



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



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State Health Access Reform Evaluation

Grant Award Information

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2013

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The State Health Access Reform Evaluation (SHARE) is a National Program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) created in 2006 to support the evaluation of health policy reform at the state level and develop an evidence-based resource to inform health reform efforts in the future. The grant program is administered by the State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC), housed within the University of Minnesota, School of Public Health. Lynn Blewett, PhD, Principal Investigator of SHADAC and Professor in the Division of Health Policy and Management, leads the program.

SHARE has the following key goals:

1. Coordinate evaluations of state reform efforts in a way that establishes a body of evidence to inform state and national policy makers on the mechanisms required for successful state health reform;
2. Identify and address gaps in research on state health reform activities from a state policy perspective;
3. Disseminate findings in a manner that is meaningful and user-friendly for state and national policy makers, state agencies, and researchers alike.

SHARE has awarded 33 grants since its inception. The first round of SHARE funding was awarded in 2008, at which time the program funded 16 studies examining a range of state reform topics such as the impacts of expanding eligibility guidelines for young adult dependent coverage; the differential coverage impacts seen under reforms of varying scope; and the crowd-out impacts of public program enrollment and eligibility simplifications. The second round of SHARE funding was awarded in 2010 after the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Eight new projects covered topics including the ACA's new income definition for Medicaid (modified adjusted gross income, or MAGI); the impact of the ACA on rural areas; and the income dynamics and characteristics of low- and moderate-income adults impacted by the ACA.

Most recently, SHARE awarded nine new grants in 2012. The following document provides an overview of these grants, which range in length from 12 to 24 months and will offer timely insights into a variety of health reform issues with a continued focus on implementation and evaluation of the ACA from a state perspective.

For more information about SHARE, please visit the SHARE website: www.shadac.org/share or call 612-624-4802.



Findings from SHARE studies are released primarily in policy-relevant briefs targeted at state and national officials. These briefs present findings in a user-friendly manner that highlights their relevance to broader policy debates. Visit our website to view these and other resources such as in-depth reports and peer-reviewed journal articles, or join the SHARE e-mail list at our home page in order to be notified when these items are available.

STUDY DESCRIPTIONS: 2012 Grant Awards

Achieving the Triple Aim in Medicaid: Evaluating the Access, Quality, Health and Cost Impacts of Coordinated Care Organizations in Oregon

Grantee Institution: Office of Oregon Health Policy and Research

Principal Investigator: Jeanene Smith, MD, MPH

This study will measure the effects of Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs)—Oregon’s version of Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) for the Medicaid population—on health care access, patient health, quality of care, costs, and utilization. The study will assess whether CCOs are successful in increasing efficiency and reducing costs without compromising health and will tell other states what to expect from CCOs, how much they will cost, and what key designs generate the biggest return on investment.

Behavioral Health and Care for Chronic Medical Conditions in Pennsylvania: The Role of the Medical Home

Grantee Institution: University of Pennsylvania

Principal Investigator: Karin Rhodes, MD, MS

Co-Principal Investigator: Paul Crits-Christoph, PhD, MPhil, MS

This project will examine the impact of integrating behavioral/medical care among patients with co-morbid chronic medical conditions (diabetes, COPD, asthma, and/or heart failure) and psychiatric/substance use disorder(s) on health care utilization and costs. To do this, the study will look at Pennsylvania’s Chronic Care Initiative, which was piloted in the state from 2008 through 2010, as well as a pilot program to integrate behavioral health into Pennsylvania’s Federally Qualified Health Centers over the last five years.

Informing Medicaid Program Design for Low-Income Childless Adults: The Promise of Self-Reported Health Measures

Grantee Institution: University of Illinois at Chicago

Principal Investigator: Lindsey Leininger, PhD, MA

This project will look at Wisconsin’s 2009 expansion of Medicaid to childless adults to assess the value of collecting self-reported health measures at the time of application for Medicaid—a novel use of Medicaid enrollment systems—for the purposes of predicting health care utilization and thereby informing prospective program design.

Innovative Benefit Design for CT State Employees

Grantee Institution: University of Michigan

Principal Investigator: Richard Hirth, PhD, MA

This project will evaluate the impact of a Health Enhancement Program (HEP)—which was added to the health plans of Connecticut employees and retirees in 2011—on the various clinical process measures (e.g., preventive care use, medication compliance) that the programs target. The state of Connecticut, in conjunction with key labor unions, implemented benefit design changes to employee and retiree health plans in 2011 based on the principles of value-based insurance design (V-BID).

Medical Homes Measures in Household Survey Data: State-Level Estimates Using Alternative Methodological Approaches

Grantee Institution: Urban Institute

Principal Investigator: Lisa Clemans-Cope, PhD

This project aims to understand and improve the validity of survey measures of Patient-Centered Medical Homes (PCMH) in the general population of children and to track progress in expanding the medical home concept to more children over time. The project will examine and evaluate existing and alternative measures of PCMH using household survey data and recommend alternative strategies for defining a PCMH based on these findings.

Planning for ACA Coverage Expansion: How Insurance Coverage for Childless Adults Will Affect Utilization

Grantee Institution: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Principal Investigator: Tom DeLeire, PhD

Co-Principal Investigator: Laura Dague, PhD, MS

This project will explore the health care utilization patterns among a Medicaid expansion population in Wisconsin: low-income, uninsured childless adults newly eligible for Medicaid under Wisconsin's Badger-Care Plus Core Plan. This project will examine several questions including: (1) whether and how service utilization changes after Medicaid enrollment; (2) how utilization patterns may differ for those coming from prior safety net coverage compared to those with no previous assistance; and (3) whether there is any apparent difference in pent-up demand, as measured by utilization of care, between those enrollees who had been chronically uninsured and those who had been episodically uninsured prior to Medicaid enrollment.

Rural Implementation and Impact of Medicaid Expansions

Grantee Institution: University of Southern Maine
Principal Investigator: Andrew Coburn, PhD, EdM
Co-Principal Investigator: Erika Ziller, PhD, MS

This study aims to inform federal and state implementation of the Medicaid expansions under the ACA by estimating the size and characteristics of rural residents likely to be newly eligible. The study will provide nationally representative information that identifies the extent to which rural residents live in states that have already expanded coverage to low-income adults; how many eligible individuals have participated; the characteristics of the remaining pool of the rural uninsured; and the potential impact of Medicaid expansions on rural primary care and delivery system capacity.

Small-Area Microsimulation to Study Geographic Variation in Coverage Expansions and Access under the Affordable Care Act

Grantee Institution: Vanderbilt University
Principal Investigator: John Graves, PhD

This study will address the challenge of producing reliable state and local estimates of coverage and access to care—a challenge which acts as a key barrier to planning for, implementing, and monitoring the Affordable Care Act (ACA). This project will facilitate more precise small area estimates through the employment of a novel reweighting method leveraging the frequency, detail and statistical power of national surveys. Estimates of insurance coverage expansion populations will be linked to estimates of the health care workforce and medical care system capacity to highlight areas with potential access concerns. The results of this study will not only yield information relevant to insurance expansions and potential access issues under the ACA but also will provide researchers and policymakers with new tools to facilitate their own state-level analyses.

Understanding Health Insurance and Policy Using Massachusetts Health Reform

Grantee Institution: Yale University
Principal Investigator: Amanda Kowalski, PhD
Co-Principal Investigator: Jonathan Kolstad, PhD

This project will evaluate health reform as carried out in Massachusetts with four aims: (1) estimate the welfare gain from using a mandate to reduce adverse selection; (2) model the impact of an individual mandate and subsidized health insurance on the labor market; (3) study the way in which health insurance expansions affect financial risk; and (4) model risk preferences and risk types to understand the causes of uninsurance.

2010 Grant Awards

Developing a Monitoring Strategy for Health Reform's Progress and Effects

Institution: George Mason University
Principal Investigator: Len Nichols, PhD, MS, MA

Eligibility Determination Using Modified Adjusted Gross Income: Implications for Enrollment under Health Reform

Institution: Mathematica Policy Research
Principal Investigator: John Czajka, PhD
Co-Principal Investigator: Cheryl Camillo, MPA

Evaluation of State & Federal Young Adult Dependent Coverage Expansion Policies

Institution: Rutgers University
Principal Investigator: Joel C. Cantor, ScD
Co-Principal Investigator: Margaret Koller, MS

Expanding Coverage and Ensuring Access: The Challenges and Opportunities of Implementing Health Reform in Rural America

Institution: University of Southern Maine
Principal Investigator: Andrew Coburn, PhD, EdM

2008 Grant Awards

Evaluation of Risk Selection in Market-Based State Programs

Institution: Mathematica Policy Research
Principal Investigator: Deborah Chollet, PhD
Co-Principal Investigator: Amy M. Lischko, DSc

Evaluation of Three States' Reforms to Cover All Children

Institution: UCLA
Principal Investigator: José Escarce, MD, PhD
Co-Principal Investigator: Carole Roan Gresenz, PhD

Implications and Options for State-Funded Programs under Health Reform

Institution: Health Management Associates
Principal Investigator: Theresa Sachs

Income Dynamics and Characteristics of Health Reform Expansion Populations

Institution: Williams College
Principal Investigator: Lara Shore-Sheppard, PhD, MA

Strategies for Moving the SNACC Project to the Next Level: Leveraging SNACC Data for Policy and Evaluation

Institution: N.O.R.C. at the University of Chicago
Principal Investigator: Mike O'Grady, PhD

Using Behavior Nudges to Improve Disease Management: Cost-Effective Strategies for Improving Care for Low-Income Diabetics

Institution: Harvard University
Principal Investigator: Kate Baicker, PhD

How Affordable Are State Coverage Plans?

Institution: University of Southern Maine
Principal Investigator: Elizabeth Kilbreth, PhD
Co-Principal Investigator: Katherine Swartz, PhD

Effect of Medicaid Reform on Access to Care, Program Sustainability, and Administrative Efficiency in Kentucky and Idaho

Institution: Urban Institute
Principal Investigator: Genevieve Kenney, PhD

2008 Grant Awards *(continued)*

Achieving Universal Coverage through Comprehensive Health Reform: The Vermont Experience

Institution: University of New England
Principal Investigator: Ronald D. Deprez, PhD, MPH
Co-Principal Investigator: Sherry Glied, PhD

Evaluation of Extending Dependent Coverage to Young Adults

Institution: Rutgers University
Principal Investigator: Joel C. Cantor, ScD
Co-Principal Investigator: Alan C. Monheit, PhD

An Evaluation of the Impacts of State Health Reform Initiatives in IL, MA, and NY

Institution: Urban Institute
Principal Investigator: Sharon K. Long, PhD
Co-Principal Investigator: Alshadye Yemane, MPP

Incremental Strategies to Cover Low-Income Uninsured Adults

Institution: Johns Hopkins University
Principal Investigator: Lisa Dubay, PhD, ScM

Sheltering Employee Premium Contributions from Tax Using “Section 125 Plans”

Institution: Wake Forest University
Principal Investigator: Mark Hall, JD

Evaluating the Implementation of the Rhode Island HealthPact Plans and the Design and Implementation of Rhode Island’s Global Waiver

Institution: Brown University
Principal Investigator: Vincent Mor, PhD
Co-Principal Investigator: Amal Trivedi, MD, MPH

Evaluating Wisconsin’s BadgerCare Plus Reform Package: Effects on Enrollment, Efficiency, and Churning

Institution: University of Wisconsin-Madison
Principal Investigator: Thomas Oliver, PhD
Co-Principal Investigator: Tom DeLeire, PhD

Assessing the First Use of Auto-Enrollment for a State Coverage Expansion

Institution: Urban Institute
Principal Investigator: Stan Dorn, JD

Evaluating Small Group Employer Participation in New Mexico’s SCI Program

Institution: New Mexico Human Service Department
Principal Investigator: Cynthia Boddie-Willis, MD, MPH
Co-Principal Investigator: Mari Spaulding-Bynon, JD

Evaluating the Impact of Outreach and Enrollment Strategies in California

Institution: University of Southern California
Principal Investigator: Michael R. Cousineau, DrPH
Co-Principal Investigator: Gregory Stevens, PhD

Evaluation of 12-Month Continuous Eligibility in Medicaid

Institution: UCLA
Principal Investigator: E. Richard Brown, PhD
Co-Principal Investigator: Shana Alex Lavarreda, PhD, MPP

Maryland Kids First Act Outreach Evaluation

Institution: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Principal Investigator: David Idala, MA
Co-Principal Investigator: Tricia Roddy, MHSA



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The University of Minnesota's **State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC)** is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to collect and analyze data to inform state health policy decisions relating to health insurance coverage and access to care. For more information, please contact us at shadac@umn.edu, or call 612-624-4802.