



New York State Health Innovation Plan

NEWSLETTER || JANUARY 26, 2015

NEW YORK SIM UPDATES:

- The State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP) website pages have been updated to include recent updates, including additional information on workgroups and the SIM award. The revised homepage can be found [here](#) and the subpages can be browsed through using the links on the left side.
- A Request for Proposals (RFP) was posted by Health Research, Inc. on Monday, January 5, 2015 seeking a highly qualified entity to provide assistance to the New York State Department of Health, Innovation Center with implementation of the SHIP. The Management Consultant is anticipated to include a multidisciplinary team able to offer strategic and analytic guidance, to develop written materials and presentations to guide and support topic-specific workgroups and to provide management expertise to align multiple work streams and workgroups and assure successful completion of activities within established timelines. To find out more information, the posting of the RFP can be found [here](#).
- The first Integrated Care Workgroup Meeting was held on Friday, January 16, 2015 in New York City. The meeting materials will be posted on the website for public viewing.

IN THE NEWS:

- **Direct-Primary-Care May Be A Solution To Decreasing Quality Of The Current Model**
Qliance Health in Seattle, Washington might have found an affordable solution to the problem: direct-care. Patients pay a fixed fee to their primary care physicians for a more personal experience without waiting times or being rushed out the door. The argument is that insurance should only be used for specialty care, hospitalizations, and surgeries, not primary care visits where a flat fee realigns priorities by increasing value and quality. To read more on the direct-primary-care model, click [here](#).
- **Insurance Premiums Are Still Expensive Despite Implementation Of The Affordable Care Act**
From 2010 to 2013—the years following the implementation of the Affordable Care Act—there has been a marked slowdown in premium growth in 31 states and the District of Columbia. Yet, the costs employees and their families pay out-of-pocket for deductibles and their share of premiums continued to rise, consuming a greater share of incomes across the country. In all but a handful of states, average deductibles more than doubled over the past decade for employees working in large and small firms. To learn more, read [here](#).
- **Medical Debt Is Common Among The Insured**
Increasing deductibles and other cost sharing have helped to make insurance premiums more affordable, but the flip side has been to expose even people with insurance to risk of medical debt. When cost-sharing exceeds the ability of consumers to pay their medical bills, cases of health-related bankruptcy and credit problems are inevitable. Greater transparency in the details of health insurance plans can help consumers distinguish plan differences to make more informed choices and to plan ahead financially. Greater transparency, as well as consumer assistance, can also help consumers use their coverage more effectively and resolve billing questions and disputes when they arise. To read the Kaiser Family Foundation report, click [here](#).

For more information on SHIP/SIM, visit: http://www.health.ny.gov/technology/innovation_plan_initiative/

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