

Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care Reform

Summary of the Five Narrow Proposals

June 18, 2007

Improving Our Health and Condition/Proposal #24

Major Strategies in Proposal:

1. Encourage implementation of health information technology, including CORHIO and electronic medical records
2. Reward providers financially for providing effective and high-quality care
3. Create single-process billing and payment system
4. Implement strategies through existing resources such as the Colorado Foundation for Medical Care and the Colorado Clinical Guidelines Collaborative

Criterion	How Proposal Addresses Criterion
Access	? Cover alternative provider visits (e.g. email and phone) to increase provider capacity
Coverage	? N/A
Affordability	? N/A
Portability	? N/A
Benefits	? N/A
Quality—Applying Evidence	? Collect data on quality and efficiency, combine data from multiple sources in central repository, report data to various stakeholders ? Build on national guidelines and measures to create a uniform set of definitions to align and strengthen the measurement, performance and reporting of safety and quality
Quality—Health Information Technology	? Expand Colorado Regional Health Information Organization (CORHIO) ? Reward health professionals who use health information technology systems ? Assist small independent practitioners with purchase of electronic medical record systems
Quality--Incentives	? Reward consumers who comply with chronic care self-management activities ? Compensate providers who provide chronic care management, care coordination, and end-of-life planning ? Reward providers who score high on performance measures with higher payments, tax benefits, or other incentives
Efficiency	? Create single-process billing and payment system ? Implement integrated system of electronic medical records

Criterion	How Proposal Addresses Criterion
Consumer Choice and Empowerment	? Improve consumer decision-making through use of electronic medical records and personal health records
Wellness and Prevention	? Do not charge copayments for preventive services ? Reward consumers who engage in healthy behaviors
Sustainability	? N/A
Comprehensiveness	? N/A

Colorado Health Outcomes Measurement and Evaluation Consortium (CO-HOME): A System to Ensure an Effective and Efficient Medical Home for All Coloradans/Proposal #25

Major Strategies in Proposal:

1. Create state-wide public-private consortium called the Colorado Health Care Outcomes and Evaluation Consortium (CO-HOME)
2. Create CO-HOME as an independent organization with the capacity to evaluate quality and cost outcomes cross all payer types and provider systems
3. Encourage various stakeholders to become member organizations including state agencies, academic institutions, foundations, hospitals, health plans, professional organizations, and business organizations

Criterion	How Proposal Addresses Criterion
Access	? N/A
Coverage	? N/A
Affordability	? N/A
Portability	? N/A
Benefits	? Mandate coverage of medical home services for all covered individuals, including Medicaid enrollees
Quality	? Create standards for data abstracts on all patient encounters to be submitted by all health plans and providers ? Create and manage inclusive database that contains inpatient and outpatient claims data on all Colorado-covered individuals ? Define and evaluate quality and cost measures through collaboration with state agencies, providers, health plans and other stakeholders
Efficiency	? Evaluate cost and quality data to focus cost-containment efforts
Consumer Choice and Empowerment	? Report outcomes that allow consumers to compare health plans and providers
Wellness and Prevention	? Include compliance with recommended preventive services in quality measures
Sustainability	? Finance CO- HOME through member organizations

Criterion	How Proposal Addresses Criterion
Comprehensiveness	? N/A

Telemedicine and Data Management Systems for Improvement of Healthcare Coverage

Costs/Proposal #26

Major Strategies in Proposal:

1. Provide improved telemedicine, utilization review, and provider performance ratings for Colorado Medicaid, particularly for Medicaid mental health services

Criterion	How Proposal Addresses Criterion
Access	? Use telemedicine to enhance contact between providers and Medicaid patients
Coverage	? N/A
Affordability	? N/A
Portability	? N/A
Benefits	? N/A
Quality	? Generate provider performance ratings based on evaluation of billable hours per patient episode
Efficiency	? Increase use of telemedicine to reduce cost of care
Consumer Choice and Empowerment	? Report outcomes that allow consumers to compare health plans and providers
Wellness and Prevention	? N/A
Sustainability	? N/A
Comprehensiveness	? N/A

HealthTrans Pharmacy Care Fund/Proposal #27

Major Strategies in Proposal:

1. Create clearinghouse for information on existing pharmaceutical assistance programs
2. Provide guidance and assistance in applying for programs
3. Provide discount cards for the uninsured and underinsured
4. Provide subsidies up to 70% on prescription medications for those who do not qualify for other resources

Criterion	How Proposal Addresses Criterion
Access	? Use network of over 700 pharmacies for discount card
Coverage	? N/A
Affordability	? Provide discount cards that would provide recipients with an average discount of 55% of the usual and customary price of generic drugs ? Provide subsidies for purchase of drugs for those who do not qualify for other resources ? No clear subsidy level, like 200% FPL
Portability	? N/A
Benefits	? N/A
Quality	? N/A
Efficiency	? Promote medication compliance through education and financial assistance
Consumer Choice and Empowerment	? N/A
Wellness and Prevention	? Increase medication compliance, resulting in reduced acute care
Sustainability	? Possibly use government funds to expand number of uninsured and underinsured Coloradans who could be served by the programs
Comprehensiveness	? N/A

The Option to Die in PEACE (Patient Ethical At-Home Care Elective/Proposal #28

Major Strategies in Proposal:

1. Launch public awareness campaign about hospice, dying and death
2. Guarantee option for arranging for death outside of hospital or other institution
3. Guarantee adequate pain relief
4. Empower patients and families to take control over their loved-one's demise
5. Amend the Colorado Statutes for physician licensure to include a requirement for palliative and end-of-life treatment and care

Criterion	How Proposal Addresses Criterion
Access	? Raise awareness regarding the availability of hospice services
Coverage	? N/A
Affordability	? N/A
Portability	? N/A
Benefits	? N/A
Quality	? Add a significant palliative and end-of-life training requirement for physician licensure
Efficiency	? Reduce institutional health care costs for those who choose to die outside of an institution
Consumer Choice and Empowerment	? Provide consumers with more information to make an end-of-life decision
Wellness and Prevention	? N/A
Sustainability	? Create savings through increased use of hospice ? Increase use of Medicaid hospice services
Comprehensiveness	? N/A