Legislative Outlook – What's Ahead for Comparative Effective Research?

Webinar

Wednesday, July 24, 2019
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. ET
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Materials

At allhealthpolicy.org

• Agenda
• Selected Resources List
• Selected Experts List
• Speaker Bios
• Webinar Slides
• Video (posted later)
Agenda

9:30 a.m.– 9:35 a.m. Introduction
  • Sarah J. Dash, MPH, Alliance for Health Policy

9:35 a.m.– 10:30 a.m. Moderated Discussion with Audience Q&A
  I. Latest Congressional Activity around CER and PCORI
  II. Remaining Reauthorization Items for Congress, and Impact on Different Stakeholders
  III. Intersection with Other Health Policy Conversations (including cost reduction, the value of care and drugs, and delivery system reform)
  IV. Final Thoughts

10:30 a.m. Conclude
Discussion Road Map

I. Latest Congressional Activity

II. Remaining Reauthorization Items

III. Intersection with Other Health Policy Conversations

IV. Final Thoughts

Audience members may submit questions at any time
Sara
van Geertruyden, J.D.
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Executive Director,
Partnership to Improve Patient Care
Reauthorizing PCORI: Background and Status

July 24, 2019
Before PCORI

• Several bills funding comparative effectiveness research (CER) were introduced in 2007.
• The Partnership to Improve Patient Care (PIPC) was organized as a coalition led by Tony Coelho in late 2008 to support these efforts.
Recognizing the Need for CER

• The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) provided $1.1 billion for major expansion of CER.

• ARRA called on the Institute of Medicine to recommend a list of priority topics to be the initial focus of a new national investment in CER.

“The list provides a starting point for what the report says should be a sustained effort to conduct comparative effectiveness research. As this research initiative progresses, the priorities will evolve as well.”

Friends of PCCORI reauthorization
A few Republicans warned that there’s little to stop the federal government from using CER results to average which medications or treatments achieve similar results for less cost.

When that happens, according to Sen. Pat Roberts (R-KS), it won’t be long before Medicare starts rationing care.
Overcoming the Politics: The Left

- Establish within AHRQ a Center for Comparative Effectiveness (not independent).
- Allow for cost comparisons.
- Allow for use of cost effectiveness data to be used for coverage decisions.
How PCORI Became Patient-Centered

• Senator Max Baucus (D-MT) and Senator Kent Conrad (D-ND) introduced the Comparative Effectiveness Research Act in 2008, which evolved into the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Act of 2009.

• Passed as part of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) as compromise between right and left.
Key Patient Protections in PCORI Statute

• Defined CER as comparative clinical effectiveness research;
• Precluded PCORI’s research as the sole source of a Medicare coverage decision;
• Banned use of QALY measures by PCORI and in Medicare;
• Made PCORI an independent institute
• Gave 2 seats to patients and 1 to consumer on Board of Governors;
• Patient “needs, outcomes and preferences” and subpopulations to be studied;
• Support for patient and consumer representatives;
• Authority for advisory panels.
Keeping Distance from Repeal Efforts

- Since 2010, PCORI advocates have worked closely with Congressional allies.
  - Over the years, a House and Senate Republican have unsuccessfully introduced amendments to eliminate PCORI;
- Yet, PCORI was never included in prior reconciliation packages to repeal the ACA.
- PCORI is facing Congressional oversight and heightened scrutiny as part of the reauthorization process because it expires in 2019.
PCORI Reauthorization 2019

• Expected to be part of a “health extenders” package including other programs that also require reauthorization

• Senators Cassidy (R-LA), Capito (R-WV), Warner (D-VA) and Van Hollen (D-MD) are leading reauthorization efforts in Senate
  – Discussion Draft expected soon

• On July 17, Congresswoman Degette (D-CO) led committee mark-up of House E&C bill H.R. 2328, the “Community Health Investment, Modernization, and Excellence Act”
  – 3 year reauthorization

• On June 26, Congressman Beyer (D-VA) led mark-up of House W&M bill, H.R. 3439, The Protecting Access to Information for Effective and Necessary Treatment (PATIENT) Act of 2019
  – 7 year reauthorization;
  – minor changes to PCORI’s national research priorities to include substance use, mental health, and maternal morbidity and mortality.
• Co-chaired by PIPC Chairman Tony Coelho (D) and former Congressman Dr. Phil Gingrey (R)
• Purpose to convene a bipartisan, large and growing group of patient/family caregiver, provider, employers/payers, industry, and research stakeholders that have an interest in supporting reauthorization of PCORI in 2019
• 172 Member Organizations
• Letter signed by nearly 170 organizations to House and Senate leaders supporting PCORI reauthorization
  – Reauthorize PCORI and its current funding mechanism for at least an additional 10 years.
  – Ensure PCORI stays true to its mission of patient-centered research by maintaining its mandate to conduct comparative clinical effectiveness research.
• Resources available online for advocates
• Learn more and join at www.reauthorizePCORI.org!
Key Issues

- Representation on Board of Governors
- Length of reauthorization
- Comparative clinical effectiveness research versus cost effectiveness analysis
- Prioritization of high cost treatments
- Dissemination and use of evidence
Latest Congressional Activity

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Discussion Road Map

I. Latest Congressional Activity

II. REMAINING REAUTHORIZATION ITEMS

III. Intersection with Other Health Policy Conversations

IV. Final Thoughts

Audience members may submit questions at any time
Remaining Reauthorization Items

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Intersection with Other Health Policy Conversations

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IV. FINAL THOUGHTS

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Final Thoughts

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Save the date for our next in-person event...

Congressional Briefing | “What's Next for Patient Experience Measurement?”

Monday, July 29, 2019
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. ET

Register at: http://www.allhealthpolicy.org/whats-next-for-patient-experience-measurement/
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