Better Health Together

This electronic newsletter will be produced weekly to provide high-level updates on the work of the DC Innovation office under the State Innovation Model (SIM) grant as DC develops the State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP). We look forward to your input on our activities and milestones as we work to improve healthcare for DC residents.

Meeting Calendar

All Work Group Meetings will be held at 441 4ᵗʰ Street NW-Room 1028

Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC) Meeting
May 25, 2016
1:30pm-3:00pm

Telemedicine Stakeholder Meeting
June 8, 2016
3:00pm-4:30pm

Advisory Committee Meeting
July 13, 2016
2:00pm-4:00pm

Recent News

SIM Advisory Committee Meeting:

The **SIM Advisory Committee met on May 11ᵗʰ**. During the meeting, DHCF presented the three pillars and four enablers that serve as a framework for the District's State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP). This plan will describe the strategies and methods proposed to transform the structure and performance of the District's entire health system. The three foundational pillars include care delivery, payment reform, and community linkages, which are enabled by stakeholder engagement, health information technology, workforce development, and quality improvement. A draft SHIP will be available for public comment in early June.

Work Group Update:

The **Payment Models Work Group met on May 12ᵗʰ.** During the meeting, stakeholders participated in a straw man exercise that examined three case studies of complex, high-cost, high-need beneficiaries and discussed approaches to better deliver care in order to inform payment reforms. Participants suggested assigning beneficiaries to emergency departments as an approach to reducing inappropriate hospital admissions. In addition, participants also discussed state examples of payment reforms that drive improvements in care delivery. The meeting summary and materials can be found here.

The **Quality Metrics Work Group met on May 16ᵗʰ**. Participants provided feedback on the proposed quality metrics for the District. Stakeholders suggested removing measures that were duplicative and adding measures that would include a broader population base, such as kids and youth. The set of quality measures discussed during the meeting will be recommended to the SIM Advisory Committee for inclusion into the SHIP. Meeting summaries and materials can be found here.

The **Community Linkages Work Group met on May 18th**. The purpose of the meeting was to close the loop on conversations from the first five Community Linkages Work Group meetings in order to develop actionable recommendations for the SIM Advisory Committee to consider. During the meeting, participants discussed questions that should be added to existing assessments used in the District in order to better examine the social determinants of health. Such questions will inquire about food insecurity, housing status, family and home life, and social and emotional health. Click here for meeting summaries and materials.

Announcements

CMS Announces Results From Round One Health Care Innovation Awards

The **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)** shared the second annual independent evaluation reports of round one of the Health Care Innovation Awards. Where data are available, these reports describe preliminary impact estimates on key outcome measures such as hospitalizations and readmissions. A number of awardees showed favorable results on one or more measures of cost, hospitalizations, readmissions, and emergency room visits. In addition, qualitative findings suggest that staff highly value the triage pathways for making their workflow more efficient, and patients greatly appreciate weekend hours and increased capacity for urgent care visits during the day. Read more information here.

Events

The **Community Health Center is hosting a webinar on June 2nd at 3pm on Dissolving the Walls: Clinic Community Connections**. This webinar will describe the ways innovative practices keep connected to their communities by offering non-medical services that benefit patients, linking to quality community resources, and acting as advocates in their communities for resources and programs that may be needed. To register, click here.

The **Institute for Healthcare Improvement** is hosting an intensive three-day seminar, **Transforming the Primary Care Practice, from June 13th to June 15th in San Diego**. The seminar will provide leading edge insight on how to: implement key changes that lead to effective, high-quality, person-centered care; apply tested tools for forecasting appointment demand and tracking appointment supply as you work to improve access to care; identify opportunities for improving care delivery through partnerships with patients and families within your practice; use a set of key metrics to guide your empanelment, access, and continuity journey; and develop pragmatic ideas for change to achieve your goals and objectives. To register, click here.

Health Management Associates will be hosting a webinar on June 28th at 1pm that is titled "Community-Based Participatory Research: How to Identify Social Determinants of Health and Engage Hard-to-Reach Populations in Your Community." The social determinants of health can be difficult to identify, disproportionately strike hard-to-reach populations, and require targeted responses that engage members and help them stay connected to appropriate services, treatments, and interventions. During this webinar, experts from HMA Community Strategies (HMACS) and the San Francisco Jewish Women's Fund will outline an initiative to explore qualitatively what the most important needs of a specific population are, and the solutions that they suggest would be helpful. Register here.

Resources

HCP LAN White Papers

The **Health Care Payment Learning & Action Network** released final drafts of two white papers on patient attribution and financial benchmarking. The paper on patient attribution includes 10 recommendations for designating the population for which a provider will accept accountability in a population-based payment (PBP) model, and documents guiding principles for payers and providers to consider as they integrate patient attribution into their PBP models. The financial benchmarking paper

offers innovative approaches for setting initial benchmarks and updating those benchmarks over time, and suggests considerations for risk adjustment.

Brookings Blog Post on a Changing Medicare

Brookings posted a blog titled "Physician payment in Medicare is changing: Three highlights in the MACRA proposed rule that providers need to know." The post discusses the how the implementation of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) will impact physician payments, highlighting three things that providers need to know. MACRA was passed just over one year ago. To read the full blog post, [click here](#).

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If you have comments or suggestions for future newsletters, please contact dc_sim@dc.gov.