

**From:** NASHP News <Newsletter@nashp.org>  
**To:** Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov  
**Date:** 9/6/2016 11:12:09 AM  
**Subject:** NASHP News: New briefs on non-pharmacological alternatives to opioids and Medicaid reimbursement for developmental screenings

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## Newsletter

September 6, 2016

### [The Nuts and Bolts of Medicaid Reimbursement for Developmental Screening: Insights from Georgia, Minnesota, and North Carolina](#)

Periodic developmental screening is an important strategy in monitoring and promoting children's healthy growth and development. Identifying developmental delays early in a child's life and providing timely referral and treatment can prevent more serious issues and significant costs. State Medicaid agencies can play an important role in promoting early identification of developmental delays by reimbursing and tracking the use of standardized developmental screening. This [new NASHP brief](#) examines developmental screening reimbursement policies in Georgia, Minnesota, and North Carolina.

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### [Chronic Pain Management Therapies in Medicaid: Policy Considerations for Non-Pharmacological Alternatives to Opioids](#)

Pain significantly impacts the American health care system, with nearly 1-in-5 adults experiencing severe pain and an estimated 25.3 million adults experiencing chronic pain. This [new NASHP brief](#) discusses the evidence for non-pharmacological alternatives to chronic pain, explores the extent to which state Medicaid agencies are encouraging or requiring the use of alternative treatments, and discusses potential barriers, challenges, and considerations these agencies are facing. [Read the full brief here](#).

Take advantage of special [early-bird discounts](#) by registering before Friday, September 16th!

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### Webinar: State Strategies to Improve the Quality of Behavioral Health Care

Please [Register Now](#) for the final webinar in a series sponsored by CMS to highlight successes and lessons learned through the [Adult Medicaid Quality \(AMQ\)](#) Grant Program. Oregon, Rhode Island and Washington State will share promising practices and lessons related to implementing and sustaining quality improvement for adult Medicaid beneficiaries across the continuum of behavioral health care, including antidepressant medication persistence, increasing access to integrated care for persons with severe and persistent mental illness or substance use disorder through behavioral health homes, and reducing psychiatric rehospitalization rates.

State speakers include Rita Moore, Policy Analyst in the Office of Health Analytics, Oregon Health Authority; William McQuade, Senior Healthcare Policy Analyst with the Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services; Steve Kogut, Professor, University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy; and Beverly Court, Research Manager, Research and Data Analysis Division, State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services. The [webinar](#) is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 7, 2016, from 1-2:30 p.m. ET.**

[Register Now](#)

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### Upcoming CMS Webinar: Linking & Merging Data Sources

In 2014, CMS launched a collaborative between the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) and the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) called the Medicaid Innovation Accelerator Program (IAP). The goal of IAP is to improve the care and health for Medicaid beneficiaries and reduce costs by supporting states' ongoing payment and service delivery reforms through targeted technical support.

As part of their efforts to roll out what they and their partner states have learned from the first year of the Reducing Substance Use Disorders program area, CMS invites you to join their next national dissemination webinar on **Wednesday, September 28, 2016 from 3:30 - 5:00 PM EDT**. In this webinar, entitled "***Linking & Merging Data Sources***", participants will discuss merging Substance Use Disorder (SUD) related data sources with other state databases. Specifically, the discussion will focus on how using different data sources can provide additional insight on a patient's continuum of care when services are paid for by Medicaid and other state agencies. There will be three featured state partners on the webinar panel to discuss their efforts to actively link or merge data and field your questions. On this webinar:

- Connecticut will discuss how it is using distributed data networks to answer questions about their SUD population demographics, care outcomes and costs;
- Washington will discuss how it has designed meaningful measurement concepts that enable policy analyses, program evaluations, predictive modeling and performance management; and
- Oregon will share how it developed a system to combine SUD block grant data with Medicaid claims data to analyze treatment outcomes and share information with providers.

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### Open Position: Policy Associate - Long Term Services and Supports Team

The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is seeking an experienced individual to join the Long Term Services and Supports Team to conduct qualitative evaluations of the state demonstrations to integrate care for Medicare-Medicaid enrollees. The Policy Associate is responsible for conducting qualitative evaluations of state demonstrations designed to integrate care for persons who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. Working as a member of a team led by a Senior Program Director and in conjunction with other NASHP staff, the Policy Associate implements research, policy analysis, and evaluation activities, and may also have responsibility for LTSS program development in other areas of state health policy, depending on funding and project needs of the NASHP staff team. [For more information or to see more health policy jobs](#)

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### Open Position: Policy Analyst - Emerging Issues Team

The National Academy for State Health Policy is seeking a Policy Associate to join our Emerging Issues team. Work will focus on state health insurance and exchanges; prescription drug and other health care costs; as well as a wide array of issues that confront states. The Policy Associate is a mid-level position and applicants should have strong analytic and writing skills and ability to work closely with state officials and the NASHP team. Experience in state government, particularly working in a state based exchange, insurance department or legislative staff, is strongly preferred. This position may be located in either Portland, ME or Washington D.C. [For more information or to see more health policy jobs](#)

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### National Academy for State Health Policy

*The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is an independent academy of state health policymakers who are dedicated to helping states achieve excellence in health policy and practice. A non-profit and non-partisan organization, NASHP provides a forum for constructive work across branches and agencies of state government on critical health policy issues. For more information visit [www.nashp.org](http://www.nashp.org).*

### Newsletter Archives

### Webinar Archives

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[www.nashp.org](http://www.nashp.org)

207-874-6524

[info@nashp.org](mailto:info@nashp.org)

Portland Office	Washington, DC Office
10 Free Street, 2nd Fl	1233 20th Street, NW Suite 303
Portland, ME 04101	Washington, DC 20036
(207)874-6524	(202)903-0101

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