Hospital News and HEALTHCARE

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An Update on the Implementation of the CMS Innovation Center's Strategy and Specialty Care Approach

On November 8 ,2022 CMS Innovation Center released a <u>one-year</u> <u>report</u> on the implementation of its refreshed strategic vision and objectives, which were originally announced in fall 2021. Through Innovation Center payment models, CMS is building the foundation for a health system that achieves equitable outcomes through high-quality, affordable, personcentered care. The one-year report outlines actions taken to work toward better care for beneficiaries, through greater accountability for high-quality, person-centered care, more coordinated care, advancing health equity, increased access, and promoting transparency.

The report also provides a roadmap for how the Innovation Center will continue execution of its strategy including:

- Announcing and launching new accountable care models that increase access to advanced, high-quality, primary care, with more focus on underserved populations,
- Developing strategies to drive better integration of primary and specialty care to serve those with chronic or serious conditions through our models, and
- Improving the way providers are incentivized, the way care is delivered, and the way information is distributed with individuals and across care settings.

Additionally, the one-year report includes a focus on the role of specialty care in the delivery of high-quality accountable care. Today, the Innovation Center also published a <u>blog post</u> outlining its strategy to support testing models and tools to improve access to high-quality, value-based specialty care in more detail.

The blog details four key areas the Innovation Center is exploring to improve access to high-quality integrated specialty care:

- Enhance transparency in clinician performance,
- Continued deployment of acute care episode-based payment models that align with ACOs and primary care, including mandatory models,
- Supporting specialists to further embed in primary-care focused models, and
- Creating incentives within population-based models to encourage specialty care integration.

For more, read the <u>one-year report</u>, and explore our strategic direction webpage at <u>innovation.cms.gov/strategic-direction</u>. To read the strategy blog, visit <u>https://www.cms.gov/blog/cms-innovation-centers-strategy</u> -support-person-centered-value-based-specialty-care

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