About MED
The Medicaid Evidence-based Decisions Project

The Medicaid Evidence-based Decisions Project (MED) is a collaboration of 16 state agencies, housed at the Center for Evidence-based Policy at Oregon Health & Science University.

MED produces reports, and other tools, to help state policymakers make the best, evidence-based decisions for improving health outcomes. The reports provide valuable evidence about effective treatments as well as information about harmful or unnecessary services. MED participants have access to policy and evidence resources that support sound decision-making with unbiased analyses of complex issues.

Results
The return on investment is high

The MED project is designed to meet the needs of policymakers by providing participants with information that is timely, accurate, unbiased, and actionable. MED participants have used the collaboration’s research to improve their programs in a variety of ways, including:

ALABAMA
Alabama utilized a MED analysis of DME expenses that led to policy changes related to home IV services resulting in cost avoidance of $1 million annually.

MINNESOTA
Minnesota has created a process to control the growth of high tech imaging (HTI) use — stabilizing at 41 procedures per 1,000 enrollees, well below the trend rate previously experienced (47/1,000).

MISSOURI
Missouri now requires prior authorization of CT and MRI imaging of the chest, lower back, head, and neck, resulting in savings of over $9.3 million during a two year period.

OKLAHOMA
Oklahoma covers negative pressure wound therapy only in circumstances identified by MED research where benefits outweigh risks, resulting in a significant drop in inefficient utilization of these devices.

WASHINGTON
Washington no longer covers arthroscopic debridement and lavage of the knee for osteoarthritis, resulting in an estimated savings of $400,000 within the first year of the policy.
Benefits
Participation in MED includes many benefits

EVIDENCE & POLICY REPORTS
The MED project produces evidence-based answers to well-defined questions, providing MED participants with access to proprietary reports on a variety of policy and evidence issues. These reports utilize robust research strategies to appropriately cover clinical, policy, and financial issues.

COLLABORATION & DISSEMINATION OF BEST PRACTICES
The MED Project is bolstered by the collective knowledge and expertise of its participants. In addition to bimonthly conference calls, participants meet in-person biannually. These unique forums allow MED participants and other key staff to share ideas, and collaboratively address common issues.

In addition to its regular meetings, workgroups addressing current challenges on priority issues for states convene regularly. The workgroups review evidence and policies as well as share current state practices. There are currently five workgroups meeting to address:

- Oral health
- Behavioral health
- Durable medical equipment
- Genetic testing
- Payment reform

RAPID RESPONSE TO STATE-SPECIFIC NEEDS
MED participants have access to MED’s Participant Request Service, which allows participants to request brief reviews of the evidence on emerging state issues, at any time. The MED team will quickly search for evidence and produce a report on the specified topic. Participant Requests can take a variety of forms, including expert librarian search, brief evidence summary, policy brief, or review of information provided by a vendor.

INFORMATION RESOURCES
In addition to MED reports and products, participants have access to several proprietary information sources, including:

- **MED Clearinghouse**
  A web-based compilation of MED reports, federal, state and private payer policies, news, and discussion forum available to participants through a secure website

- **Hayes Knowledge Center**
  Direct access through the MED Clearinghouse to Hayes, a nationally recognized vendor specializing in off-the-shelf evidence reports

- **Weekly Newsletter**
  MED staff scan a wide breadth of journals and publications and provide concise analyses of relevant and timely information in a weekly electronic newsletter
Reports
Topics in progress or completed since January 2013

ALLERGY & IMMUNOLOGY
- Intravenous Immunoglobulin for Neuropathy (2013)
- Intravenous Immunoglobulin for Respiratory Diseases (2013)

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

CANCER
- Extended Hormonal Therapy for Breast Cancer Survivors (2014)
- Pediatric Stem Cell Transplantation for Non-Hematologic Malignancies (2013)
- Role of Low Molecular Weight Heparin in the Management of Patients with Malignancy (2013)
- State Coverage Policies for Oncotype DX (2013)

DME, PROSTHETICS, ORTHOTICS & SUPPLIES (DMEPOS)
- Coverage of Breast Pumps (2013)
- IUD Coverage Policies (2013)
- Enteral Nutrition Coverage Criteria (2013)

GENETIC TESTING & COUNSELING
- BRACAnalysis® Large Rearrangement Test (BART™) (In Progress)

HEAD: EYES, EARS, NOSE & THROAT

HEPATITIS C
- Non-Invasive Tests for Staging Liver Fibrosis (In Progress)

HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY
- Care Management Programs for Fee-for-Service Medicaid Beneficiaries (2014)
- Health Home Surveillance (2013)
- Impact of Co-Pays on Client Behavior (2013)
- Impacts of Medicaid Copayments (2014)
- Lock-in Programs for Controlled Substances (2013)
- Measuring Quality of Health (In Progress)
- Medicaid & Criminal Justice-Involved Individuals (2013)
- Non-Licensed Practitioners & Medicaid Services (In Progress)
- Policies & Programs to Encourage the Use of Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (In Progress)
- Speech-Language Pathology Services in Children Under Six (2013)
- State Definitions of Medically Frail & Special Needs Individuals (2013)
- Use of Patient Incentive & Disincentives in Medicaid (2013)
- Utilization Management for Clinician-Administered Medications (2013)

**MENTAL HEALTH & BEHAVIORAL CONDITIONS**

- Buprenorphine for Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder in Primary Care (2014)
- Integrating Primary Care into Mental Health & Chemical Dependency Treatment Settings (2014)
- Interventions to Integrate Mental Health into Primary Care Settings: Bibliography of Systematic Reviews (2014)
- Medicaid Substance Use Disorder Services & Health Reform (2012)
- Non-Pharmacological Treatment for ADHD (In Progress)
- Treatments for Opioid Dependent Pregnant Women (In Progress)

**METABOLIC, ENDOCRINE & NUTRITION**

- Continuous Glucose Monitoring for Children, Adolescents & Adults with Type I & Type II Diabetes (2013)
- Cost Impacts of Primary Care Management of Diabetes (2013)
- Diabetes Education (2014)
- Enteral Nutrition Coverage Criteria (2013)
- Effectiveness of Sleeve Gastrectomy as a Primary Bariatric Procedure (2014)
- Insulin Pumps for Type 1 & Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (2014)
- Treatment of Obesity & Overweight in Adults, Adolescents & Children (2013)

**MUSCULOSKELETAL**

- Botulinum Toxin A for Spasticity due to Cerebral Palsy (2013)
- Physical Therapy after Hip or Knee Replacement Surgery in Adults (2013)

**NEUROLOGY**

- Intravenous Immunoglobulin for Neuropathy (2013)

**ORAL HEALTH**

- Deep Sedation & General Anesthesia for Dental Procedures (In Progress)

**PAIN**

- Addressing Prescription Opioid Misuse & Abuse (2013)
- Lock-in Programs for Opioid Prescriptions (2013)
- Treatment of Chronic Non-Cancer Musculoskeletal Pain (Evidence) (2013)

**PREGNANCY & CHILDBIRTH**

- Social Support & Community Health Interventions to Prevent Adverse Birth Outcomes (2013)

**RESPIRATORY**

- Bronchial Thermoplasty for Severe, Persistent Asthma in Adults (2013)
- Effectiveness of NIOX MINO Airway Inflammation Monitor for Asthma Diagnosis & Management (2013)
- Intravenous Immunoglobulin for Respiratory Diseases (2013)
WOUNDS

- Apligraf for Venous Stasis Ulcers & Diabetic Foot Ulcers (2013)
- Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for Gas Gangrene (2013)
- Biosynthetic Skin Substitutes for Venous Stasis & Diabetic Foot Ulcers (2013)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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