Solving Disparities Through Payment and Delivery System Reform

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A Roadmap and Best Practices for Organizations to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care


www.solvingdisparities.org

National Academy of Medicine – Systems Practices for Care of Socially At-Risk Populations

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services – CMS Equity Plan for Improving Quality in Medicare
Roadmap Principles

- No magic bullet
- Systematic process - awareness and prioritization of achieving equity, tailoring of solutions to local organizational and patient contexts, iterative QI addressing specific barriers and facilitators to change, implementation science.
- Menu of evidence-based interventions – organizations/providers like options/model
Social Risk Factor Adjustment

- Adjust for social risk factors when it makes a difference
- Caution regarding negative studies: currently available social risk factor data often crude
  - We need better data
- To achieve equity, expand policy tool kit beyond risk adjustment
Creating the Business Case for Achieving Health Equity

Chin MH. JGIM 2016; 31:792-796.

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Align the Financial Incentives

- Public reporting of stratified disparities data
- Pay for reducing disparities
  - Include equity accountability measures in payment programs
- Strengthen incentives for prevention and primary care
  - Intersectoral partnerships – Social determinants

Chin MH. Creating the business case for achieving health equity. JGIM 2016.
Align the Financial Incentives 2

- Align equity measures across public & private payors
- **Take care of safety net providers**
  - Adequate payment inc. DSH
  - Support for quality improvement
  - **Risk adjustment** to create level playing field
- Conduct payment and delivery **demo** projects
- Have explicit equity lens - payment and QI
Finding Answers: Solving Disparities

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Identify Disparities

Prioritize equity sensitive measures

Develop valid, reliable performance measures

Health Equity Measure Development Life Cycle

Implement quality improvement strategies and care transformation

Ensure scientific integrity of measures and recommend measures for use

Identify gaps in measurement and performance

Incentivize the reduction of disparities through measurement

Incorporate equity accountability measures into payment and reporting programs

Align equity accountability measures across payers

Incentivize preventive care, primary care, and addressing the social determinants of health

Assist safety-net organizations serving vulnerable populations

Conduct and fund demonstration projects to test payment and delivery system reform interventions to reduce disparities

Disparities in health and healthcare are identified and eliminated
NQF Draft
Equity Measure Domains

- Culture of equity
- Structure of equity
- Equitable access to care
- Equitable high-quality care
- Collaboration, partnerships, and linkages for equity