



May 29, 2017

Eli Greenfield
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
Division of State Demonstrations and Waivers
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-02-26
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850

Re: Evaluation of the 1115(a) Texas Demonstration Waiver – Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Final Evaluation Report

Dear Mr. Greenfield:

Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) presents the Final Evaluation Report which addresses requirements specified in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved Evaluation Plan. This report fulfills requirements of the Special Terms and Conditions (Number 75 [b]) for Texas' Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program (Waiver Number: 11-W-00278/6) authorized under Section 1115(a) of the Social Security Act. The Technical Response Document addresses the questions, comments, and recommendations presented by CMS, and provides the section and page number where a modification can be found in the Final Evaluation Report. Additionally, HHSC Medicaid and CHIP Services has prepared the Texas Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Outcomes Document which provides supplementary information regarding overall outcomes data for DSRIP.

The final report is organized around the 11 evaluation goals (EG) specified in Texas' approved Evaluation Plan (Appendix G):

1. Evaluation Goals 1 through 4 used a pre-/post- evaluation design and found improvements in access and care coordination were associated with Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) expansion. The MMC expansion demonstrated minor improvements in quality of care with decreasing trends for potentially preventable hospitalizations (EG 1-4, Appendix B).
2. Evaluation Goal 9 used social network analysis to evaluate the formation and changes to collaborations within Regional Healthcare Partnerships among DSRIP performing providers and found that the inclusion of organizations traditionally not part of the health service delivery system fostered increased collaboration (EG 9, Appendix C).

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3. Evaluation Goals 10 and 11 examined Stakeholder Perceptions and Recommendations and found that stakeholders were generally satisfied with how DSRIP has been implemented despite start-up issues (EG 10-11, Appendix D).
4. Evaluation Goals 6 through 8 examined a single DSRIP project type, care navigation services to reduce inappropriate Emergency Department use, and found hospitalization encounters decreased by 19 percent for clients receiving care navigation (EG 6-8, Appendix E).
5. The Evaluation Goal 5 analysis of Uncompensated Care corroborates the findings from the independent evaluation required by STC 45(b) (EG 5, Appendix F).

We appreciate our continued partnership over the course of this demonstration evaluation.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. Monica Smoot, Chief Data and Analytics Officer, serves as the lead staff on this matter and she can be reached by telephone at (512) 707-6093 or by email at Monica.Smoot@hhsc.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,



Charles Smith

Enclosures