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Subject: An Update on the Three Prongs of Health Reform

Newsletter

March 21, 2017

[An Update on the Three Prongs of Health Reform](#)

Congressional action to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is on the fast track. The administration and GOP leaders have outlined a [three-pronged effort](#) to reform healthcare beginning with passage of the American Health Care Act (AHCA). Last night, Congress released Manager's Amendments to the AHCA, inclusive of a series of [policy](#) and [technical](#) changes to the bill. In our latest [blog](#) we outline the notable changes. [Read more.](#)

[State Strategies for Integrating Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Primary Care](#)

Substance use disorder affects an estimated 20.8 million people in the United States; however, national survey data show that fewer than 10 percent of individuals with an alcohol use disorder and 20 percent of individuals with an opioid use disorder receive treatment for the condition. Individuals battling substance use disorder may not perceive a need for treatment, which poses a barrier to states trying to connect individuals with care. A [new blog](#) from NASHP looks at how primary care physicians are well positioned to identify and engage those individuals who may benefit from treatment services. [Read more.](#)

[CMS Seeks Input on State Innovations in Pediatric Alternative Payment Models](#)

An important opportunity to help inform and shape federal approaches to pediatric reforms is now available. Through a recently released [Request for Information](#), CMS is seeking input on the opportunities and challenges to implementing system innovations for children and youth; state

needs for support and flexibility to implement models such as Pediatric Accountable Care Organizations; and approaches that can help states best integrate health care among the many systems that serve children, including education, mental health and social services. CMS is exploring the development of a new pediatric health care payment and service delivery model “to facilitate strategies for timely and appropriate delivery of family-centered, community-based, linguistically and culturally appropriate, cost-effective, and integrated services to all children and youth covered by Medicaid and CHIP with an emphasis on those with or at-risk for developmental, social, emotional, or behavioral health challenges, intellectual or physical developmental delays or disabilities, and/or those with complex and/or chronic health conditions...” **Stakeholder comments are due to the agency on March 28, 2017 and should be submitted to HealthyChildrenandYouth@cms.hhs.gov . [Read more](#) .**

[IAP Maternal and Infant Health Initiative Value-Based Payment Technical Support Opportunity for States - Informational Webinar](#)

Wednesday, March 22, 2017, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm ET

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) Medicaid Innovation Accelerator Program (IAP) is launching a new technical support opportunity for state Medicaid/CHIP agencies to select, design, and test Value-Based Payment approaches that have demonstrated success in improving maternal and infant health. IAP will select up to seven state Medicaid/CHIP programs to participate in this two year opportunity. Interested states can partner with a provider group(s), organization(s), or collaborative(s) in their state to select, design, and test:

- Value-Based Payment approaches that sustain a care delivery model that the partner is already implementing. The care delivery model is expected to have demonstrated success in improving maternal and infant health.
- Value-Based Payment approaches related to improving maternal and infant health that are not associated with a particular care delivery model.

Selected states will have access to the types of technical support outlined below, in addition to financial simulation support.

1. **Selecting** Value-Based Payment approaches based on the state's maternal and infant health Value-Based Payment goals and objectives.
2. **Designing** the maternal and infant health Value-Based Payment approaches.
3. **Testing** the selected maternal and infant health Value-Based Payment approaches with the partner provider group(s), organization(s) or collaborative(s).

To learn more about this opportunity, join the informational webinar **Wednesday, March 22, 2017, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm ET** . During this webinar, participants will learn about the technical support opportunity, ask questions, and hear about the state selection process.

[Register Now](#)

[Webinar: Applying Alternative Payment Strategies to Activities Focused on Medicaid Beneficiaries with Complex Care Needs and High Costs](#)

Monday, March 27, 2017, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm ET

As part of CMS's Medicaid Innovation Accelerator Program (IAP), the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services is seeking to improve the care and health for Medicaid beneficiaries and reduce

costs by supporting states' ongoing payment and delivery system reforms through targeted technical support. On March 27th, IAP's Medicaid Beneficiaries with Complex Needs and High Costs program area will host a webinar for states that highlights several considerations states can take into account as they pursue value-based payment arrangements, including how payment strategies can support improved care coordination for their target populations. In addition, participants will also learn about states that are using various types of alternative payment strategies to drive better outcomes for their Medicaid beneficiaries with complex care needs.

This webinar is open to states and all interested state Medicaid agencies and stakeholders.

[Register Now](#)

Webinar: Using Evidence to Achieve Effective State Health Policy

Wednesday, March 29, 2017 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm ET

Do you have to make coverage decisions, design delivery system change, and/or implement new delivery models while ensuring quality? Research evidence, including Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER) and Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR), are valuable tools for state health policymakers to achieve those goals and to increase their chances of achieving the desired outcome: advancing policies with the ability to improve the health of the population served. Though the future of health care reforms enacted under the ACA still remains uncertain and there could potentially be changes in U.S. health care delivery and coverage systems, state officials must continue to operate these programs as efficiently as possible. At this crucial juncture in U.S. health policy, reliable sources of evidence will be critical resources for state policymakers facing important decisions regarding health care delivery system and coverage policies.

This webinar, supported by the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) will provide examples of how policymakers can, and are, using evidence including CER and PCOR to inform effective policymaking. This webinar will also highlight the important role consumers play in the evidence-based policymaking process, including strategies for improving consumer engagement.

Speakers:

- **Gary Franklin** , MD, MPH, Medical Director, Washington State Department of Labor and Industries; Research Professor, University of Washington; Co-Director, Washington Agency Medical Directors' Group
- **Kimberley Smith** , CAPM, Compliance & Stakeholder Relations Unit Manager, Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing
- **Margaret Guyer** , PhD, Director, Workforce Development, Organization: Department of Mental Health
- **Rob Walker** , External Consumer Engagement Liaison, Massachusetts Department of Mental

Moderator:

- **Greg Martin** , Deputy, Chief Engagement and Dissemination Officer, Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)

[Register Now](#)

Open Position: Policy Associate – Emerging Issues Team

The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is looking for a Policy Associate to join our Emerging Issues team! Work will focus on state health insurance and exchanges; health care costs; and a wide array of health issues that confront states in today's dynamic environment. The Policy Associate is a midlevel position and applicants must have strong analytic and writing skills and ability to work closely with state officials and the NASHP team. A legal background and/or experience in state government, particularly working in a state based exchange, insurance department or legislative staff, is strongly preferred. [For more information and to apply](#) .

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.

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