



Recent Announcements

New Report Highlights Practices to Better Address Needs of Sexual and Gender Minorities in Medicaid

LGBTQ individuals experience unique health risks and barriers to care due to the simultaneous experience of intersecting identities, discrimination and social stigma. The report, ["Sexual and Gender Minorities: Opportunities for Medicaid Health Plans and Clinicians."](#) highlights how Medicaid managed care organizations and clinical practices can better address the needs of LGBTQ individuals. Read the full press release [here](#).



Dr. Jennifer Moore, IMI Founding Executive Director, Announced as New Fellow for American Academy of Nursing

The American Academy of Nursing recently announced the selection of candidates for its 2019 class of Academy fellows. IMI's Jennifer Moore, PhD, RN, is one of 231 nurse leaders chosen for this prestigious honor. Click to read the full announcement [here](#).

IMI Welcomes Four New Interns to Its D.C. Headquarters for Summer 2019

IMI welcomed four new interns to its D.C. headquarters to work alongside the IMI team this summer. The interns, all current students or recent graduates, will have the opportunity to both lead and support projects on several topics including Medicaid waivers, evidence-based maternal models of care, two-generation approaches to care, and state Medicaid policy variation. Together, the four bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the Institute. Learn more about the IMI summer interns [here](#).



Advancing Health Equity Learning Collaborative

The Institute for Medicaid Innovation (IMI), University of Chicago, and Center for Healthcare Strategies (CHCS) have partnered to launch an exciting new three-year initiative, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, ["Advancing Health Equity: Leading Care Payment & Systems Transformation."](#)

Teams selected to participate in the Learning Collaborative will be notified soon. The Learning Collaborative kicks off on October 2-3 in Chicago.



On the Road with IMI



Over the next few months, IMI will be presenting at a number of conferences. Check out the list below and remember to register to learn more about our research in the field:

[The Role of NIH in Drug Development Innovation and its Impact on Patient Access: A Workshop](#) (July 24-25)

[International Family Nursing Conference](#) (August 13-19)

[Medicaid Health Plans of American Annual Conference](#) (September 18-20)

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Medicaid Leader Interview: Nicole Truhe

Nicole Truhe is the Director of Thought Leadership at UnitedHealthcare Community & State.



What do you see as the emerging issues in Medicaid managed care?

There are a number of emerging trends in Medicaid managed care. These trends include the expansion of coverage responsibility, delegation of greater accountability and risk, and broadening responsibility for care. The leading trend, and which overlays all of the individual trends we are seeing, is the push to achieve higher value and better outcomes for the money being spent in the Medicaid system while reducing the pace at which Medicaid spending is increasing.

What innovative initiative are you leading right now that you are really excited about?

There are a number of exciting initiatives underway at UnitedHealthcare Community & State. One that I am involved with and particularly excited about is the work of our National Advisory Board. The Board is a group of leading aging and disability experts and advocates as well as a Community & State member, and family member of an individual with special health care needs. The Board provides recommendations, develops and champions innovations, and advises on population engagement strategies that support clinical approaches for aging and disabled members. Their current work is focused on how to develop a culture in which access, inclusion of access to appropriate and needed benefits, is foundational to the health care system.

What past innovative projects have you enjoyed working on the most?

I have had a relatively short tenure at UnitedHealthcare Community & State. However, in that time, I have been energized by the work and the innovations that the organization is pursuing. From our housing investment and support efforts, to our focus on the foster care population and supporting our members and their foster parents, to our collaboration with partners in areas such as aging, disability, maternal health, and social determinants of health, I am excited about the work that UnitedHealthcare is undertaking to provide high value care to our members and all those accessing Medicaid.

What is your most memorable experience interacting with a family or individual enrolled in Medicaid?

My work in health and human services began right after graduating college. I worked for a non-profit that provided, among other services, home-based family counseling services. My first visit with one of the counselors to a family's home is something I will always remember. That visit confirmed for me the importance of treating the whole person and managing not only the clinical but non-clinical needs of an individual in order to achieve positive outcomes. Meeting people where they are and truly listening to them are critical to providing them the support and care that they need.

Get Involved!

We have included a summary of the major projects that IMI's committees are actively tackling. Are you interested in joining the discussion? Email Dr. Jennifer Moore at JMoore@MedicaidInnovation.org.

Dissemination & Implementation Committee

- Disparities and state variation in maternal mortality & morbidity.
- Best practices in Medicaid managed care specific to value-based purchasing, high risk care coordination, pharmacy, women's health, child and adolescent health, behavioral health, LTSS, and social determinants of health.
- Comprehensive resource on high-value, evidence-based maternal models of care that are under utilized in Medicaid.
- Access to Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC).
- Social determinants of health.
- Three-year, multi-stakeholder innovation incubator focused on reducing disparities through health system and payment reform.

Subcommittee on the Health of All Women in Medicaid

- Fourth trimester coverage for women enrolled in Medicaid.
- Disparities and state variation in maternal mortality and morbidity.
- Comprehensive resource on high-value, evidence-based maternal models of care that are under-utilized in Medicaid.
- Access to Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC).
- Disparities in pre-term birth.

Child & Adolescent Health Subcommittee

- Two generation approaches.
- Asthma and parental smoking.
- Parental mental health including maternal depression, ACEs, and child abuse.
- Childhood obesity.

Behavioral Health Subcommittee

- Physical and behavioral health integration including the use of CPT codes.
- Opioid use during pregnancy and neonatal abstinence syndrome.
- HEDIS measures for behavioral health.
- Housing for individuals with serious mental illness, behavioral health challenges, intellectually disabled or developmentally disabled individuals, and individuals with co-occurring disorders.

Data & Research Committee

- Annual Medicaid Managed Care Survey with sections focused on value-based purchasing, high risk care coordination, pharmacy, women's health, child and adolescent health, behavioral health, LTSS, and social determinants of health.
- Risk adjustment models in Medicaid.
- Social determinants of health.
- Standardized collection of social needs data.

Annual Medicaid MCO Survey Subcommittee

- Annual Medicaid Managed Care Survey with sections focused on value-based purchasing, high risk care coordination, pharmacy, women's health, child and adolescent health, behavioral health, LTSS, and social determinants of health.
- Market analysis and benchmarks on Medicaid managed care.
- The role of health plans in providing long-terms services and supports.
- Value-based purchasing and alternative payment models in Medicaid.

Social Determinants of Health Subcommittee

- Standardized screening of social needs.
- Technology platforms the support connecting individuals with community health workers and resources.
- Integration and sharing of data and information.

The Institute for Medicaid Innovation (IMI), a 501(c)3 nonprofit research organization, is dedicated to providing information, data analysis, and innovative solutions that address important clinical, research, and policy issues in Medicaid. It achieves this through stakeholder engagement, research, education, quality improvement initiatives, and implementation activities. The Institute has taken on the ambitious agenda to identify what works well in Medicaid and to explore areas that need improvement, while developing and testing novel solutions.