Green Mountain Care Board (GMCB)

Data Use



Benefits Evaluation

Senate Government Operations Committee

Susan Barrett, Executive Director, GMCB February 9, 2016



Who is the Green Mountain Care Board?

The GMCB was created by the Vermont Legislature in 2011. It is an independent group of five Vermonters who, with their staff, are charged with ensuring that changes in the health system improve quality while stabilizing costs.

Nominated by a broad-based committee and appointed by Governor Peter Shumlin, the Board includes:

- Al Gobeille, Chair
- Cornelius Hogan
- Betty Rambur, Ph.D., R.N.
- Allan Ramsay, M.D.
- Jessica A. Holmes, Ph.D.



What do we do?

Regulation

- -Health insurer rates and rules (including for the Exchange)
 - -Hospital budgets
- -Major capital expenditures (Certificate of Need)

Innovation

- -Payment reform
- -Health care delivery reform
 - -Data and analytics
 - -Payer policy

Evaluation

- -Payment Reform Pilots
- -State Innovation Grant (VHCIP)
- -Review benefits for Vermont Health Connect



Vermont Health Care Uniform Reporting And Evaluation System (VHCURES)

- Vermont's All-Payer Claims Data Base (APCD)
- APCDs regularly collect medical and pharmacy claims data and eligibility data, from both private and public payers. These comprehensive, longitudinal, multi-payer datasets provide unprecedented research and policy opportunities for improving the health care delivery system.
- Board received responsibility for VHCURES in July 2013
- Medicare data received in 2014
- Allows for population-based analyses of health care system performance



What Questions Does VHCURES Answer?

- How much do we spend on health care?
- How much does Vermont spend on health care compared to other states and the nation?
- Do common procedures differ in price depending on the facility?
- How has the use of health care services changed over time?
- Do we have sufficient resources to meet our resident's health care needs?
- How effective is the Blueprint for Health Program?
- How can we move from Fee For Service to Payment for Value?



What can VHCURES tell us in the future?

- Are patients receiving needed care?
- How do we risk-adjust payments to an Accountable Care Organization (ACO)?
- How do we account for specific health needs (i.e. burden of chronic illness) in health resource planning?
- Assess the long-term impact of policy changes such as the Affordable Care Act



How Do We Protect VHCURES Data?

- De identification of collected data
- Encryption of data in transit
- Data Release Application
- Data Use Agreements
- Individual User Affidavits
- VHCURES Rule
- Data Governance Council
 - ✓ Data Governance Charter
 - ✓ Data Stewardship Priorities and Principles



Data Governance Council

- Approved by the Board 2014
- Five-member council made up of two Board members and GMCB staff
- The Data Governance Council provides data stewardship in areas of data quality, risk pertaining to data privacy and security, financial sustainability of the VHCURES program, and data release to support research.
- The Council meets at least once per month in an open, public meeting.
 Meetings are announced on the Board's calendar of events and meeting information for the Data Governance Council are publicly available.



Gobeille v. Liberty Mutual, At the Supreme Court

Legal Issue	History	Current Status
Whether Vermont can require self-insured health plans to report data about paid health care claims for use in VHCURES, Vermont's all-payer claims database, or whether that requirement is preempted by the federal ERISA statute.	 In 2011, Liberty Mutual filed for an injunction against the Department of Financial Regulation to prevent the DFR from collecting claims data. At that time, the DFR administered VHCURES. In 2013, VHCURES administration was transferred to the GMCB. 18 V.S.A. § 9410. In 2012-2014, Vermont won at the district court and lost on appeal at the Second Circuit Court of Appeals by a 2-1 split decision. The U.S. Supreme Court granted Vermont's petition for appeal in June 2015. 	On December 2, 2015, the case was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court by Vermont Solicitor General Bridget Asay.



Resources

GMCB Website:

http://gmcboard.vermont.gov

GMCB Data Governance Council:

http://gmcboard.vermont.gov/VHCURES/DataGovernanceProgram

Statutory Authority/ Rule:

http://gmcboard.vermont.gov/sites/gmcboard/files/REG_H-2008-01.pdf

APCD Council:

https://www.apcdcouncil.org

GMCB 2015 Annual Report:

http://www.gmcboard.vermont.gov/sites/gmcboard/files/Annual-Rpt-011116-Final.pdf

