

Health Care and Human Services Policy Research and Consulting

HEALTH CARE REFORM AND STATE INNOVATION MODEL (SIM) EXPERIENCE

OVERVIEW

The Affordable Care Act expanded on efforts to link the quality and efficiency of health care services to their payments through new payment and delivery initiatives. In 2012, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS, created the SIM initiative in order to provide financial and technical support to states for the development of multi-payer health care payment and service delivery models aimed at: improving health system performance; increasing quality of care; and decreasing costs for those enrolled in Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP. The Lewin Group (Lewin) has partnered with multiple states on SIM design, implementation and evaluation as well as health care reform-related analysis and operational support.

Lewin understands the importance of planning the design for an integrated, cost-efficient and effective state health care system with a focus on whole-person health. We create practical strategies for transforming state health care systems, taking into account each state's unique health care environment. Our team augments its state experience with sophisticated data-driven analysis to identify and evaluate available options as well as to assess the impact of those options on each state's specific programmatic goals.

SERVICES

Lewin is currently working with multiple states across the country on complex questions related to program design, implementation and evaluation of innovative health care strategies. We offer our clients actionable solutions and proven experience in executing each stage in the lifecycle of health care reform and SIM initiatives.

Program Design

- Assist in data validation of state all-payer claims databases as well as other critical data sources that are utilized in the program design, implementation and evaluation
- Model impacts of planned policy changes on cost, quality and health outcomes and develop risk adjustment methodologies
- Create survey tools that will be used to obtain data through provider, consumer and key stakeholder interviews
- Synthesize stakeholder input and resolve divergent interests driven by the practical concerns of a multi-payer environment (i.e., Medicare, Medicaid/CHIP, commercial) through ongoing communication during design, implementation and evaluation

Program Implementation

- Facilitate committees, subcommittees and workgroups to collect ongoing program feedback
- Develop robust Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) and reporting infrastructure to support and drive system change efforts
- Oversee data collection protocols and methods that allow for real-time data analysis throughout implementation
- Conduct ad hoc analytics to audit all activities associated with implementation

Program Evaluation

- Develop and implement a comprehensive evaluation plan
- Assess financial performance of state public and commercial providers, including cost, utilization and shared savings
- Develop data collection protocols and methods
- Design and implement focused studies to test specific model components
- Facilitate public comment opportunities and stakeholder relations strategies

BENEFITS

Lewin is familiar with the range of innovative programs that states are designing, implementing and evaluating as well as the metrics and data integrity methods necessary to quantify the outcomes to support successful programmatic changes. We offer our clients a team of consultants with experience and expertise in developing strategies and executing methodologies to support states in meeting the Triple Aim — improving quality of care, achieving desired population health and reducing costs — through programmatic changes designed to reflect each state's unique health care landscape.

ABOUT US

The Lewin Group is a premier national health care and human services consulting firm with 45 years' experience finding answers and solving problems for leading organizations in the public, nonprofit and private sectors. We understand the industry and provide our clients with high-quality products and insightful support to help them maximize the delivery of programs and services that make a difference in the lives of their constituents.

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