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Date: 5/5/2015 10:28:52 AM
Subject: States Use Technology to Go the Distance for Rural Populations

Newsletter

May 5, 2015

[States Use Technology to Go the Distance for Rural Populations](#)

States with large rural populations face unique challenges in ensuring access to care. While approximately 16 percent of the U.S. population lives in rural America, only about 11 percent of physicians practice in rural locations. Additionally, individuals in rural areas face long travel distances to see primary care providers and specialists.

[This new State Reform blog post](#) explores how many states are using telehealth to overcome these barriers to accessing care and to improve the health of rural populations.

New Resources Added to Oral Health Toolkit

We've just added two new items to our online toolkit exploring ways that oral health can help states improve patient care, improve population health, and reduce costs.

- A [case study](#) on Oregon's early experiences with incorporating dental services into its Coordinated Care Organizations.
- A recording of our April 24 [webinar](#), featuring presentations from a leading researcher on associations between treatment for gum disease and lowered cost to treat diabetes, and from an Accountable Care Organization in Minnesota that's implementing a dental care coordination program to reduce emergency department visits.

We'll continue to add new materials to the toolkit in coming months, so stay tuned!

This toolkit was supported by the *Washington Dental Service Foundation*.

Alert: Last Week to View Health Affairs Article for FREE!

Making Multipayer Reform Work: What Can Be Learned From Medical Home Initiatives

Seventeen multipayer medical home initiatives launched between 2008 and 2014, all navigated four critical decision-making points germane to any multipayer payment model: convening stakeholders; establishing provider participation criteria; determining payment; and measuring performance.

In the April issue of *Health Affairs*, the NASHP medical home team explores the lessons learned from these experiences. Heeding these lessons will help inform those leading multipayer efforts "to better anticipate and navigate known obstacles and improve their chances for successful implementation."

Support for this paper was provided by The Commonwealth Fund.

NASHP Annual Conference Registration Begins this Friday, May 8

Now Accepting [Sponsors](#) and [Exhibitors](#)

Designed by state health policymakers for state health policymakers, the National Academy for State Health Policy's annual conference continues to be the premier educational and networking event for health policy professionals.

Attend NASHP's annual conference for the tools and resources needed to support and enhance your work in state health policy. Network with peers from across the country and hear from the industry's leading experts on cutting-edge topics and the issues most important to your work.

Look for the conference agenda and exciting speaker announcements coming soon! Don't forget registration begins May 8!

Job Opportunities at NASHP

Program Director: Medicare/Medicaid Dual Eligibles

The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is seeking an experienced individual to join the Health System Performance team to conduct qualitative evaluations of the state demonstrations to integrate care for Medicare-Medicaid enrollees. NASHP is a non-profit, independent academy of state health policymakers working together to identify emerging issues, develop policy solutions, and achieve...[read more](#).

Communications and Community Engagement Manager

The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is seeking a Communications and Community Engagement Manager to carry out work consistent with our mission of promoting excellence in state health policy and practice. The Communications and Community Engagement Manager will work with NASHP staff to implement marketing, publications and events tactics...[read more](#).

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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