

Report from the Advisory Council to the HSCRC

Presentation to HSCRC by Jack Meyer, Health
Management Associates
February 5, 2014



Purpose of the Advisory Council

- Advisory Council was charged with offering guidance and advice on implementing Maryland's newly approved model design
- Best ways to meet the tight targets in model
- Setting priorities for implementation
- Establishing guiding principles
- Advice based on real-world experience

The Council: Members and Process

- Council represents hospitals, payers, physicians, and outside experts
- Kick-off meeting with the Commission
- Four meetings over the past two months
- Public meetings and comments taken
- Council achieved consensus after discussion and debate

1. Focus on Meeting the Early Model Requirements

- Top priority: meeting the All Payer hospital per capita spending and Medicare savings targets
- Requires clear timetable, interim milestones, key benchmarks, periodic assessments
- Global payment is the tool of preference
- Reducing avoidable utilization through better care is the key to meeting tight targets

2. Meeting Budget Targets, Investments in Infrastructure, and Providing Flexibility for Private Sector Innovation

- Balance need for near-term cost control with need for infrastructure investments
- Incentives for hospitals to meet and exceed the targets; retain, reinvest savings
- Need secure funding source to finance new investments: new data, HIT, care coordination
- Provide compilation of best practices

3. HSCRC as a Regulator, Catalyst, and Advocate

- HSCRC should be effective regulator, catalyst for reforms, and advocate for needed support
- Collect, synthesize, and interpret data
- Allow flexibility for health care sector to devise and implement successful strategies
 - Preference for performance standards
 - Avoid multi-layered design standards
- Strong incentives for discovery & innovation

4. Consumer Involvement in Planning and Implementation

- HSCRC should actively engage consumers
- Need to guard against under-use as well as overuse of health services
- Incorporate quality improvement, safety goals

5. Physician and Other Provider Alignment

- Strong physician engagement and alignment
- HSCRC should charge Work Group on this
- HSCRC should support Shared Savings models
- Understand the importance of medical malpractice reform to meeting model goals

6. Transparency and the Public Engagement Process

- Ongoing, transparent public engagement will be helpful
- Support for the establishment of Work Groups focused on technical and operational aspects of implementation

Conclusions

- Meeting targets will require large-scale transformation of Maryland health system
- Starting point is quick, widespread adoption of global payments
- Success requires identifying and better serving highneed patients
- Council looks forward to working with HSCRC