

Independent Study of the Montana PCMH Program – Progress Update 3/15/16

Statutory Requirement for the Independent Study

(8) All health care providers and payors who participate in a patient-centered medical home shall, as a condition of participation, collectively commission one independent study on savings generated by the patient-centered medical home program and report to the children, families, health, and human services interim committee no later than September 30, 2016. (*Terminates December 31, 2017--sec. 14, Ch. 363, L. 2013.*)

Generally, an independent study needs to be prepared by an external consultant or academic researcher with appropriate expertise. The study should not be prepared by CSI staff or members of the stakeholder council.

Progress to Date

FUNDING – following internal discussions, CSI is able to provide a small amount of funding to support the independent study.

INDEPENDENT STUDY AUTHOR – the independent study subcommittee has held a number of discussions reviewing potential authors and their relevant professional qualifications. Ultimately, only one potential author expressed an interest and ability to work on the independent study at this time, and the independent study subcommittee agreed to move forward with this author:

Bryce Ward, PhD.
Director, Health Care Research
Bureau of Business and Economic Research
University of Montana

Dr. Ward has agreed to work on the independent study in collaboration with Elizabeth Rolle, an MPH candidate at the University of Montana.

SCOPE OF WORK – Dr. Stenger and CSI staff have had follow up conversations with Dr. Ward and Ms. Rolle and they are in agreement with the proposed content and timeline, which have been previously discussed by the stakeholder council:

Proposed Content:

- Overview of program history
- Brief literature review on other state PCMH programs – focus on cost and quality impacts of more established programs

- Overview of PCMH program structure in Montana as compared to other states – funding, payor participation, reporting requirements
- Projections of future cost/quality improvements of the Montana PCMH program based on current participation and findings from the literature
- Analysis of provider/payor data submitted to CSI
- Proposal for analysis of payor claims data to demonstrate cost and utilization impacts of the PCMH, and if available, conduct claims data analysis
- Conclusions/Recommendations

Proposed Timeline:

March 31, 2016 – 2015 provider and payor data submission due to CSI

May 2016 – CSI to supply 2015 provider and payor data to study authors

Early July 2016 – Initial draft of Independent Study to PCMH Stakeholder Council

July 20 – PCMH Stakeholder Council Meeting – discussion of independent study draft

August 25 or 25, 2016 – Presentation to Interim Legislative committee (Dr. Ward)