

NC Department of Health and Human
Services

Medicaid Research Initiative ("MAST")



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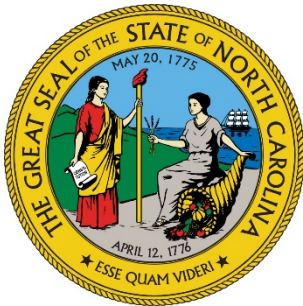
October 31, 2018

Agenda

- **Welcome**
 - This webinar is being recorded
- **Overview of the Program**
- **Research Priorities**
- **Process**
- **Q&A**

Vision

**High-quality, data-driven, timely
actionable analysis and policy
recommendations for NC Medicaid**



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Health Benefits



Parameters

- **Short-term analyses using Medicaid claims data (limited dataset)**
- **Up to \$68,000 per project**
- **Deliverables:**
 - Executive summary
 - Report with findings
 - Presentation to DHHS/Medicaid leaders
 - Analytic file

Priority Area	General Questions
Behavioral Health Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do we know about our population with co-occurring behavioral and physical health needs that can help Medicaid with current and future design (Tailored Plans in particular)?
Beneficiary Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can Medicaid promote beneficiary engagement with seeking services at the appropriate time and setting? • What methods are most effective in reaching beneficiaries?
Early Childhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What interventions will have the most impact on children’s health? How can we measure it? • Can we identify which children are most at-risk for poor health outcomes?
Long-Term Services and Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do we know about our dual and non-dual population that uses long-term services and supports that can help Medicaid with current and future design?
Medicaid Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not formal evaluation of our demonstration itself, but topics that could influence policy (e.g., network adequacy, experiences of special populations)
Perinatal Health (Maternal and Infant)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we prevent maternal mortality and morbidity? • What upstream factors are most important for Medicaid to track and address?
Social Determinants of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do we know about Medicaid beneficiaries’ social determinants of health and their impact on health outcomes?
Opioids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can we learn about prevention, treatment, mitigation, and harm reduction strategies from Medicaid claims data? • What is the impact of federal/state opioid policies on opioid-related outcomes in Medicaid?

Policy Area	General Questions That Could Apply to Various Clinical Areas
Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can we evaluate the comparative cost effectiveness of similar clinical services? • What is the current use of evidence-based services/treatments in a given clinical area, and what are the associated health outcomes and costs? • What are the current gaps in clinical care for Medicaid patients?
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How quickly are beneficiaries getting access to services? • What is the current treatment capacity vs. demand for a given service across the state? Where does the demand furthest exceed capacity? • How many requests are received for non-covered services, and what type of services are they? Does the analysis indicate a need to cover new services?
Settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the best setting/level of care for patients to receive certain services that improves health outcomes and reduces costs? • Are some settings more cost-effective than others?
Prioritization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given the myriad health behaviors to target for a certain disease/condition/population, where should Medicaid focus our investments and efforts to maximize health impact? • What is the cost-effectiveness of different interventions aimed at preventing/treating a given condition?
Predictors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we predict which beneficiaries (or subsets of beneficiaries) are at most risk of a certain disease/condition? • What are the most important “intervenable” risk factors for a given disease/condition? What are these risk factors for special populations within Medicaid? • What can we learn from provider/practice behavior, and what are the implications for health outcomes and costs?
Policy Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What impact have recent Medicaid policy changes had on health outcomes and costs? • What is the impact of a particular system design (e.g., case management, value-based payment)?

Priority Area	Current Research Needs
Behavioral Health Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the use of silver diamine fluoride (SDF) effective on children and adults with special health care needs with dental decay for whom caries-related treatment must be rendered under GA? The populations to be examined would include adults and children with IDD, the elderly in nursing homes and beneficiaries who are in adult care homes, hospice and assisted living facilities.
Early Childhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the use of silver diamine fluoride (SDF) to arrest early childhood caries effective in reducing the number of visits to the hospital outpatient or ambulatory surgical center setting for treatment under general anesthesia and related expenditures (dental professional, anesthesia services and facility fees) for preschool children at high risk for decay?
Long-Term Supports & Services (LTSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NC Medicaid administers 1915(c) waivers to provide HCBS to disabled Medicaid beneficiaries. All 100 counties in North Carolina are designated a specific “slot allocation” to serve individuals needing HCBS through 1915(c) waivers. How can Medicaid develop a formula to assign waiver slots per county based on beneficiary utilization of LTSS services by dual and non-dual Medicaid beneficiaries, rather than the current formula based on number of people who are aged, blind, or disabled in a given county?
Managed Care Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the top 10 most utilized services across the state and are they accessible now to all Medicaid beneficiaries?
Perinatal Health (Maternal and Infant)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What impact did coverage of lactation counseling have on lactation services and related outcomes? Does the delivery of earlier and more frequent oral health care for pregnant Medicaid beneficiaries result in better oral health outcomes for the mother and her child?
Social Determinants of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the cost-effectiveness of NEMT vs. public transportation for non-ambulatory beneficiaries?
Opioids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can we evaluate the comparative cost effectiveness of SUD interventions (OBOT vs. OPT)? What impact has the urine drug testing policy (implemented 11/1/2017) had on beneficiary utilization of substance use services?

Guiding Principles

- Analysis should inform program administration
- Medicaid open to questions
 - Contact [Madhu Vulimiri](#) with questions first (contact below)
 - Does not guarantee project selection
- Don't underestimate the value of “simple” data analysis
- Caveat on opioids: **SUD data excluded from limited dataset**

Project Timeline

- **Wednesday, Oct 31: Informational Webinar**
- **Monday, Nov 19: Proposals due**
 - That week: Finalists selected
 - Feedback from DHB
- **Friday, Dec 7: Finalist presentations at DHHS**
- **Mid-December – Early January: Projects notified**

FAQs/Reminders

- Medicaid may not award full funding in December
 - Can accept, amend, or reject proposal
- Should plan on project funds being expended (and deliverables complete) by June 30, 2019
- Direct costs should not exceed \$68,000
- Formal budget not required for proposal stage; budget justification sufficient (e.g. “\$35,000 (about 3 months) of Alice Adams, an analyst programmer”)
- Programming cost: data extract included, but projects must budget for any analysis
 - Sheps has a pool of programmers that can be used, or you can use your own
- Focus should be on supporting the Medicaid program, not on “R01-type” research
- Subcontracts allowed, but PI must be permanent UNC
- Data dictionary available at <http://go.unc.edu/ccqidata>

Contact Information

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