

Ethical Considerations in Pay-for-Performance Programs for Diabetes



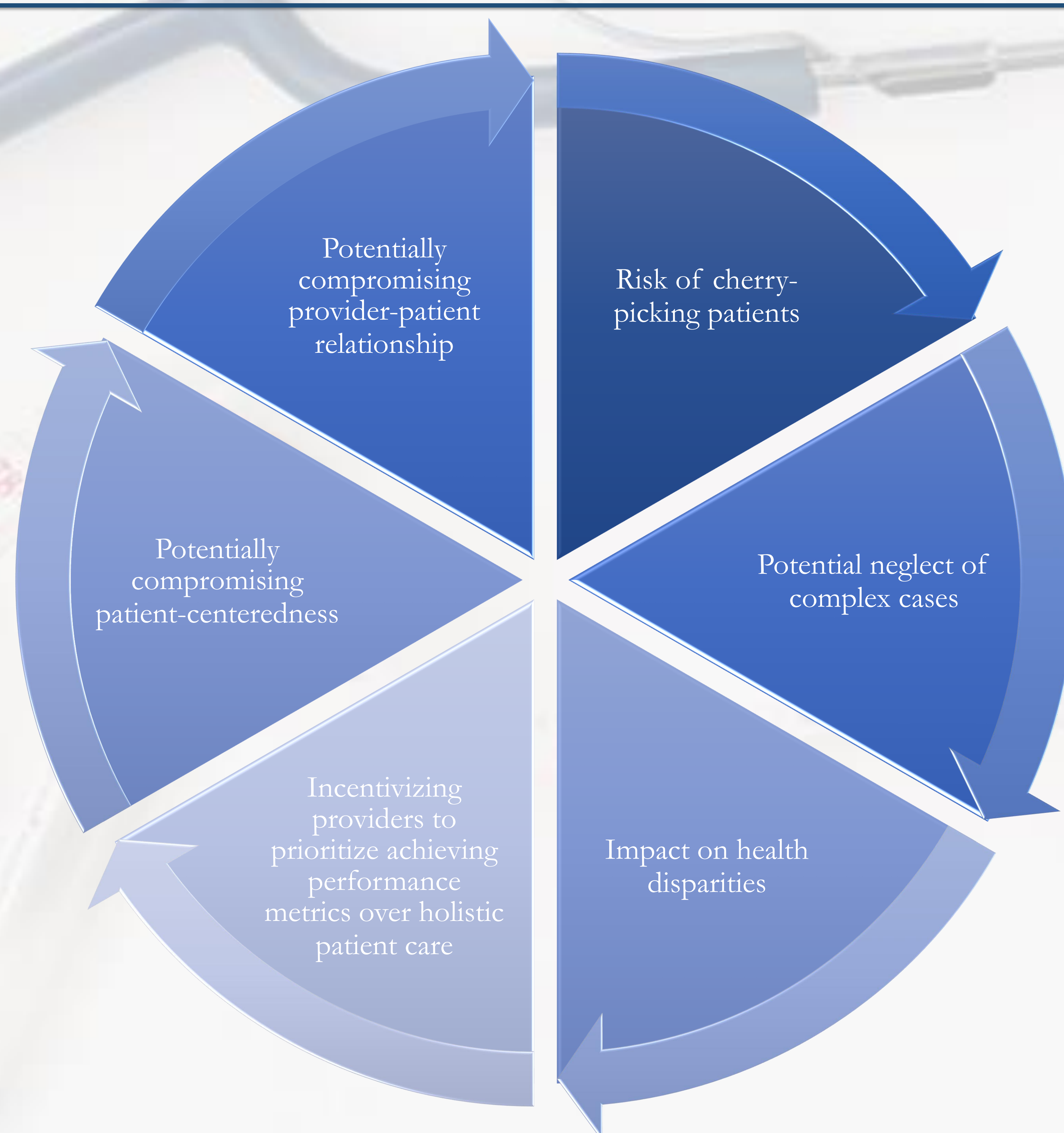
Vutova Y¹, Dacheva A¹, Slavchev G¹, Djambazov S¹

HPR134

¹HTA Ltd.

OBJECTIVE: This abstract aims to explore the ethical considerations surrounding pay-for-performance (P4P) programs for diabetes care.

METHODS: Ethical considerations related to P4P programs for diabetes care are analyzed based on a literature review and critical evaluation of existing research and ethical frameworks. Key ethical principles, including fairness, equity, autonomy, beneficence, and nonmaleficence, are considered in the context of P4P implementation.



RESULTS: Ethical concerns in P4P programs for diabetes care arise due to potential unintended consequences and ethical tensions. These include the risk of cherry-picking patients, potential neglect of complex cases, and the impact on health disparities. P4P programs may inadvertently incentivize providers to prioritize achieving performance metrics over holistic patient care, potentially compromising patient-centeredness and the provider-patient relationship.

Figure 1. Summary of barriers of P4P implementation

CONCLUSION: Ethical considerations play a crucial role in the design and implementation of P4P programs for diabetes care. To ensure ethical practice, it is essential to consider the potential unintended consequences and ethical tensions associated with financial incentives. Policymakers and healthcare professionals must carefully balance the goals of quality improvement and patient outcomes with the ethical principles of fairness, equity, and patient-centered care. Transparent communication, stakeholder involvement, and ongoing evaluation are crucial to address ethical concerns and mitigate potential unintended consequences. A thoughtful and inclusive approach that values patient autonomy, considers the needs of diverse patient populations, and promotes equitable care delivery is necessary to achieve the desired outcomes while upholding ethical standards.