



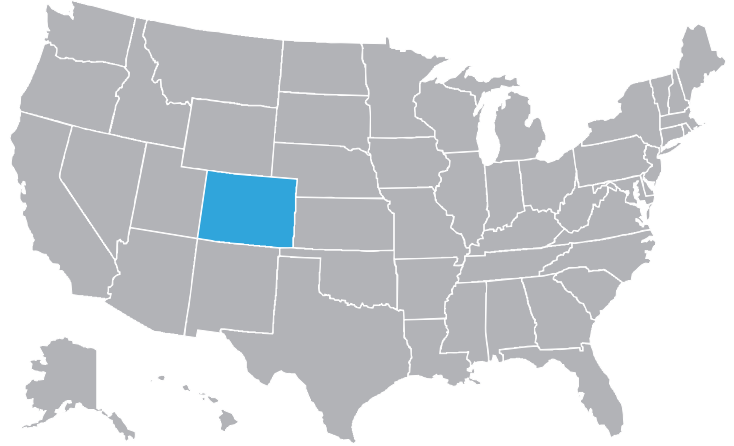
Center for Evidence-based Policy

THE SCIENCE OF GOOD POLICY

CASE STUDY: COLORADO

THE MULTI-PAYER COLLABORATIVE

Since 2012 the Center for Evidence-based Policy has assisted an extraordinary collaboration of public and private payers to strengthen primary care in Colorado through participation and leadership in regional and national initiatives. The Center facilitated the creation of the Colorado Multi-Payer Collaborative (MPC) including development of a shared vision, governance structure, stakeholder engagement processes, and aggregated data solution. The MPC currently includes almost all payers operating in Colorado, including CMS. The Center currently supports payers' participation in three initiatives in various configurations (i.e., not all payers participate in all initiatives), and previously supported work on the Comprehensive Primary Care (CPC) initiative.



COMPREHENSIVE PRIMARY CARE INITIATIVE

The Comprehensive Primary Care (CPC) initiative was a four-year multi-payer initiative aimed at strengthening primary care through a core set of “comprehensive” primary care functions. Launched in 2012, CPC was designed and initiated by CMS' Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation. CMS collaborated with commercial and State payers in seven U.S. regions to offer population-based care management fees and shared savings opportunities to participating primary care practices. CPC tested whether core functions—supported by multi-payer payment reform, the continuous use of data to guide improvement, and meaningful use of health information technology—could achieve improved care, better health for populations, and lower costs. In Colorado, over 70 practices, serving more than 400,000 patients participated in CPC.

The Center helped the MPC to coordinate resources and support for CPC practices, including aligned metrics, technical assistance, an aggregated data platform, and other foundational supports. As Judy Zerzan, Chief Medical Officer and Deputy Medicaid Director for the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing asserted, “We wouldn't have been able to have a transformative impact if it had just been Medicaid. To really transform care at the clinical level there has to be a critical mass of payers. The Center for Evidence Based Policy helped us bring everyone together around that common goal.” As a result of the work by payers and practices in Colorado, the region successfully bent the cost curve while maintaining or improving key quality metrics, and was one of only four CPC regions to earn shared savings in 2015. The CPC initiative concluded in December 2016.

The Colorado Multi-Payer Collaborative (MPC) is a highly functional collaborative of payer organizations focused on transforming care and reforming payment in Colorado to improve the health of all Coloradans. The MPC has brought traditionally competing organizations together to share resources, align activities, and identify opportunities to support practices in the pursuit of increased quality of care, all while controlling cost, and encouraging appropriate utilization. Colorado continues to be an exemplary model of multi-payer collaboration, and the Center is pleased to support this work.



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DATA AGGREGATION PROJECT

Recognizing the importance of data to inform change, and the burden to practices in accessing, synthesizing, and effectively using claims data across payers, the MPC developed an aggregated data tool to accelerate practice transformation. The Center assisted the MPC to develop a rigorous and transparent process to identify and select a data aggregation tool for CPC practices. As a result of this process the MPC contracted with Rise Health, now part of Best Doctors, to provide Stratus™. Prior to this project, providers received multiple reports from each payer and had to log on to several different websites to access patient data, making it cumbersome and inefficient to coordinate care. Stratus™ now provides a single source for administrative, patient-level information that can help care providers save time and resources, and enable them to spend more time with patients.

As Julie Turcheck, Director of United Healthcare Networks Western Region noted, "You could not have had a payer lead this effort. It had to be a neutral

party and Pam was really good at creating a structure and mechanism to get us to consensus." Facilitating contracting, cost-sharing, and tool development across national and regional payers was challenging; however, since 2015, all 72 CPC practice sites have had access to Stratus™ to help them manage patient and population health. Practices are able to view administrative data for all services a patient has received across the medical neighborhood, as well as proactively identify care gaps, build and manage patient registries, independently consolidate, search and visualize data, and dynamically associate data to meet organizational goals to improve patient care.

The MPC is currently rolling out Stratus™ access to an additional 50 practices participating in SIM and the 207 practices participating in CPC+. The MPC is also exploring opportunities to expand and improve Stratus™, including the potential to integrate clinical data.

STATE INNOVATION MODEL

Colorado SIM is a broad-based reform initiative that includes both public and private sector investments in comprehensive, whole person care. Colorado SIM is focused on behavioral health and primary care integration, and available to practices at every state of transformation. The MPC has actively worked to develop a framework for whole person care, as well as

specific milestones to guide practice transformation efforts, and has expanded value-based payments to support this work. The MPC also helps coordinate and align SIM with other regional and enterprise initiatives to best enable practice transformation and improve patient care.

COMPREHENSIVE PRIMARY CARE PLUS

CMS' Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) is sponsoring the Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) initiative, a national advanced primary care medical home model that aims to strengthen primary care through a regionally-based multi-payer payment reform and care delivery transformation. CPC+ includes two primary care practice tracks with incrementally advanced care delivery requirements and payment options to meet the diverse needs of primary

care practices. CPC+ provides practices with enhanced alternative payments, a robust learning system, and actionable patient-level cost and utilization data feedback, to support practice transformation. CPC+ launched January 1, 2017 and will run through December 31, 2021. CMS has selected 14 regions, comprised of 2,893 practices. In Colorado, the MPC supports 207 practice sites.