

ESHPI 2021 AT A GLANCE

Reflecting on this past year, we hope that this newsletter finds you rested from special time with your family and friends and hopeful for a healthy New Year. We especially want to express our gratitude for all the engagement activities, collective learnings, and contributions you shared with us in the last year. We are appreciative and inspired by our community of state policymakers and researchers and see so much potential in the growth of interactions across our various projects and programming. We are further excited by the prospects that greet us in 2022 and look forward to hosting in-person events with you soon!

– Susan, Amanda, Sunita, Caitlin, Rachel, and Jeff

TAKE A LOOK BELOW TO SEE A FEW OF THE ACTIVITIES THAT KEPT US AND OUR MEMBERS BUSY:

STATE-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP LEARNING NETWORK (SUPLN) SPRING MEETING: ENHANCING A COVID-19 MEDICAID RESEARCH AGENDA

SUPLN members participated in a virtual meeting on May 19 to discuss and design our PCORI COVID-19 intermediate research agenda. The meeting allowed SUPLN partnerships to refine and add high-priority COVID-19-related Medicaid research questions and evidence needs to assist state and local health policymakers in the next six to nine months. This contributed to the development of our now published [SUPLN PCORI COVID-19 Research Agenda](#).

PCORI COVID-19 ENHANCEMENT RESEARCH FORUM ON MEDICAID ENROLLMENT & ELIGIBILITY

Tricia Brooks of Georgetown University and Laura Dague of Texas A&M, along with SUPLN Steering Committee member, Kimberley Fox, presented at our final [PCORI COVID-19 Enhancement Research Forum](#) on Medicaid enrollment and eligibility on August 11.

THE VIRTUAL SUPLN-HOSTED ADJUNCT MEETING: RESEARCH AND RELEVANCE IN STATE HEALTH POLICY

With the SHRPG, we hosted the Adjunct meeting on September 20 with 145 attendees, and introduced new SHRPG leadership, Robert Nelb, Emma Sandoe, and Sarah Gordon.

THE VIRTUAL 2021 SUPLN ANNUAL FALL MEETING

SUPLN convened on the afternoons of December 8-10 to hear Medicaid research presentations on SUPLN and MODRN projects, health equity, behavioral health, maternal health and more.

ESHPI-HOSTED WEBINAR: A GUIDE TO MEDICAID DATA FOR STATE HEALTH POLICY RESEARCHERS

Over 450 people registered for our webinar, co-hosted with AcademyHealth's [State Health Research and Policy Interest Group](#) (SHRPG), titled "A Guide to Medicaid Data for State Health Policy Researchers" on May 4.

SUPLN SITE VISIT AT THE HILLTOP INSTITUTE

We launched the first SUPLN site visit in a *Building a Sustainable State-University Partnership* series in July. Hosted by Maryland's state-university partners at The Hilltop Institute, with support from the Milbank Memorial Fund, the series aims to connect new partnerships with mature members to assist in building and strengthening the state-university partnership.

SUPLN WELCOMES HAWAII AND WASHINGTON

In August, SUPLN welcomed two new partnerships in Hawaii and Washington, bringing our SUPLN membership to 32 partnerships in 27 states.

HARNESSING MEDICAID TO IMPROVE HEALTH EQUITY: A RESEARCH AND POLICY AGENDA

Many SUPLN and Medicaid Medical Director Network (MMDN) members joined us for a two-day meeting co-hosted with Jenny Kenney of the Urban Institute, Kosali Simon of Indiana University, Julie Donohue of the University of Pittsburgh, and Chima Ndumele of Yale University.

MMDN VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

The MMDN hosted a Virtual Workshop on December 14 with Medicaid clinical leaders from thirty states to discuss alternative payment models (APMs) and health equity and the health impacts of climate change on Medicaid members.

The ESHPI Networks elected new leadership:

SUPLN STEERING COMMITTEE*

- Jo Porter, MPH, Chair
- Tom Bias, PhD, MA
- Julie Donohue, PhD
- Kim Fox, MPA
- Amy Gilbert, JD, MPH
- Andrea Race, CMA
- Emma Sandoe, MPH, PhD
- Lauryn Walker, RN, PhD
- Cynthia Woodcock, MBA

MMDN STEERING COMMITTEE*

- Jim Bush, MD, Chair
- Mohammed Dar, MD, Vice Chair
- Chethan Bachireddy, MD, MSc
- Christopher Chen, MD, MBA
- Shannon Dowler, MD
- Magni Hamso, MD, MPH, FACP
- Judy Ann Theriot, MD, CPE
- Ryan Van Ramshorst, MD, MPH

*A special thank you to our outgoing SUPLN Steering Committee members, Marisa Domino, PhD, and Maik Schutze, MHS, and our outgoing MMDN Steering Committee members, Arvind Goyal, MD, MPH, MBA, David Kelley, MD, MPA, and Ann Zerr, MD, for their significant contributions over the 2021 calendar year.



THE MMDN WAS BUSIER THAN EVER

We held eleven Open Mic calls on a variety of clinical topics, including behavioral health, maternal health, Medicaid COVID vaccination rates, and adult vaccination coverage, among other topics.



OUR TOP 2021 PUBLICATIONS

Sorted by number of page views:

1. [Use of Medications for Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder Among US Medicaid Enrollees in 11 States, 2014-2018](#)
2. [Perspectives on Telehealth Modernization](#)
3. [New Cross-State Analysis Examines Health Services Disparities Among Medicaid Enrollees and Permanent Supportive Housing Programs](#)
4. [Report Reveals Successes and Gaps in Linking Data to Advance Maternal Health](#)
5. [Medicaid Delivery System Reforms to Combat the Opioid Crisis](#)

MORE PUBLICATIONS

SUPLN

- [Improving Antibiotic Use Through Collaboration Among Clinicians, Researchers, and Medicaid](#)
- [SUPLN Medicaid COVID-19-related Research Agenda](#)

MODRN

- [Polysubstance Use Disorders in Four State Medicaid Programs](#)
- [State Medicaid Agencies' Multi-Faceted Response to the Opioid Epidemic](#)
- [Healthcare Patterns of Pregnant Women and Children Affected by OUD in 9 State Medicaid Populations](#)

MMDN

- [Perspectives on the FDA Accelerated Approval Program](#)



LOOKING AHEAD...

Here's what we'll be working on.

Evidence Use in Medicaid: Understanding the Impact of Long COVID on Vulnerable Populations

With support from PCORI, we're developing a research agenda and action-oriented research toolkit that identifies and prioritizes patient-centered outcomes research questions related to the impacts of long COVID.

Medicaid Outcomes Distributed Research Network (MODRN) Corrections to Community (CtC) Study

Enrolling in Medicaid immediately following incarceration is an important tool to support successful reentry, particularly for individuals with opioid use disorder and other behavioral health conditions. Many states have policies to suspend Medicaid during incarceration and then reactivate upon release, but little is known about how these policies are implemented and how they are coordinated across agencies (Medicaid and Corrections). AcademyHealth's new project is hoping to identify barriers and facilitators related to linking incarcerated individuals to Medicaid to support reactivation and enrollment of benefits.

The Role of Homelessness and Supportive Housing in Health Care Disparities among Adults in Medicaid

With support from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), Rutgers University and the University of Pittsburgh, in collaboration with AcademyHealth, aim to examine the potential of permanent supportive housing programs to mitigate health disparities among Medicaid enrollees experiencing homelessness.

Building Capacity to Improve Viral Suppression Data in Medicaid

The National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD), in partnership with AcademyHealth and the University of California San Francisco, was awarded a four-year HRSA grant focused on building state capacity to report HIV viral suppression data as part of the annual state Medicaid Adult Core Set.

Project ACCELERATE (Advancing Care Coordination through Evidence; Leveraging Existing Relationships Around Transforming Practice)

AcademyHealth, with support from PCORI, will bring together Medicaid Medical Directors, MCH/Title V Directors, and patient advocates, in state teams, to distill the latest PCORI-supported findings related to enhanced care coordination for children and youth with special health care needs and identify strategies best suited for their state-specific landscapes for dissemination.

Rate of Congenital Syphilis Testing Among Pregnant Medicaid Enrollees with Previous STI

In collaboration with the University of Kentucky and with support from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Foundation, we are assessing pre-natal syphilis screening rates among pregnant Medicaid enrollees with a previous diagnosis of an STI in three Southern states.