improve population health, enhance outcomes for patients, and create value for our patients and partners. TBHA and FWCHA are focused to assure this is achieved.”

CINs are physician-led, formal programs between private practice physicians, employed physicians, and healthcare facilities to collaborate on improving quality and efficiency of care for patients in a specific market by delivering value rather than volume.

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**Florida West Coast Health Alliance** is a physician-driven clinically integrated network (CIN) among members of community practices along the gulf coast of Florida. Florida West Coast Health Alliance aims to advance the quality, coordination, and efficiency of care delivery. Its vision is to be a clinically and quality-integrated physician-led organization that provides exceptional care and improves patient health. The network includes more than 150 independent and employed health care professionals in 23 specialties.

Florida West Coast Health Alliance is organized as a Limited Liability Company (LLC) with Bayfront Health St. Petersburg as the corporate member.

**Tampa Bay Health Alliance** is a partnership of five leading, independent medical groups, creating a clinically integrated network (CIN) designed to provide accessible, higher quality and more efficient health care to Tampa Bay area patients and their families while controlling costs. The five members are Florida Medical Clinic, Florida Orthopaedic Institute, Pediatric Health Care Alliance, Women’s Care Florida, and USF Health Care. While the partnership sets in motion a new collaborative relationship among these five members, each group will continue to operate independently. Collectively, the five groups total more than 1,300 health care professionals caring for more than 750,000 patients throughout the Tampa Bay region.

With more than 1,300 primary and specialty care physicians and health care practitioners, TBHA is well positioned to meet the challenges of a health care industry transitioning from today’s expensive fee-for-service system that tends to encourage excessive treatment to a value-based model of care emphasizing better health outcomes at lower overall costs.

In concert with new efforts and requirements to reduce costs and improve care for entire populations – population health – patients will likely benefit most from this collaborative relationship.