

Workshop #2: Population Health Implications of the Affordable Care Act



How the ACA Moves Hospitals Towards Population Health

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IOM Roundtable on Population Health Improvement

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ACA Provisions Impacting Hospitals and Population Health

- Coverage expansions
- Medicaid expansions
- National prevention strategies: (Prevention and Public Health Council, Fund, other)
- Prevention coverage
- Incentives/penalties: re-hospitalization, other
- Tax-exempt hospital provisions

Tax-Exempt Hospital Provisions

- Community health needs assessment and planning
- Financial assistance
- Charges
- Billing and collections

Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA):

Provisions in the ACA require a tax-exempt hospital facility to:

- ✓ Conduct a CHNA at least every three years
- ✓ Take into account input from persons who represent the broad interests of the community
- ✓ Take into account input from persons with special knowledge of or expertise in public health
- ✓ Make the CHNA widely available to the public

Additional Requirements Described in the IRS Proposed Rules

- ✓ Input to CHNA must include:
 - At least one state, local tribal or regional public health department
 - Members of medically underserved, low-income and minority populations or their representatives
 - Written comments on previous CHNAs

CHNA (con't)

- ✓ Written CHNA report must include:
 - Definition of the community served
 - Description of the process and methods used to conduct the assessment, including:
 - Description of how the hospital took into account input
 - A prioritized description of significant community health needs
 - A description of the potential resources to address the significant health needs
- ✓ Assessment report must be adopted by an authorized body of the hospital

Implementation Strategy

Provisions in the Affordable Care Act require a tax-exempt hospital to:

- ✓ Adopt an implementation strategy to meet community needs identified in the CHNA
- ✓ Describe how it is addressing needs identified in the CHNA
- ✓ Describe any needs identified in the CHNA that are not being addressed and the reasons for not addressing them

Additional Requirements in IRS Proposed Rules

For each significant need:

- The actions the hospital facility intends to take
- The anticipated impact of these actions
- A plan to evaluate the impact
- The programs and resources the hospital plans to commit
- Any planned collaboration

Themes in ACA and IRS Rule

- Encourages collaboration
- Encourages hospital/public health partnerships
- Attention to disparities and vulnerable populations
- Transparency

How Hospitals Are Implementing ACA

- Collaborating!
- Public health partnerships
- Using public health resources (County Health Rankings, Healthy People 2020, Community Guide, Prevention Strategy, Aims for Public Health Quality, academics)
- No big surprises: access, low-birth weight, mental health, dental health, aging, stroke and heart disease
- Attention upstream to determinants of health