

Preliminary Alaska State Health Plan Framework Based on Alaska Health Care Commission Recommendations

07-29-13

VISION

By 2025 Alaskans will be the healthiest people in the nation and have access to the highest quality most affordable health care

We will know we attained this vision when, compared to the other 49 states, Alaskans have:

1. The highest life expectancy (currently 29th)
2. The highest percentage population with access to primary care (currently 27th)
3. The lowest per capita health care spending (currently 49th)

PRIORITY A: High Quality, Affordable Health Care

Core Strategy I. Ensure the best available evidence is used for making decisions

Support clinicians and patients to make clinical decisions based on high grade medical evidence regarding effectiveness and efficiency of testing and treatment options. Apply evidence-based principles in the design of health insurance plans and benefits.

Outcome 1: Clinicians understand and apply grades of evidence in clinical decision-making

Outcome 2: Patients and their clinicians partner in a shared decision-making model on clinical decisions

Outcome 3: Payers apply evidence-based medicine principals in health plan design and management

Recommended State Government Action:

- ▶ Encourage, support and coordinate health care program application of evidence-based medicine principles to state-administered health benefit design and provider payment.

Core Strategy II. Increase price and quality transparency

Provide Alaskans with information on how much their health care costs and how outcomes compare so they can become informed consumers and make informed choices. Provide clinicians, payers and policy makers with information needed to make informed health care decisions.

Outcome 1: Alaskans can easily access and compare prices charged by providers and reimbursable by payers

Outcome 2: Alaskans can easily access and compare clinical quality and outcome of providers

Outcome 3: Financial performance of corporate health care entities is reported to the public on an annual basis

Recommended State Government Action:

- ▶ Investigate and support mechanisms for providing the public with information on price and quality of health care services
- ▶ Encourage full participation in the Hospital Discharge Database (*preliminary 2013 recommendation: Require mandatory participation in Hospital Discharge Database*)
- ▶ Study the need and feasibility of an All-Payer Claims Database (*preliminary 2013 recommendation: Create an All-Payer Claims Database for Alaska*)

Core Strategy III. Pay for value

Redesign payment structures to incentivize quality, efficiency and effectiveness. Support multi-payer payment reform initiatives to improve purchasing power for the consumer and minimize the burden on health care providers.

Outcome 1: State agencies that purchase health care work together to align payment strategies

Outcome 2: Health care payers partner together and with providers to test innovative payment models

Outcome 3: Health care payment structures evolve away from payment for individual services to pay for outcomes

Recommended State Government Action:

- ▶ Redesign payment structures to incentivize quality, efficiency and effectiveness; move away from fee for service payment
- ▶ Take a phased approach; start with primary care payment enhancement
- ▶ Develop health data and analytics needed for design and negotiation of payment reform initiatives
- ▶ Support collaboration between State agencies that purchase health care and private health care purchasers in multi-payer payment reform efforts

Core Strategy IV. Engage employers to improve health plans and employee wellness

Support employers to adopt employee health and health insurance plan improvement as a business strategy. Start with price and quality transparency, and leadership by the State Department of Administration.

Outcome 1: Alaskan employers adopt health improvement and health care value as a business strategy

Outcome 2: Employers increase health care price sensitivity, transparency, primary care, & healthy lifestyle support

Outcome 3: Employees participate as active partners in health care decisions and living healthy lifestyles

Recommended State Government Action:

- ▶ Investigate and support mechanisms for providing the public with information on price and quality of health care services
- ▶ Provide leadership for Alaskan employers
- ▶ Include essential elements of successful employee health management programs:
 - Price sensitivity
 - Price and quality transparency
 - Pro-active primary care
 - Healthy lifestyle support

PRIORITY B: Accessible, Innovative, Patient-Driven Care

Core Strategy V. Enhance quality and efficiency of care on the front-end

Strengthen the role of primary care providers, and give patients and their clinicians better tools for making health care decisions. Improve coordination of care for patients with multiple providers, and care management for patients with chronic health conditions. Improve Alaska's Trauma system.

Outcome 1: All Alaskans have regular and ongoing access to a primary care provider

Outcome 2: Alaskans coordinate their health care needs through their primary care provider

Outcome 3: Primary care providers are appropriately reimbursed for complex care management and coordination

Outcome 4: Behavioral health and primary care services are integrated and available in either setting

Outcome 5: Alaskans have access to high quality, comprehensive, coordinated trauma care

Recommended State Government Action:

- ▶ Recognize value of primary care through appropriate reimbursement
- ▶ Promote patient-clinician relationships
- ▶ Support state health programs to implement patient-centric primary care models
- ▶ Support high quality, comprehensive, coordinated trauma care system

Core Strategy VI. Increase dignity and quality of care for seriously/terminally ill patients

Support Alaskans to plan in advance to ensure health care and other end of life decisions are honored. Provide secure electronic access to advance directives. Encourage provider training and education in end-of-life care. Establish a process that engages seriously and terminally ill patients in shared treatment decision-making with their clinicians. Use telehealth and redesign reimbursement methods to improve access to palliative care.

Outcome 1: Alaskans plan in advance to ensure health care and other end of life decisions are honored

Outcome 2: Palliative care is available to every patient from the time of diagnosis of a serious illness or injury

Outcome 3: Clinicians and seriously ill patients use a standard form for documenting shared treatment decisions

Outcome 4: Patients and providers have access to information and resources on end-of-life care

State of Alaska Action:

- ▶ Support communication and education regarding end-of-life planning and resources
- ▶ Require continuing education in palliative care and pain management for clinicians
- ▶ Encourage clinical training programs to address death and dying
- ▶ Evolve Comfort One program to include POLST (Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment)
- ▶ Create electronic registry for directives
- ▶ Pilot:
 - Tele-palliative care
 - Payment Structures

PRIORITY C: Healthy Alaskans

Core Strategy VII. Focus on prevention

Create the conditions that support Alaskans to exercise personal responsibility for living healthy lifestyles. High priorities include reducing obesity rates, increasing immunization rates, and improving behavioral health status.

Outcome 1: Alaskans are a healthy weight

Outcome 2: Children and seniors are appropriately immunized against vaccine preventable diseases

Outcome 3: Behavioral health and primary care needs can be addressed in either clinical setting

Outcome 4: Providers screen patients for depression, alcohol/substance abuse, and adverse childhood events

Outcome 5: Employers facilitate employees' ability to make healthy lifestyle choices

Recommended State Government Action:

- ▶ Implement obesity prevention programs
- ▶ Insure adequate funding and support for immunization program
- ▶ Integrate behavioral health and primary care services
- ▶ Support screening for
 - ▶ History of adverse childhood events
 - ▶ Substance abuse
 - ▶ depression

PRIORITY D: Sustainable, Efficient, Effective Health Care System

Core Strategy VIII. Build the foundation of a sustainable health care system

Create the information infrastructure required for maintaining and sharing electronic health information and for analysis of health care data to drive improved quality, cost and outcomes. Support an appropriate supply and distribution of health care workers. Provide statewide leadership to facilitate health care system transformation.

Outcome 1: Health data is maintained in private, secure electronic form to facilitate proper access to information

Outcome 2: Telehealth technologies are used to facilitate access to and quality of health care

Outcome 3: Real-time electronic reporting is used for rapid identification of public health threats

Outcome 4: Health data is used to improve quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care, and public health

Outcome 5: Communities have the telecommunications infrastructure necessary to optimize telehealth technologies

Outcome 6: There is an appropriate distribution and supply of qualified health care workers available to Alaskans

Outcome 7: Statewide health policy development is evidence-based and coordinated

Recommended State Government Action:

- ▶ Support Electronic Health Records & Health Information Exchange
- ▶ Foster Telemedicine
- ▶ Encourage Hospital Discharge Database participation (*preliminary 2013 recommendation: Require mandatory participation in Hospital Discharge Database*)
- ▶ Study All-Payer Claims Database (*preliminary 2013 recommendation: Create an All-Payer Claims Database for Alaska*)
- ▶ Support workforce innovation and adaptation as care models evolve
- ▶ Target public investment to primary care workforce development