

Karen Swanson, MD
Chief Medical Officer, The Physician Alliance

Karen Swanson, MD is the chief medical officer at The Physician Alliance (TPA), one of Michigan's largest physician organizations representing more than 2,200 primary care and specialty physicians in southeast Michigan. In this role, Swanson oversees physician educational opportunities and physician performance improvement activities, and supports patient centered medical home development and maintenance. She reinforces the physician customer perspective in the development of infrastructure and practice transformation efforts, assists physicians in maximizing incentive opportunities, and oversees the regional medical directors in physician performance improvement efforts.

Swanson serves as co-chair of TPA's Physician Excellence and Performance Improvement committee. She currently sits on the board of managers of Partners in Care (a 50/50 partnership of St. John Providence Health and The Physician Alliance). Swanson is a member of Health Alliance Plan's Pharmacy and Therapeutic committee, as well as the Healthcare Stewardship Council and Telehealth Workgroup at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

Prior to joining The Physician Alliance, Swanson was a practicing internal medicine physician in the Huntington Woods area for over 20 years. The practice was designated a patient centered medical home in the pioneering stage of the BCBSM program. While providing clinical care, Swanson was a physician advocate for transformation in healthcare and has served as president and board member of the Providence Medical Group (a physician organization) in Southfield. She also sat on the board of managers for The Physician Alliance and St. John Providence Health, providing a primary care provider's perspective.

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