

Summary of Proposed Initiatives Impacting Pediatrics Populations and Providers in Rhode Island's State Innovation Model Test Application

CMS SIM Round 2 Testing Awards Background

- In December 2014 11 states were announced as recipients of round two of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) State Innovation Model (SIM) Test Awards, utilized to implement and test State Health Care Innovation Plans.
- With the combined support of \$622 million, states awarded 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 Rhode Island

Rhode Island will receive up to \$20 million to implement and test its State Health Care Innovation Plan. Rhode Island will use its SIM award to transform its health care delivery system to achieve a "Value-Based Care Paradigm" through two complementary plans, which include the following:

1. A population health improvement plan, which will focus on nine key issues, including areas particular to children (see "Implications for Pediatrics" section below for details). This plan will also address integrating primary care and behavioral health for all ages.
2. A health care delivery system transformation plan which will focus on developing clinical outcomes measures, improving the state's health information technology (HIT) infrastructure, creating multi-disciplinary care teams composed of primary care and community-based providers, engaging patients in their health care, and transitioning away from fee-for-service (FFS) payments towards a system that links payment to value and quality of care.

Implications for Pediatrics

Impact on children:

- Rhode Island's population health plan will specifically address several key areas of concern for the pediatric population including infant mortality and child health issues such as immunizations, developmental screening and referrals, and asthma control. Additionally, the plan will incorporate behavioral health and primary care integration initiatives for children and adults, acknowledging the impact of mental health and substance use disorders on infants, children, and adolescents.
- The grant will focus on expanding its current patient-centered medical home (PCMH) program, the [Rhode Island Chronic Care Sustainability Initiative](#) (CSI-RI), to children.
- Rhode Island also plans to pilot a children's mental health initiative, called the Child Psychiatry Access Program. The program will fund a children's mental health consultation team to work with primary care providers on meeting the needs of children with mental health issues.

Impact on Participating Providers:

- Improving data systems is a crucial component of Rhode Island's SIM plan and the state has chosen to invest SIM funds in several key HIT initiatives, including the following:
 - developing a statewide quality measurement, reporting, and feedback system
 - supporting current work to create a common provider directory
 - expanding the state health information exchange to develop patient engagement tools
 - continuing the building of an all-payer claims database

Technical assistance will be offered to providers on the proposed HIT initiatives.

- Focus on aligning quality measures across all payers as part of its HIT plan in order to monitor progress on its population health plan will be prioritized. Core measures will be selected during the first year of the SIM testing grant and will be designed to generate results that are useful to providers, programs, and payers.
- Rhode Island plans to leverage SIM funding to support a practice assistance project that will provide value-based care practice coaching, training, and technical assistance to participating providers. The project will help practices with quality measurement, care coordination, and the use of electronic medical records to drive population health management strategies.

**For more information on the CMS SIM Model Test Award in Rhode Island, contact
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