Evidence-Based Care: The New Imperative in Quality

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All Health Care is Local

“Until a community confronts what goes on in its own population — to the point of actually seeking the data and engaging those who can solve the problem — nothing will change.”

Atul Gawande

Putting the Patient at the Center of Care

Patient-centeredness: The final frontier?
- Patient-centeredness may be the most challenging of all six domains of quality, because it is so difficult to define and measure.
- But, it is also likely the most important, because it includes elements of all other domains.

Evidence-Based Care: The New Imperative in Quality

- AHRQ Resources and Priorities
- Quality and Disparities Overview
- 21st Century Health Care
- Q & A
HHS Organizational Focus

NIH
Biomedical research to prevent, diagnose & treat diseases

CDC
Population health & the role of community-based interventions to improve health

AHRQ
Long-term & system-wide improvement of health care quality & effectiveness

AHRQ’s Focus and Strategic Goals

- **Quality**: Deliver the right care at the right time to the right patient
- **Safety**: Reduce the risk of harm by promoting delivery of the best possible health care
- **Efficiency**: Enhance access to effective health care services and reduce unnecessary costs
- **Effectiveness**: Improve health care outcomes by encouraging the use of evidence to make more informed health care decisions
Medicaid Medical Directors Learning Network (MMDLN)

- Senior clinical leaders from 42 states whose primary responsibility is quality and cost effectiveness of their Medicaid programs
- Embraces a mission that focuses on:
  - Development and use of evidence-based medicine
  - Measurement and improvement of health care quality
  - Redesign of health care delivery systems
- Now developing and conducting multi-state projects comparing data and policy interventions

MMDLN Projects

- Antipsychotic Medication Use in Medicaid Children and Adolescents
  - Documented state variation in Medication use, produced a data dictionary and highlighted state efforts to modify utilization
- Readmissions
  - 17-State project to collect state-level readmission data for children, pregnant women and Medicaid-only covered adults
  - Initial results showed state readmission rates ranged from 7.5% to 22.9%
AHRQ 2010 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report

- Health care quality, access are suboptimal, especially for minority and low-income Americans
- Quality is improving by 2.3% per year; access and disparities are not
- Urgent attention is needed to improve quality and reduce disparities for:
  - Cancer screening, diabetes management
  - States in central U.S.
  - Inner-city, rural areas
  - Disparities in preventive service and access to care

Washington: Overall Care Quality vs. All States

Performance Meter: All Measures

- Most Recent Year
- Baseline Year

2010 National Healthcare Quality Report, State Snapshots
Washington Snapshot: Overall Health Care Quality Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Performance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% adults who needed care right away for an illness, injury, or condition in the last 12 months and got it as soon as wanted, Medicare managed care</td>
<td>Better than average</td>
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<tr>
<td>All cancer deaths per 100,000 population</td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of hospital patients with heart failure who were given complete written discharge instructions</td>
<td>Worse than average</td>
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National Healthcare Quality Report, State Snapshots

Patient Stories

People who improved their care by asking questions and exploring their treatment options

- Annie Randolph lived with high blood pressure for years, but she only got the upper hand on it when she found good information about the so-called “silent killer” and her treatment options
  - The Decatur, GA, resident was diagnosed with the condition by her doctor during a checkup in 1991
  - She didn’t pay much attention to her condition until about five years ago, after she was hospitalized for a second time
  - “We didn’t really have much information in the past,” she says. “Today, information is really easy for consumers to find”

www.effectivehealthcare.gov/options/stories/
EHC Summary Guides

Policymakers

Clinicians

Consumers

Summarize research review findings on the benefits and harms of different treatment options. Provide useful background on health conditions. Medication guides contain basic wholesale price information. Consumer Guides available in Spanish.

21st Century Health Care

- Unprecedented national investment in health care
- Funding for data infrastructure, new evidence, spread of best practices
- Expanded opportunities for patient-centered outcomes research and quality improvement
Recovery Act Grant: Washington

- Comparative Effectiveness of Lipid-Lowering and Antihypertensive Medications Among HIV-Infected Individuals – Washington State University
  - Decrease in mortality through improvements in antiretroviral therapy has been accompanied by increases in complications such as hypertension
  - Project will analyze cardiovascular disease risk factors associated with treating HIV patients
  - The Centers for AIDS Research Network of Integrated Clinical Systems (CNICS) database will be the primary source of clinical data

Project Start: September 30, 2010
Project End: September 29, 2012

Patient Centered Outcomes Research Dissemination Framework

Example: New Diabetes CER

- Media campaign
- Outreach to national orgs (i.e. ADA, AADE, Endocrine Society, AACE)
- Outreach to consumers
- Integrate message into Diabetes package
- Promote via regional/State chapters of national orgs, local advocacy orgs, and regional health systems
- Integrate clinical message into Diabetes AD package
- Promote/discuss in individual practice settings
- Create and promote CE modules based on individual findings

Prioritization and Message Development

Publicity Center

Deeper awareness of CER and findings at regional, local, or system level

Regional Offices

Individual clinician education and practice level implementation

Academic Detailing & Online CE

Evaluation
Partnership for Patients:
Better Care Lower Costs

Up to $1 billion in funding provided from the Affordable Care Act

- New opportunity to improve the safety of health care through public-private collaboration
- Open to hospitals, doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other health professionals, employers, unions, patient advocates, health plans and others
- More than 1,500 have already signed the pledge

www.healthcare.gov/center/programs/partnership

National Quality Strategy:
Three Broad Aims

Created Under the Affordable Care Act

Better Care
Improve the overall quality, by making health care more patient-centered, reliable, accessible and safe

Healthy People/Healthy Communities
Improve the health of the U.S. population by supporting proven interventions to address behavioral, social and environmental determinants of health, in addition to delivering higher-quality care

Affordable Care
Reduce the cost of quality health care for individuals, families, employers and government

www.healthcare.gov/center/reports/quality03212011a.html
FORCE-TJR: Centers and Sites

Function and Outcomes Research for Comparative Effectiveness in total Joint Replacement (FORCE-TJR)

- Collecting data on 30,000 patients on functions including
- Developing tools for patient-centered outcomes research

Map of Participating Centers and Community Sites

Ad Campaign Encourages Patients To Explore Treatment Options

- AHRQ, Ad Council launch multimedia ad campaign: “Explore Your Treatment Options”
  - Encourages patients to ask about all options before choosing a treatment
  - Features patient stories that demonstrate how research leads to better treatment
  - Encourages patients to Effective Health Care Program summary guides

www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/options
Preguntas Campaign: AHRQ and the Ad Council

- Conoce las Preguntas (Know the Questions), a new, multimedia Spanish-language campaign
- National public service campaign featuring television, radio, print and Web ads
- Supports HHS plan to reduce health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities

www.ahrq.gov/preguntas

Future Directions

- Promote value by seizing opportunities emerging with the increasing attention being paid to transforming the nation’s health care system
  - Form alliances, partnerships and other strategies that promote collaboration
  - Further promote the use of comparative research into the broader health care transformation effort
  - Address the gaps that exist between our ability to generate data and having the capacity for it to be used “right now”

For AHRQ Funding Opportunities: http://www.ahrq.gov/fund
Thank You

AHRQ Mission
To improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care for all Americans

AHRQ Vision
As a result of AHRQ's efforts, American health care will provide services of the highest quality, with the best possible outcomes, at the lowest cost

www.ahrq.gov