

State Plan Guidance on Health Care System Coordination

States are asked to include in their State plans a description of their strategies to coordinate with the health care system throughout the state on behalf of consumers. Coordination is key in avoiding duplication of services and maximizing available resources for everyone.

Elements to Consider in Health Care Reform Coordination Plans:

- Partnerships with the State Office of Public Health, Federally Qualified Health Centers, and private/public health care providers and systems.
- Appropriate roles of State agencies, area agencies and service providers in coordination efforts.
- Integration of planning for the health care of seniors, caregivers and the coming of agers into the Medicare/Medicaid systems with State and local planning and service area prevention strategies;
- Integration of planning for seniors, caregivers, and coming of agers in terms of planning for future health and long-term care needs, as well as, understanding their Federal and state benefits and long-term care options;
- Identification of possible coordination links (examples below) and conduct of specific coordination activities:
 - Information and assistance;
 - Case managers;
 - Congregate and home-delivered programs/meal sites;
 - Senior centers;
 - Housing facilities such as congregate senior housing, assisted living and nursing home facilities;
 - Physicians offices;
 - Community forums on health care;
 - Community Health Centers;
 - Employers;
 - Hospital systems, particularly discharge planners;
 - State and local government offices;
 - Faith-based Partnerships;
 - Minority outreach and partnerships; and
 - Federal Partnerships, e.g., Medicaid, Medicare and Veterans programs.

Older American Act Citations Related to Health Care System Coordination

http://www.nasua.org/tasc/resource_links/documents/healthcoordiantioncitations.pdf

Health Care System Resources

Current, in-depth information related to the current US health care system is available on the following websites.

Health Resources and Services Administration

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the primary Federal agency for improving access to health care services for people who are uninsured, isolated or medically vulnerable.

<http://www.hrsa.gov/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC is dedicated to protecting health and promoting quality of life through the prevention and control of disease, injury, and disability. They are committed to programs that reduce the health and economic consequences of the leading causes of death and disability, thereby ensuring a long, productive, healthy life for all people.

<http://www.cdc.gov/>

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

US federal agency which administers Medicare, Medicaid, and the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/>

National Clearinghouse for Long-Term Care Information

The National Clearinghouse was developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide information and resources to help you and your family plan for future long-term care (LTC) needs.

http://www.longtermcare.gov/LTC/Main_Site/index.aspx

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is the United States government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves.

<http://www.hhs.gov/>