

Family Planning Medicaid Waiver Evaluators Conference Call

January 14th, 2013, 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: Regina King (FL); Lyndolyn Campbell and Christa Duncan (GA); Regina Williams (LA); Andrea Phillips and Marcia Swartz (NC)
- Other: Adam Sonfield (Guttmacher Institute); Julie DeClerque and Ellen Shanahan (Sheps Center)

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the December meeting were approved with changes with clarification asked by Jeff Roth re: whether FP counseling was separate billable item (outside of assumed counseling provide as part of annual visit). Dave responded saying at least in SC, it was a separate billable item.

Updates: LARCS and uptakes: Dave will describe Pharma (other drug co) study investigating reason for low uptake in LARCs; Discuss funding possible sources for future work; question from Jeff on FL information in Guttmacher report (if FL had gone to income based program, vs. ACA expansions (133%) versus subsidized insurance, what will numbers look like?). Adam explained information in report focused on SPA/Waiver and not full expansions being currently considered for 2014.

Looking Ahead:

Clarification on Chart with eligible clients: Clarification on sub-groups: yes, if available, we would start at macro level (totals) and see what data area available across states (by sub-groups: age, race, gender). This would help us understand which groups are routinely enrolling and using versus those who are eligible but not using for whatever reason. We'd also likely want any information from a state that might have drilled down on some of these access and utilization questions, and what feedback they have gotten and lessons learned that may be useful to other states/programs.

Utility of our group: What is usefulness to program staff from states on these evaluation calls? NC: Medicaid office: having group of peers doing same work I am doing is very beneficial. I am the only one in my office here in NC that is doing this sort of work and it's great to have a group to share ideas, opportunities and concerns with. Also from NC DPS staff: yes, agree on value of group of peers with discussion forum and also common arena for hearing thinking from other program leaders about how can we best take advantage of ACA and what is being considered, looking ahead.

Ruth Eudy (AR) asked if other states had in their contracts that they would have a conference call with CMS every 90 days? FL shared that it does not, at least not directly between Feds and the state and the evaluation team; only regular calls/meetings are between FL program and evaluation folks. The cross-state discussion is very useful even if we shift discussion to include SPAs and pending expansions. It helps to have this as a go-to group. Question to NC: with your dropping the required evaluation component as you shifted to SPA, do you feel that you still have adequate monitoring? Yes, we go quarterly to our IT guys to see who we're serving and get what we think is important for CQI.

What is it about the Medicaid FP program and the expansions specifically, that we want to keep tabs on and that the current system of Medicaid will not be monitoring, given their fiscal management and financial focus? In a world where FP is not treated much differently than other Medicaid services, what information needs to continue to be examined (outside of cost-effectiveness)? What are the consequences of receipt of care, given what was delivered? This is very much along the lines of the recent funding announcement from CDC assessing impact of Medicaid expansions on women's health during the reproductive years. It requires linkage to vital records and other linkable databases (Medicaid, hospital discharge files, etc.) to track impacts and answer questions about different program components and relative effectiveness.

Next Steps:

- 1: Dave Murday and Jeff Roth will continue to review the IOM report (see December 2012 minutes and attachments) and cull through to identify key questions needed for research and on-going data monitoring.
2. Julie DeClerque and Ellen Shanahan will look into possible funding sources for a face-to-face meeting and will update the group on discussions regarding the Medicaid expansion and Women's Reproductive Health RFP.

Next call: February 11th at 1:00 pm EST, noon CST. Call in number is [\(919\) 962 2739](tel:9199622739).