Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation

Summary: Establishes within the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) a Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (Innovation Center). The purpose of the Center will be to research, develop, test, and expand innovative payment and delivery arrangements to improve the quality and reduce the cost of care provided to patients in each program. Dedicated funding is provided to allow for testing of models that require benefits not currently covered by Medicare. Successful models can be expanded nationally.

Status Updates:
- On July 8, 2011, CMS announced a variety of demonstration projects, run through the Innovation Center, related to Medicaid.
- On August 25, 2011, CMS issued a request for applications regarding the bundled payments for care improvement initiative.
- On September 15, 2011, CMS extended the application deadlines for the bundled payments for care improvement initiative.

Next steps:
- November 16, 2010 – CMS announced the establishment of the new Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (Innovation Center), before the statutory deadline of January 1, 2011.
- April 14, 2011 -- CMS announced that it would pursue the medical home model under the Innovation Center.
- April 15, 2011 -- CMS Innovation Center announced states who were selected to participate in the State Demonstrations to Integrate Care for Dual Eligible Individuals.
- April 28, 2011 -- Nancy Neilsen was named as a one-year senior advisor to the CMS Innovation Center.
- July 8, 2011 -- CMS announced a variety of demonstration projects, run through the Innovation Center, related to Medicaid.
- August 25, 2011 -- CMS issued a request for applications regarding the bundled payments for care improvement initiative.
- September 15, 2011 -- CMS extended the application deadlines for the bundled payments for care improvement initiative.
- 2012 and annually thereafter – Required report to Congress.

Additional information:
Long summary:

Sec. 3021. Establishment of Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation within CMS (as modified by Sec. 10306).

Creates within CMS, by no later than January 1, 2011, a Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMI) to test innovative payment and service delivery models primarily for the Medicare and Medicaid programs to reduce program expenditures while preserving or enhancing the quality of care. The CMI may also focus on CHIP. Such models need not be budget neutral and may be limited geographically. Provides waiver authority and limits judicial review.

Model selection. In selecting such models, the Secretary shall give preference to models that also improve the coordination, quality, and efficiency of health care services. The Secretary shall select models to be tested from models where the Secretary determines that there is evidence that the model addresses a defined population for which there are deficits in care leading to poor clinical outcomes or potentially avoidable expenditures. The statute suggests a list of 20 potential models for the Secretary to examine, as well as 8 additional factors that the Secretary may consider when selecting models.

Consultation. Requires consultation with representatives of relevant Federal agencies, and clinical and analytical experts with expertise in medicine and health care management.

Model Termination. Requires the Secretary to terminate or modify the design and implementation of a model unless the Secretary determines that the model is expected to—(1) improve the quality of care without increasing spending under the applicable title; (2) reduce spending without reducing the quality of care; or (3) improve the quality of care and reduce spending. Such
termination may occur at any time after such testing has begun and before completion of the testing.

**Model Expansion.** The Secretary may, through rulemaking, expand (including implementation on a nationwide basis) the duration and the scope of a tested model or a demonstration project under section 1866C, to the extent determined appropriate by the Secretary, if—(1) the Secretary determines that such expansion is expected to reduce spending without reducing the quality of care or improve the quality of patient care without increasing spending; (2) the Chief Actuary of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services certifies that such expansion would reduce (or would not result in any increase in) net program spending under applicable titles; and (3) the Secretary determines that such expansion would not deny or limit the coverage or provision of benefits under the applicable title for applicable individuals. In determining which models or demonstration projects to expand under the preceding sentence, the Secretary shall focus on models and demonstration projects that improve the quality of patient care and reduce spending.

**Funding.** Provides a direct appropriation of $5 million for FY 2010, $10 billion for fiscal years 2011-2019, and for each subsequent 10-year period starting with 2020.

**Health Care Quality Demonstration Program.** Eliminates the 5-year time limit for the existing Health Care Quality Demonstration Program.

**Legislative text:**

SEC. 3021. ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID INNOVATION WITHIN CMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title XI of the Social Security Act is amended by inserting after section 1115 the following new section:

“CENTER FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID INNOVATION

“SEC. 1115A. (a) CENTER FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID INNOVATION ESTABLISHED.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There is created within the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services a Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (in this section referred to as the ‘CMI’) to carry out the duties described in this section. The purpose of the CMI is to test innovative payment and service delivery models to reduce program expenditures under the applicable titles while preserving or enhancing the quality of care furnished to individuals under such titles. In selecting such models, the Secretary shall give preference to models that also improve the coordination, quality, and efficiency of health care services furnished to applicable individuals defined in paragraph (4)(A).

“(2) DEADLINE.—The Secretary shall ensure that the CMI is carrying out the duties described in this section by not later than January 1, 2011.

“(3) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the duties under this section, the CMI shall consult representatives of relevant Federal agencies, and clinical and analytical experts with expertise in medicine and health care management. The CMI shall use open door forums or other mechanisms to seek input from interested parties.

“(4) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(A) APPLICABLE INDIVIDUAL.—The term ‘applicable individual’ means—

“(i) an individual who is entitled to, or enrolled for, benefits under part A of title XVIII or enrolled for benefits under part B of such title;

“(ii) an individual who is eligible for medical assistance under title XIX, under a State plan or waiver; or

“(iii) an individual who meets the criteria of both clauses (i) and (ii).

“(B) APPLICABLE TITLE.—The term ‘applicable title’ means title XVIII, title XIX, or both.

“(5) TESTING WITHIN CERTAIN GEOGRAPHIC AREAS.—For purposes of testing payment and service delivery models under this section, the Secretary may elect to limit testing of a model to certain geographic areas.

“(b) TESTING OF MODELS (PHASE I).—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The CMI shall test payment and service delivery models in accordance with selection criteria under paragraph (2) to determine the effect of applying such models under the applicable title (as defined in subsection (a)(4)(B)) on program expenditures under such titles and the quality of care received by individuals receiving benefits under such title.

“(2) SELECTION OF MODELS TO BE TESTED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall select models to be tested from models where the Secretary determines that there is evidence that the model addresses a defined population for which there are deficits in care leading to poor clinical outcomes or potentially avoidable expenditures. The Secretary shall focus on models expected to reduce program costs under the applicable title while preserving or enhancing the quality of care received by individuals receiving benefits under such title. The models selected under this subparagraph may include, but are not limited to, the models described in subparagraph (B).

“(B) OPPORTUNITIES.—The models described in this subparagraph are the following models:

“(i) Promoting broad payment and practice reform in primary care, including patient-centered medical home models for high-need applicable individuals, medical homes that address women’s unique health care needs, and models that transition primary care practices away from fee-for-service based reimbursement and toward comprehensive payment or salary-based payment.
“(ii) Contracting directly with groups of providers of services and suppliers to promote innovative care delivery models, such as through risk-based comprehensive payment or salary-based payment.

“(iii) Utilizing geriatric assessments and comprehensive care plans to coordinate the care (including through interdisciplinary teams) of applicable individuals with multiple chronic conditions and at least one of the following:

“(I) An inability to perform 2 or more activities of daily living.

“(II) Cognitive impairment, including dementia.

“(iv) Promote care coordination between providers of services and suppliers that transition health care providers away from fee-for-service based reimbursement and toward salary-based payment.

“(v) Supporting care coordination for chronically ill applicable individuals at high risk of hospitalization through a health information technology-enabled provider network that includes care coordinators, a chronic disease registry, and home tele-health technology.

“(vi) Varying payment to physicians who order advanced diagnostic imaging services (as defined in section 1834(e)(1)(B)) according to the physician’s adherence to appropriateness criteria for the ordering of such services, as determined in consultation with physician specialty groups and other relevant stakeholders.

“(vii) Utilizing medication therapy management services, such as those described in section 935 of the Public Health Service Act.

“(viii) Establishing community-based health teams to support small-practice medical homes by assisting the primary care practitioner in chronic care management, including patient self-management, activities.

“(ix) Assisting applicable individuals in making informed health care choices by paying providers of services and suppliers for using patient decision-support tools, including tools that meet the standards developed and identified under section 936(c)(2)(A) of the Public Health Service Act, that improve applicable individual and caregiver understanding of medical treatment options.

“(x) Allowing States to test and evaluate fully integrating care for dual eligible individuals in the State, including the management and oversight of all funds under the applicable titles with respect to such individuals.

“(xi) Allowing States to test and evaluate systems of all-payer payment reform for the medical care of residents of the State, including dual eligible individuals.

“(xii) Aligning nationally recognized, evidence based guidelines of cancer care with payment incentives under title XVIII in the areas of treatment planning and follow-up care planning for applicable individuals described in clause (i) or (iii) of subsection (a)(4)(A) with cancer, including the identification of gaps in applicable quality measures.

“(xiii) Improving post-acute care through continuing care hospitals that offer inpatient rehabilitation, long-term care hospitals, and home health or skilled nursing care during an inpatient stay and the 30 days immediately following discharge.

“(xiv) Funding home health providers who offer chronic care management services to applicable individuals in cooperation with interdisciplinary teams.

“(xv) Promoting improved quality and reduced cost by developing a collaborative of high-quality, low-cost health care institutions that is responsible for—

“(I) developing, documenting, and disseminating best practices and proven care methods;

“(II) implementing such best practices and proven care methods within such institutions to demonstrate further improvements in quality and efficiency; and

“(III) providing assistance to other health care institutions on how best to employ such best practices and proven care methods to improve health care quality and lower costs.

“(xiv) Aligning inpatient care, including intensive care, of hospitalized applicable individuals at their local hospital through the use of electronic monitoring by specialists, including intensivists and critical care specialists, based at integrated health systems.

“(xvi) Promoting greater efficiencies and timely access to outpatient services (such as outpatient physical therapy services) through models that do not require a physician or other health professional to refer the service or be involved in establishing the plan of care for the service, when such service is furnished by a health professional who has the authority to furnish the service under existing State law.

“(xvii) Establishing comprehensive payments to Healthcare Innovation Zones, consisting of groups of providers that include a teaching hospital, physicians, and other clinical entities, that, through their structure, operations, and joint-activity deliver a full spectrum of integrated and comprehensive health care services to applicable individuals while also incorporating innovative methods for the clinical training of future health care professionals.

“(xix) Utilizing in particular in entities located in medically underserved areas and facilities of the Indian Health Service (whether operated by such Service or by an Indian tribe or tribal organization (as those terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act)), telehealth services—

“(I) in treating behavioral health issues (such as post-traumatic stress disorder) and stroke; and

“(II) to improve the capacity of non-medical providers and non-specialized medical providers to provide health services for patients with chronic complex conditions.

“(xx) Utilizing a diverse network of providers of services and suppliers to improve care coordination for applicable individuals described in subsection (a)(4)(A)(i) with 2 or more chronic conditions and a history of prior-year hospitalization through interventions developed under the Medicare Coordinated Care Demonstration Project under section 4016 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1395b–1 note).

“(C) ADDITIONAL FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—In selecting models for testing under subparagraph (A), the CMI may consider the following additional factors:

“(I) Whether the model includes a regular process for monitoring and updating patient care plans in a manner that is consistent with the needs and preferences of applicable individuals.

“(II) Whether the model places the applicable individual, including family members and other informal caregivers of the applicable individual, at the center of the care team of the applicable individual.

“(III) Whether the model provides for in-person contact with applicable individuals.

“(IV) Whether the model utilizes technology, such as electronic health records and patient-based remote monitoring systems, to coordinate care over time and across settings.
“(v) Whether the model provides for the maintenance of a close relationship between care coordinators, primary care practitioners, specialist physicians, community-based organizations, and other providers of services and suppliers.

“(vi) Whether the model relies on a team-based approach to interventions, such as comprehensive care assessments, care planning, and self-management coaching.

“(vii) Whether, under the model, providers of services and suppliers are able to share information with patients, caregivers, and other providers of services and suppliers on a real time basis.

“(viii) Whether the model demonstrates effective linkage with other public sector or private sector payers.

“(3) BUDGET NEUTRALITY.—

“(A) INITIAL PERIOD.—The Secretary shall not require, as a condition for testing a model under paragraph (1), that the design of such model ensure that such model is budget neutral initially with respect to expenditures under the applicable title.

“(B) TERMINATION OR MODIFICATION.—The Secretary shall terminate or modify the design and implementation of a model unless the Secretary determines (and the Chief Actuary of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, with respect to program spending under the applicable title, certifies), after testing has begun, that the model is expected to—

“(i) improve the quality of care (as determined by the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) without increasing spending under the applicable title;

“(ii) reduce spending under the applicable title without reducing the quality of care; or

“(iii) improve the quality of care and reduce spending.

Such termination may occur at any time after such testing has begun and before completion of the testing.

“(4) EVALUATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct an evaluation of each model tested under this subsection. Such evaluation shall include an analysis of—

“(I) the quality of care furnished under the model, including the measurement of patient-level outcomes and patient-centeredness criteria determined appropriate by the Secretary; and

“(II) the changes in spending under the applicable titles by reason of the model.

“(B) INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall make the results of each evaluation under this paragraph available to the public in a timely fashion and may establish requirements for States and other entities participating in the testing of models under this section to collect and report information that the Secretary determines is necessary to monitor and evaluate such models.

“(C) MEASURE SELECTION.—To the extent feasible, the Secretary shall select measures under this paragraph that reflect national priorities for quality improvement and patient-centered care consistent with the measures described in 1890(b)(7)(B).

“(c) EXPANSION OF MODELS (PHASE II).—Taking into account the evaluation under subsection (b)(4), the Secretary may, through rulemaking, expand (including implementation on a nationwide basis) the duration and the scope of a model that is being tested under subsection (b) or a demonstration project under section 1866C, to the extent determined appropriate by the Secretary, if—

“(1) the Secretary determines that such expansion is expected to—

“(A) reduce spending under applicable title without reducing the quality of care; or

“(B) improve the quality of patient care without increasing spending;

“(2) the Chief Actuary of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services certifies that such expansion would reduce (or would not result in any increase in) net program spending under applicable titles; and

“(3) the Secretary determines that such expansion would not deny or limit the coverage or provision of benefits under the applicable title for applicable individuals.

In determining which models or demonstration projects to expand under the preceding sentence, the Secretary shall focus on models and demonstration projects that improve the quality of patient care and reduce spending.

“(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—

“(1) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may waive such requirements of titles XI and XVIII and of sections 1902(a)(1), 1902(a)(13), and 1903(m)(2)(A)(ii)(III) as may be necessary solely for purposes of carrying out this section with respect to testing models described in subsection (b).

“(2) LIMITATIONS ON REVIEW.—There shall be no administrative or judicial review under section 1869, section 1878, or otherwise of—

“(A) the selection of models for testing or expansion under this section;

“(B) the selection of organizations, sites, or participants to test those models selected;

“(C) reductions, parameters, scope, and duration of such models for testing or dissemination;

“(D) determinations regarding budget neutrality under subsection (b)(3);

“(E) the termination or modification of the design and implementation of a model under subsection (b)(3)(B); and

“(F) determinations about expansion of the duration and scope of a model under subsection (c), including the determination that a model is not expected to meet criteria described in paragraph (1) or (2) of such subsection.

“(3) ADMINISTRATION.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, shall not apply to the testing and evaluation of models or expansion of such models under this section.

“(e) APPLICATION TO CHIP.—The Center may carry out activities under this section with respect to title XXI in the same manner as provided under this section with respect to the applicable titles.

“(f) FUNDING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There are appropriated, from amounts in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated—

“(A) $5,000,000 for the design, implementation, and evaluation of models under subsection (b) for fiscal year 2010;

“(B) $10,000,000,000 for the activities initiated under this section for the period of fiscal years 2011 through 2019; and

“(C) the amount described in subparagraph (B) for the activities initiated under this section for each subsequent 10-year fiscal period (beginning with the 10-year fiscal period beginning with fiscal year 2020). Amounts appropriated under the preceding sentence shall remain available until expended.
“(2) USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS.—Out of amounts appropriated under subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (1), not less than $25,000,000 shall be made available each such fiscal year to design, implement, and evaluate models under subsection (b).

“(g) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Beginning in 2012, and not less than once every other year thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on activities under this section. Each such report shall describe the models tested under subsection (b), including the number of individuals described in subsection (a)(4)(A)(i) and of individuals described in subsection (a)(4)(A)(ii) participating in such models and payments made under applicable titles for services on behalf of such individuals, any models chosen for expansion under subsection (c), and the results from evaluations under subsection (b)(4). In addition, each such report shall provide such recommendations as the Secretary determines are appropriate for legislative action to facilitate the development and expansion of successful payment models.”

(b) MEDICAID CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1902(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)), as amended by section 8002(b), is amended—

(1) in paragraph (81), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (82), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (82) the following new paragraph:

“’(83) provide for implementation of the payment models specified by the Secretary under section 1115A(c) for implementation on a nationwide basis unless the State demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that implementation would not be administratively feasible or appropriate to

the health care delivery system of the State.’’.

(c) REVISIONS TO HEALTH CARE QUALITY DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—Subsections (b) and (f) of section 1866C of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395cc–3) are amended by striking “5-year” each place it appears.