Health Reform & My Practice: A Guide for HIV Providers

This is a general guide for HIV providers in connecting to the new systems created by the health reform law. Visit www.AAHIVM.org to learn more, and for the latest updates and information.

➢ Step 1: Learn About Health Reform In Your State

Starting in 2014, health reform will be implemented differently in each state. All states, and the District of Columbia, will have a State Insurance Exchange (Marketplace), where individuals who lack health coverage will be able to purchase it. Some states will also choose to expand enrollment in the State Medicaid Program. The Ryan White Program in each state is likely to change to wrap around these new coverage systems. The most important thing you can do as a medical care provider is to educate yourself on what is happening with the systems of insurance coverage and care in your state.

Learn More: http://aahivm.org/chapter/exec/healthreformbystate

➢ Step 2: Connect with Insurers in Your State Insurance Exchange (Marketplace)

Starting in 2014, every state will have a new State Insurance Exchange (Marketplace) where individuals who lack insurance can purchase new Qualified Health Plans (QHPs). Some states have established their own state-run exchange, some are partnering with the federal government, and some will have a Federally-facilitated exchange. Health care providers care providers will have to contract with each insurer offering plans in the exchange separately in order to be included in their provider network.

Learn More: http://aahivm.org/connectingmypractice

QHPs in the Exchanges are required to contract with at least one of each type of “Essential Community Providers,” including Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program-funded clinical providers, as well as clinics that serve medically underserved population, and some Specialists to demonstrate provider network sufficiency.

Learn More: http://aahivm.org/essentialcommunityproviders

➢ Step 3: Connect With Medicaid Managed Care Plans in Your State

Starting in 2014, each state has the option to expand their Medicaid Program to cover all low-income patients without categorization. Some states have not taken up the Medicaid Expansion option.

Learn about your state: http://aahivm.org/chapter/exec/healthreformbystate

Many states are initiating or expanding enrollment of Medicaid beneficiaries in prepaid managed care plans. In states where this is occurring, it is important for health care providers to consider contracting with each Medicaid managed care plan operating in their service area to be included in their provider network and continue to access to their patients enrolling in those plans.

Learn More: http://aahivm.org/connectingmypractice