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PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



Small Maryland Practice's Partnership with PreventionLink Increases Prevention Resources for Patients

For smaller health care providers like the office of Luis A. Casas, MD, LLC, time is at a premium, so having a resource like PreventionLink to help with outside referrals for prevention programs is not only a great value to the practice but an asset to its patients.

“Patient outreach is a huge challenge,” said Jennifer Monaghan, Practice Manager for the office in Laurel, Maryland. “Being a smaller office, we do not have the number of staff to do as much outreach that I’m sure all offices would love to be doing, and we are not able to offer in-house prevention programs.”

The emergence of PreventionLink as a partner to assist with providing outreach resources has enhanced what the office can offer its patients. They can now steer patients toward prevention services that offer a diabetes prevention program (DPP), provide blood pressure monitoring, and medication management counseling.

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Another advantage is that the programs available to patients in the county they reside in are either low-cost or free , or they are billed through insurance. Resources are also available in Spanish, which compliments the office’s services, because Dr. Casas, who is fluent in the language, sees many Spanish-speaking patients.



Dr. Luas Casas and team

“Although we don't directly offer prevention programs, we do have conversations with patients and give them guidance about where they can go for this type of help,” Jennifer said. “Having a DPP program and other programs to refer patients to is invaluable to both us and them.”

Prior to partnering with PreventionLink, the medical office was not making referrals to prevention and management programs because they were not aware of their availability. Now, Jennifer says, they have established processes to identify, screen, and refer patients to the DPP and other programs to help patients live healthier lives. The program also offers a knowledge base to keep the office staff informed of changes in the health care environment. In addition to networking opportunities, PreventionLink has provided resources and technical assistance for the implementation of other programs, such as remote patient monitoring.

“The programs that we work with, Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP) and CareFirst Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH), are always changing and evolving,” Jennifer said. “PreventionLink has provided support through education and training to help us keep up with both of these programs.”

About the Health Care Provider:

The office of Luis A. Casas, MD, LLC is located in Laurel, Maryland, but Dr. Casas has served residents in Prince George's and Montgomery counties, and throughout the Baltimore–Washington corridor, for more than 30 years. The office is a primary care and specialty medical practice of Internal and Geriatric Medicine and delivers medical care to people over the age of 16. It is a dual-language office, providing services in English and Spanish. The practice staff consists of Dr. Casas; Jennifer Monaghan-Wilson, Practice Manager; and Ingrid Guzman, Medical Assistant, as well as front office staff.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PreventionLink/TLC-MD webinar on Tuesday, January 18th at 12 pm. Learn more about the PreventionLink of Southern Maryland Program and the free resources and technical assistance available to primary care practices.

- To register for the webinar, visit <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4665107309821105165>
 - To learn more about PreventionLink, visit [PreventionLink of Southern Maryland](#)
 - If you are interested in becoming a PreventionLink provider, [click here](#), or contact Priscilla Thomas at priscilla.thomas@tlc-md.org.
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Ensuring Health Equity in Preventing Cardiovascular Disease, sponsored by Million Hearts Learning Lab (includes CME credits): Wednesday January 19th at 3 pm. To register or for more information, [visit here](#).

Innovative Care Symposium- A Virtual Event Series: Innovative Value-Based Payment Models on January 21st at 12 pm. Sponsored by the Maryland Health Care Commission, Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission, and MedChi. **For complimentary registration, [click here](#)**. For more information, see the attached flyer.

COVID-19 Update Webinars for primary care practices and healthcare providers are held every Wednesday from 5:00–6:30 pm (sponsored by MDPCP). **Updates will be provided on case rates, highlights of the vaccine program, vaccine recommendations, testing, therapeutics, and variants.** Free CMEs. Registration links to future COVID-19 update webinars are available below.

- MDPCP COVID-19 Update Webinar - Wednesday, 1/26:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1196706676799027728>
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The Annual CRISP Summit Update has been rescheduled for Tuesday April 19, 2022. To register, [visit here](#).

PreventionLink is an innovative, affordable, patient-centered solution that works with local providers to lead the way in healthcare by improving healthcare program outcomes for people at risk of or living with chronic conditions by providing participants free and low-cost care options.

For more information about PreventionLink of Southern Maryland, visit PreventionLinkMD.com or call 301-883-7220.