

Introduction

Health status is largely influenced by factors outside the health care delivery system, particularly for low-income populations. State efforts to improve health and reduce health disparities through the lens of medical care alone will miss opportunities for individuals, particularly the most vulnerable and their communities.

As more states focus broadly on population health goals, they seek to employ and coordinate a variety of health and other resources on targeted efforts. In this context, public purchasers seek to establish stronger partnerships and shared accountability (a) with other state and local agencies; and (b) among health care providers, social service agencies, and others.

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Different Types of Integration to Support Population Health

Innovative state efforts focus on integrating and enhancing public health, health care, and/or social service delivery to reduce costs and improve individual and population health. In addition, by jointly employing performance measurement and accountability tools to drive cross-sector activities, state agencies can more effectively combat growing health care costs and improve overall health status.

The following three State Health and Value Strategies (SHVS) issue briefs provide states with practical approaches to improve individual and population health and create joint accountability across health care and other sectors:

State Health & Value Strategies Resource	Highlighted Examples	Summary
<p><i>Shared Measurement and Joint Accountability Across Health Care and Non-Health Care Sectors: State Opportunities to Address Population Health Goals</i> (and <i>webinar</i>)</p> <p>Dana Hargunani, M.D.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oregon • Appendix 2: Shared Measurement and Joint Accountability Toolkit 	<p>This brief reviews the key system-level factors states should assess when considering a joint accountability approach, and the questions state entities should review in developing a shared measure set.</p>
<p><i>Integrating Health Care and Social Services: Moving from Concept to Practice</i></p> <p>Bailit Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California • Michigan • Minnesota • Oregon • Washington • Vermont • Virginia 	<p>Explores six strategies for integrating health care and social services: (1) shared governance; (2) financing and payment models; (4) integrated assessments and care teams; (5) data linkages, procurement and grant funding efforts; and (6) performance and quality metrics.</p>

State Health & Value Strategies Resource	Highlighted Examples	Summary
<p><i>Integrating Public Health and Health Care: Getting Beyond the Theory</i> (and case studies from <i>Lane County, OR</i> and <i>Hennepin County, MN</i>)</p> <p>Bailit Health and Karen Hacker</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lane County, OR • Hennepin County, MN • Colorado • Louisiana • New York • Vermont 	<p>Profiles seven features of integrated public health and health care delivery: (1) coordination agreements and mechanisms; (2) shared governance; (3) financing and payment models; (4) coordinated analysis and program planning; (5) provider recognition and marketing; (6) development and implementation of clinical tools and resources; and (7) provider training and technical assistance.</p>

Conclusion

The strategies and levers discussed in these issue briefs and webinar offer a broad menu of options for state purchasers to create and enhance meaningful linkages and integration at the state agency level, and also between health care and social service providers and between health care and public health.

No single strategy or lever will suffice in forging these linkages, but working together, disparate public and private entities can design performance measurement, reimbursement and delivery systems better positioned to effectively address individual’s health-related needs and improve overall population health. As the examples in these briefs attest, many state and local agencies and their partners are testing and investing in a variety of integration approaches and offering a road map for others to follow.

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ABOUT STATE HEALTH AND VALUE STRATEGIES—PRINCETON UNIVERSITY WOODROW WILSON SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

State Health and Value Strategies (SHVS) assists states in their efforts to transform health and health care by providing targeted technical assistance to state officials and agencies. The program is a grantee of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, led by staff at Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. The program connects states with experts and peers to undertake health care transformation initiatives. By engaging state officials, the program provides lessons learned, highlights successful strategies and brings together states with experts in the field. Learn more at www.shvs.org.

ABOUT BAILIT HEALTH

Bailit Health is a health care consulting firm dedicated to ensuring insurer and provider performance accountability on behalf of public agencies and private purchasers. For more information on Bailit Health, see www.bailit-health.com.