University of Pittsburgh ▶✦ AcademyHealth

Medicaid Outcomes Distributed Research Network: Equity and Quality Improvement for Medicaid Programs (MODRN EQUIP)

MODRN is a collaborative effort between the State-University Partnership Learning Network (SUPLN) and the Medicaid Medical Director Network (MMDN) to support evidence-based policymaking with a focus on transforming Medicaid-financed healthcare. By conducting multi-state Medicaid analyses and disseminating the findings to policymakers, MODRN[1] focuses on improving quality and equity of healthcare provided to Medicaid beneficiaries.

What is MODRN EQUIP?

MODRN EQUIP is one of four research collaboratives across the country funded through the **National Institutes of Health (NIH) Helping to End Addiction Long-term (HEAL) Initiative** to foster an opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment systems patients can count on. It is comprised of three integrated research projects, involving various participating states, that over the next 5 years will develop OUD quality measures that can be constructed at the provider-level, incorporate patient experience, and center health equity. Efficient and sustainable OUD quality measures developed and implemented by MODRN EQUIP will guide quality improvement initiatives and Medicaid policy decisions.

What are the three projects?

Project 1
Focus: Develop and describe provider-level OUD treatment quality measures and identify beneficiary- and provider-level factors that explain variation and inequities in quality

Data Sources: Medicaid claims and enrollment data

Project Directors: Marguerite Burns and Evan Cole

Delaware   Kentucky   Maryland   Maine   Michigan   North Carolina
Ohio   Pennsylvania   Tennessee   Virginia   West Virginia   Wisconsin

Project 2
Focus: Measure OUD patient-reported outcomes and examine associations with claims-based quality measures to guide quality and equity improvement

Data Sources: Medicaid patient surveys and interviews linked to provider-level quality measures from claims

Project Directors: Andrew Barnes and Sarah Clark

Michigan   Virginia

Project 3
Focus: Implement and examine the feasibility and effectiveness of a practice-level quality improvement intervention for OUD

Data Sources: EHR data from 10 intervention clinics and Medicaid claims from intervention and comparison clinics

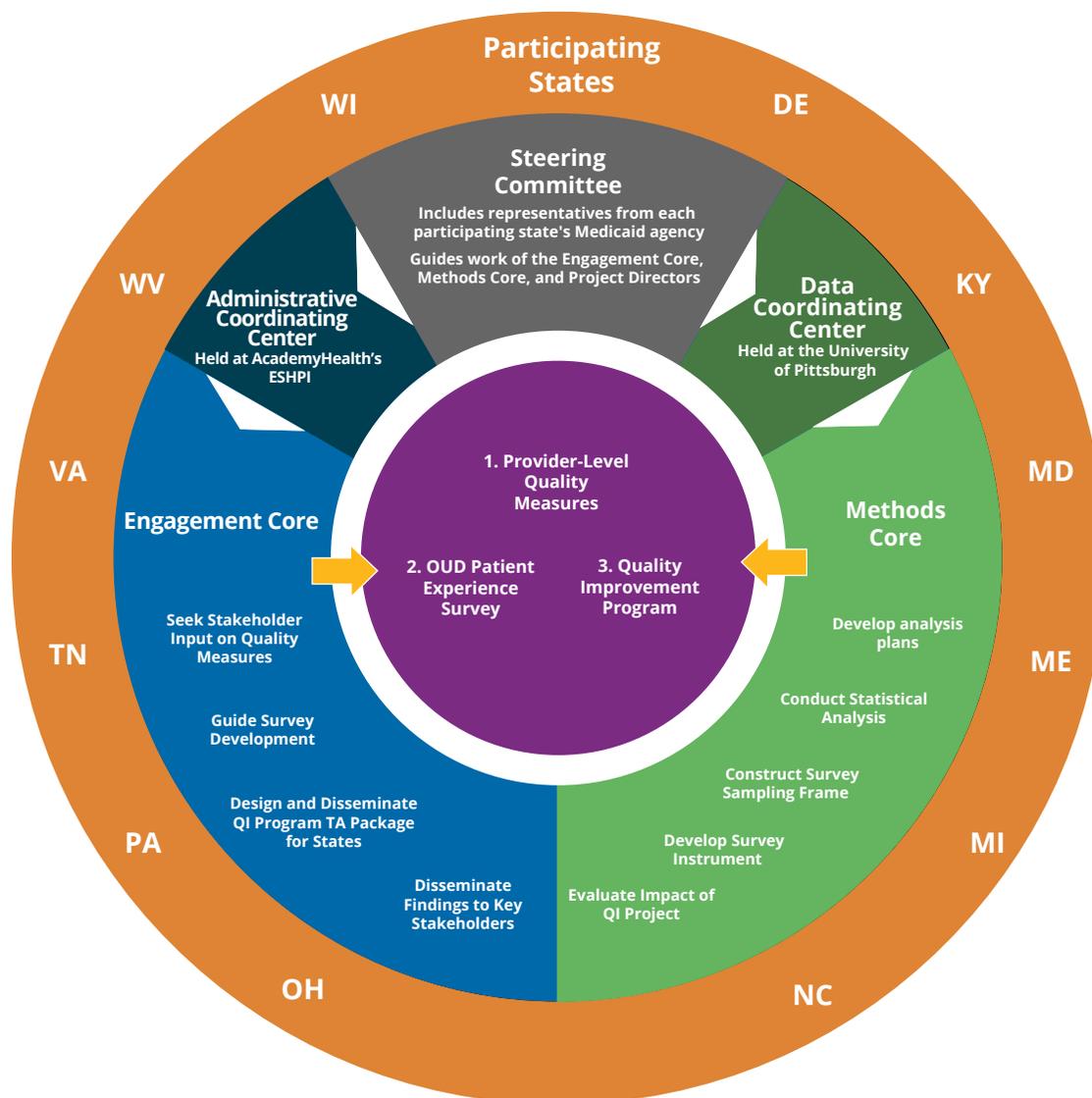**Project Directors:** Dushka Crane and Adam Gordon

Ohio

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[1] As of August 2023, the following states participate in MODRN: Delaware, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin. MODRN is led through a partnership between the Data Coordinating Center at the University of Pittsburgh and the Administrative Coordinating Center at AcademyHealth's Evidence-Informed State Health Policy Institute (ESHPI).

Why is MODRN EQUIP important?

Public payers in the US, predominantly Medicaid, cover more than half (54%) of individuals who need OUD treatment. In addition, Medicaid programs disproportionately cover minoritized populations and those with socioeconomic risk factors, meaning that improved OUD treatment quality in Medicaid can reach large numbers and reduce inequities in care.

Though state Medicaid programs have changed policy to expand the continuum of care, remove barriers to treatment, and improve quality of OUD care, they are hindered by OUD quality measurement systems that are underdeveloped. This limitation hinders opportunities for targeted intervention and robust evaluation of policy effects. MODRN EQUIP will draw on robust university-state partnerships in 12 states accounting for 24% of US Medicaid enrollment to support efforts to improve OUD quality.

Participating States

WI · DE · WV · KY · VA · MD · TN · ME · PA · MI · OH · NC

Steering Committee
Includes representatives from each participating state's Medicaid agency
Guides work of the Engagement Core, Methods Core, and Project Directors

Administrative Coordinating Center
Held at AcademyHealth's ESHPI

Data Coordinating Center
Held at the University of Pittsburgh

1. Provider-Level Quality Measures
2. OUD Patient Experience Survey
3. Quality Improvement Program

Engagement Core
- Seek Stakeholder Input on Quality Measures
- Guide Survey Development
- Design and Disseminate QI Program TA Package for States
- Disseminate Findings to Key Stakeholders

Methods Core
- Develop analysis plans
- Conduct Statistical Analysis
- Construct Survey Sampling Frame
- Develop Survey Instrument
- Evaluate Impact of QI Project

Principal Investigators
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