

Independent Study of the Montana PCMH Program – Progress Update 1/15/16

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 - CSI staff and members of the stakeholder council have reviewed grant opportunities or directly contacted the following entities regarding potential funding of the independent study:

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- National Academy for State Health Policy
- Millbank Memorial Fund
- CTR-IN Mini Grant Program (for UM faculty)
- **Others???**

Unfortunately, no grant funding for this type of an early program evaluation appears to be available at this time.

INDEPENDENT STUDY AUTHOR - CSI staff and stakeholder council members have directly contacted a number of researchers who may have interest in conducting the independent study to review the proposed scope of work and assess their qualifications:

Christopher Whaley, PhD.
Research Economist
Berkley Center for Health Technology
University of California at Berkley

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

Proposed Scope of Work

Potential authors were interviewed regarding their interest, experience and qualifications to conduct an independent evaluation of the Montana Patient Centered Medical Home Program, including the following elements:

- 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

Data sources for the independent study – to be supplied by CSI

Montana PCMH Program Annual Report – 8/2015

PCMH Payor data on utilization measures for 2015 and 2016

PCMH Provider data on quality measures for 2015 and 2016

Qualitative data from provider and payor annual reports for 2015 and 2016

Additional payor claims data (if available)