

Family Planning Medicaid Waiver Evaluators Conference Call

November 5, 2012, 1:00-2:00 pm EST

Participants

Evaluators: Janet Bronstein and Kari White (AL); Loretta Alexander and Ruth Eudy (AR); Jeff Roth (FL); Dave Murday (SC)

State Staff: Susan Hamrick and Lynne Smith (FL); Regina Williams (LA); Bernie Operario, Andrea Phillips and Marcia Swartz (NC); Margaret Major (TN)

Other: Julie DeClerque and Ellen Shanahan (Sheps Center)

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the September and October meeting were approved with minor changes. Brenda McCormick (FL) was on the September call and should be added to the attendance roster. The poster that Jeff Roth presented on impact of Florida's Waiver program was in Boston, MA (not Austin). The NC SPA positive screens discussed on October call refer to screens for STIs.

Local states experiences with data on LARCs: Dave Murday in SC was asked by SC Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unintended Pregnancy for any information he knew about re: barriers to use of Long-acting Reversible Contraception (LARCs) especially in teen population, other than barrier of price (examples Campaign cited were client KAP, acceptability). Dave asked if anyone on the call might have useful feedback he could share with his SC colleagues. Note: several chimed in about "new" approach to calling LARCs, "HER-Cs" (Highly Effective Reversible Contraception) as a re-branding effort to emphasize the effectiveness of the method more than the "long-term" feature of the method. Hearsay is that David Grimes may have coined this new label.

LA: not sure of data **availability to support barriers**, but one barrier is that program does not cover cost of follow up visit **if there are** complications or problems, **i.e. unable to locate IUD/strings**. Ultrasounds are not covered either, so may be difficult for provider in providing needed care. Also **the ParaGard** IUD was not included on the **FPW** formulary **until recently**, so **some providers** were not inserting **them** because **they** didn't want the cost, so **this** was another barrier in terms of reduced choice. **(Purple from Regina Williams)**

NC: we're still operating on a Waiver extension, but acc to guidelines only 1 FP Waiver service feasible to afford, and we chose to cover STI and treatment. We did not add additional service, like LARCs; or CA screening; or ultrasounds and the reason was because of cost.

Kari in AL: know there are a lot of other initiatives to increase LARC use for adolescents, but not sure if through Waiver or SPAs. See for example work in Colorado program.

Lynn Smith FL: Waiver in FL does cover LARCs and as a statewide program we're focusing on them as preferred line of contra to be offered. What kind of push back from providers and supporting them in management of complications? State has process in place in case of complication. Haven't heard of negative feedback in our 67 counties that offer IUDs in HD. Plan B for Emer Contra, not IUDs.

Data Gathering: Have received some data from NC, AL and heard that FL data is on its way, once agreement with DOH and University has been finalized. SC will have data; 2-yr lag so only data through 2009, maybe 2010. Market penetration calculations. Arkansas, yes is working on 2009 -2011 final report and we will send when ready. Some data received from AR previously, but next batch will be the updated and more current data we should use.

Sheps will send out template again so its handy and to encourage all to send before December meeting. We want to look at comparability across the programs first, and then trouble shoot where necessary in terms of how we might refine age break-outs, etc.

Note: even though the templates have defined age groups, etc each state can send what they have if its too much work to rerun and match what is in template. NC uses following: 19-55 for women; 19-60 for men;

Women's age groupings: 19-24; 25-29; 30-34;35-39; and 40-55;

Men's age groupings: 19-24 25-29 30-34 39-39 40-60.

States should report what is readily available for what they have, and then we can see what choices we have for regrouping.

Action step: Our goal is to have the tables in the attached template filled in as much as possible before our December call. Please send your data/Excel file by Friday November 30th to the Sheps Center:

Ellen Shanahan <ellen_shanahan@unc.edu>

Next call: December 10th at 1:00 pm EST, noon CST. Call in number is ~~(919) 962-2738~~ **919 962 2740**.