## CMS SIM Round 2 Testing Awards Background

- In December 2014, 11 states were announced as round two of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) State Innovation Model (SIM) Test Awards, which are utilized to implement and test State Health Care Innovation Plans.
- With the combined support of $622 million, states awarded these Model Test funds are putting strategies in place to transform health care delivery systems primarily through multi-payer payment reform and additional initiatives.
- The Round Two SIM Model Test Awards have a more explicit emphasis on improving population health in specific areas such as prevention, health equity, and healthy behaviors.
- Participating states have 48 months to implement and test their models.

## Summary of SIM Testing Award in Iowa

Iowa will receive approximately $43.1 million to implement and test its State Health Care Innovation Plan. The primary focus of Iowa’s SIM grant expands the current accountable care organization (ACO) model, which covers a portion of the state’s Medicaid expansion population. The focus of the grant is on the development of a multi-payer model that will integrate public health providers with acute care service delivery systems.

Iowa has identified specific population health improvement activities for ACOs and developed a process for ACOs to address social determinants of health. The ACOs will gradually take on increased financial and clinical responsibility for behavioral health and long-term services and supports. Iowa plans to use a value-based payment model similar to that being used by existing ACOs in the state in order to align efforts across payers.

### Implications for Pediatrics

**Impact on children:**
- Iowa will implement population health improvement initiatives that address six key conditions: obesity, patient engagement, tobacco use, obstetric adverse events, healthcare associated infections, and diabetes.
- From the above conditions, Iowa plans to specifically address childhood obesity by promoting Body Mass Index (BMI) assessment and will measure the number of children who receive a BMI assessment.
- The ACOs will be required to report on a common set of performance measures that fall into seven domains. Of these proposed domains, the primary and secondary prevention category includes measures for well child visits for ages birth to 15 months and 3 to 6 years old.
- Iowa plans to incorporate additional performance measures in the second year of implementation that will focus on children and specifically children with special needs. These measures will be finalized through a stakeholder engagement process that will conclude by the end of the first implementation year.
- The ACOs will likely coordinate behavioral health and long-term care services by 2017, including children’s mental health waiver services and psychiatric medical institutions for children.

**Impact on Participating Providers:**
- Iowa’s ACO payment model will include multiple components to promote accountability and value-based reimbursement. Core elements of the payment model include the following:
  - A per-member per-month payment (PMPM) to primary care clinicians for patients with at least two chronic diseases
  - Quality incentive measures
  - ACO participation in a variety of shared savings/risk levels
- Iowa plans to implement an Iowa Health Information Network Alerting System that will provide real-time or near real-time patient information to providers. The goals of the system are to allow providers participating in the ACO program to send timely information from outside systems, coordinate care transitions, and implement population health management strategies. The system will include an Admit, Discharge, Transfer (ADT) messaging service and will also be able to forward lab results to care teams.
- Iowa plans to offer ACOs technical assistance in multiple areas such as workforce development, payment and service delivery reform, community-based service integration, population health initiatives, and effective use of data.

For more information on the CMS SIM Model Test Award in Iowa, contact Marni Bussell, SIM Project Director, at mbussel@dhs.state.ia.us.