

# Evaluating Utah's Section 1115 Waiver



## The Primary Care Network

November 20, 2006

# Background on Utah's Section 1115 Waiver

- 1993 – Governor Leavitt's *HealthPrint*
- Target specific populations for improved access
- Low-income working adults
- Limited benefit plan for new program
  - No hospitalization coverage or specialty care
  - Limit on prescriptions
- Some coverage is far better than no coverage
- Created two new groups:
  - Primary Care Network (PCN)
  - Non-Traditional Medicaid (NTM)
- Funded PCN with reduced benefits for NTM clients
- Over 50,000 people have been on PCN since it began in July 2002

# Program Goals of the Demonstration

- Slightly reduce the benefits for some
- Significant benefit to low-income adults with no other access
- Access to primary care should result in quality services
- Reduce emergency room visits
- Better health outcomes

## Key Findings - Access

- Average Initial Enrollment Span: 16.7 months
- % Receiving Primary Care in First Year: 76.3%
- Avg. Number of Primary Care Visits in First Year:  
5.6 visits
- Bridge to other insurance: 54% left to other insurance
- Got needed Medical Care  
Baseline: 65%      Year 1: 81%

# Key Findings – Quality

- Relatively sicker population upon enrollment
  - Arthritis (17% vs. 13%, State average)
  - Diabetes (12% vs. 4%, State average)
  - Heart Disease (4% vs. 3%, State average)
- Continuity of Care
  - % with at least 3 primary care visits  
PCN: 50%
  - Median measure of continuity  
PCN: 67%
  - % with at least 50% from same provider  
PCN: 80%

# Key Findings - Cost

- Emergency Room Utilization - % Receiving an ER Visit

PCN: 27%      NTM: 42%

- % with primary care visit before ER encounter

PCN: 5%      NTM: 23%

- Appropriateness of ER Utilization - % Due to Injury

PCN: 33%      NTM: 19%

- ER Utilization – Primary Classifiable Visits

<u>Classification</u>	<u>PCN</u>	<u>NTM</u>
Non-emergent	23%	40%
Emergent, Primary Care Treatable	37%	32%
Emergent, Primary Care Preventable	14%	9%
Emergent, Not PC Preventable	27%	18%

- Consumer Behavior - Routine Care Utilization

Baseline: 50%      Year 1: 72%      Year 2: 72%

# What Next?

- PCN is part of a larger effort to insure all Utah citizens
- HIFA waiver:
  - Utah Premium Partnership for Health Insurance (UPP)
  - Premium subsidy program that allows PCN eligible adults and CHIP eligible children to use state and federal funds to purchase employer-sponsored health insurance
- Insure All Utah children
  - Recommend coverage for all Medicaid and CHIP eligibles
  - Encourage parents to use the UPP subsidy for children
- Assist Small Business
  - Develop a mechanism for employees of small businesses to purchase flexible, portable insurance with pre-tax dollars
  - Creation of the Utah Health Insurance Exchange