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OCTOBER 19-22, 2014

DOWNTOWN NASHVILLE, TN



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# A Clearing House for Innovative Models of Care

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October 21, 2014



## Long-Term Quality Alliance (LTQA)

- LTQA is a community of organizations aimed at improving outcomes and quality of life for persons and their families managing functional limitations due to chronic health conditions
- Over 30 of the leading national organizations and federal agencies involved in LTSS participate in LTQA.
- The Alliance is both a shared learning center and a platform for amplifying and increasing the impact of the work of its member organizations.
- Member organizations collaborate to amplify their individual efforts to advance integrated, person- and family-centered, and fiscally sustainable LTSS.



## Why is Integration of LTSS Important?

- **New payment models** put clinical providers at financial risk for whole patient and populations over longer time periods and set performance incentives around patient outcomes. Service delivery increasingly involves more of a payer role.
- **Growing fiscal challenge** of Medicaid LTSS financing is driving a search for savings and LTSS efficiencies. Need to eliminate duplication, unnecessary cost and poor results of silo-ed care.
- **Potential for Medicare savings and outcome improvements** from more effectively managing complex chronic conditions that involve the need for LTSS.
- **Persons and caregivers need more support** to handle the growing complexities of arranging for and providing LTSS and what can be frequent transitions.



## Challenges in Integrating LTSS

- Acute care and LTSS now inhabit **two different worlds**:
  - Focus on medical needs v. functional needs
  - Goal of curing disease v. sustaining function at highest possible level with greatest degree of independence.
  - Community services have small budgets, are labor intensive, and are low-tech.
- **Danger of over-medicalizing** community services and supports:
  - Organizing services and supports around medical conditions rather than functional needs.
  - Internalizing medical hierarchy rather than supplementing and supporting the primary caregiver, and enabling providers to practice at the top of their license.
- **Lack of a common information platform** to exchange electronic information and develop a single assessment, care plan, and outcomes measurement.
- **Lack of adequate private financing** – lack of affordable insurance coverage and other financing outside of Medicaid to pay for LTSS.
- **Need for investment in IT, quality improvement, workforce development in LTSS.**
- **Quality measurement is still in early stages.**



## Innovations Affecting LTSS Integration

- Information Exchange
  - Assessment item standardization: CARE for post-acute (IMPACT legislation), CARE for in-home LTSS (TEFT grants), CMS item library.
  - Uniform person-centered assessment and care planning: Minnesota (MNChoices), California, NY
  - Health information exchange expansion: ONC initiative to connect LTSS to clinical IT world (Meaningful Use).
- Quality Measurement
  - CMS item library and measures development
  - NQF post-acute and LTSS quality measures project
  - National Core Indicators project



## Innovations Affecting LTSS Integration

- Integration of managed LTSS and medical services
  - Medicaid Managed LTSS
  - Duals Demonstrations that include LTSS
  - ACOs and LTSS
  - VNSNY CHOICE and PRIDE project
- Care Transitions
  - The Bridge Model for safe transitions (Rush Medical Center, Chicago)
  - Transitional Care Model (TCM) – Penn
  - Community-Based Care Transitions Program (ACA)



## Innovations Affecting LTSS Integration

- Technology-enabled LTSS
  - LeadingAge Center for Aging Services Technologies (CAST)
  - Process management, staff coordination, point-of-care documentation
  - Personal assistive devices and technologies
  - Personal emergency response systems, monitoring technology
  - Connective technologies – social networking
- Supportive Housing and Community Infrastructure
  - Livable Communities
  - Village Movement
  - Support and Services at Home (SASH) – Burlington, VT



## Innovations Affecting LTSS Integration

- Caregiver Training and Support
  - Direct Care Workforce
    - SEIU Health Care Northwest Training Partnership
    - PHCAST – Personal and Home Care Aid State Training Demonstration Grants
    - CMS National Direct Service Resource Center
  - Family Caregiving
    - VA Caregiver Support Programs
    - REACH – Resources for Enriching Alzheimer’s Caregiver Health



## LTQA Recent Publications

- “Integrating LTSS from a Person’s Perspective – Across Time and Setting” – Proceedings of LTQA’s 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.
- “Charting a Path Forward for Uniform Assessment of LTSS Needs” – Report from an LTQA Roundtable.
- “Standardizing LTSS Assessments for State Initiatives.”
- “The Need to Standardize Assessment Items for Persons in Need of LTSS.”
- “Building Bridges Across the Continuum to Achieve Person-Centered Care” Proceedings of LTQA’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting.



## LTQA Recent Events

- 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting: “Integrating LTSS from a Person’s Perspective – Across Time and Setting” [with NASUAD]-- September 18, 2014.
- Capitol Hill Forum: “Improving Medicare Post-Acute Transformation (IMPACT) Through Standardized Assessment Data” [with the National Coalition on Health Care] – June 17, 2014.
- Roundtable: “Charting a Path Forward for Uniform Assessment of LTSS Needs” [with the Brookings Institution] – May 5-6, 2014.
- Capitol Hill Forum: “Integrating Medical Care, Behavioral Health, and LTSS: Finding a Path toward Sustainability” [with the National Coalition on Health Care] – April 24, 2014.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting: “Building Bridges Across the Continuum to Achieve Person-Centered Care” – December 16-17, 2013.

2014 ANNUAL MEETING  
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