If the ACA is in Adolescence, States are Living in Dog Years

Social Insurance in a Market Economy: Obstacles and Opportunities National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI) January 26, 2012, Washington DC

Alan Weil Executive Director National Academy for State Health Policy

What States Have to Get Right Implementing the ACA

- Be Strategic with the Insurance Exchange
- Regulate the Commercial Health Insurance Market Effectively
- Simplify and Integrate Eligibility Systems
- Expand Provider and Health System Capacity
- Attend to Benefit Design

- Promote Care Coordination
- 7. Use Your Data
- 8. Pursue Population Health Goals
- Engage the Public in Policy Development and Implementation
- 10. Demand Quality and Efficiency from the Health Care System

A Balanced Approach to Implementation

Delivery
System
Improvement

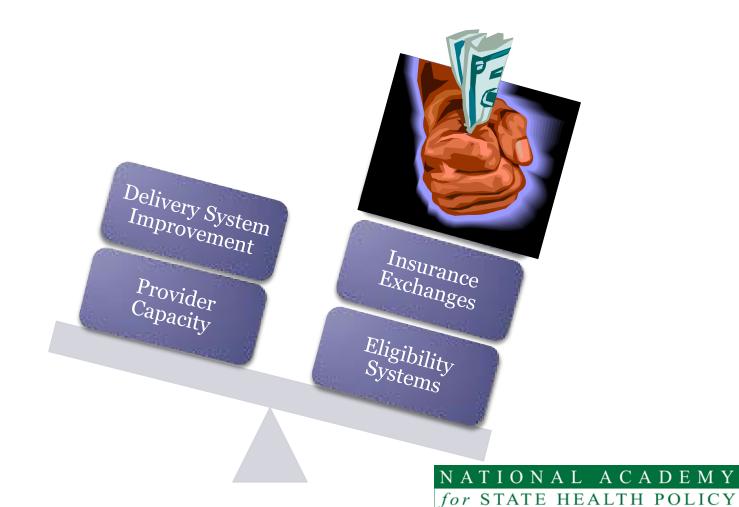
Provider
Capacity

Insurance
Exchanges

Eligibility
Systems



Federal Funds Drive State Priorities



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Insurance Exchanges will have a vital role in the marketplace, helping consumers shop for, understand, and purchase coverage. States can also use Exchanges to shape the quality and cost of plans.

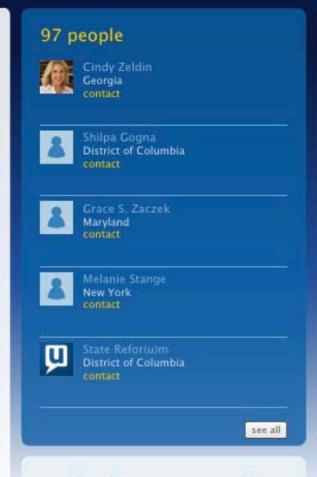
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Develop a Coordinated Approach to Implementing the ACA

Be Strategic with Insurance Exchange

Regulate the Commercial Health Insurance Market Effectively

Simplify and Integrate Eligibility Systems

Improve Provider and Health System Capacity

Attend to Benefit Design

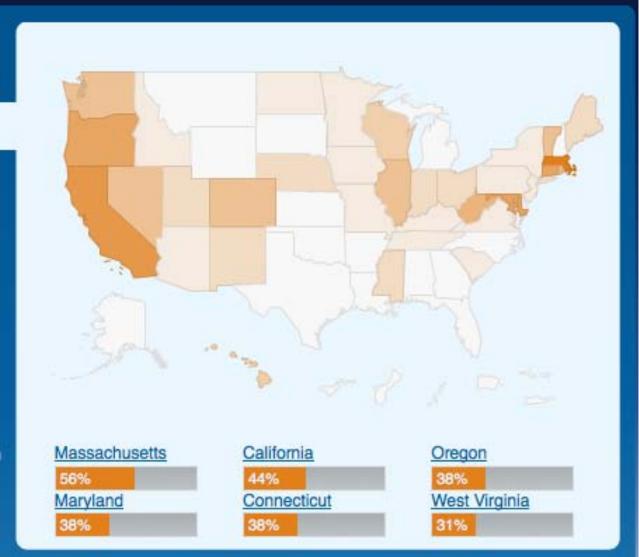
Emphasize Coordination of Care

Use Your Data

Pursue Population Health Goals

Engage the Public in Policy Development and Implementation

Promote Quality and Efficiency in the Health Care System



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Data drives improvement, yet the American health care system operates with limited data. States can use data to assess quality and outcomes and to monitor population health, and publicly report data to engage the public.

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> 2:30 - 4:00 PM EST Thursday, Feb 9, 2012



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Develop a Coordinated Approach to Implementing the ACA

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Regulate the Commercial Health Insurance Market Effectively

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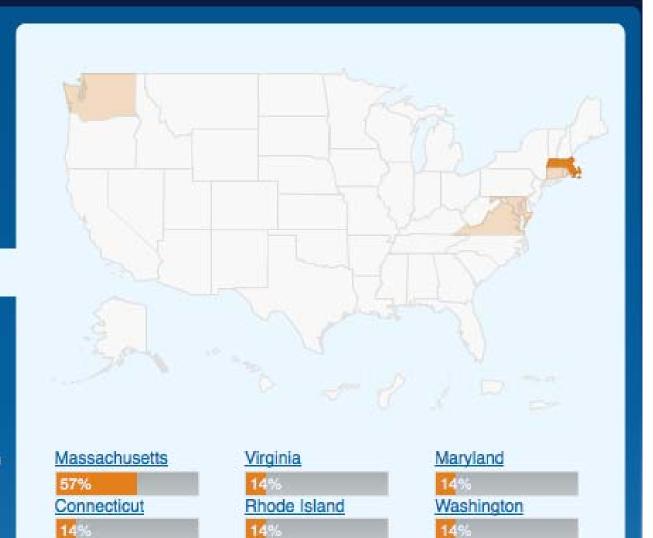
Emphasize Coordination of Care

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State Barriers to Implementation

- Fiscal capacity
- Personnel and expertise limitations
- Medicaid through 2013
- IT system constraints
- Politics
- Uncertainty
- Excessive deference to states?

Example: Eligibility and Enrollment

Minimum Federal Vision

Medicaid Eligibility



Exchange (Tax Credit) Eligibility

Medicaid Plan Selection Exchange Plan Selection

Ambitious States

Fully Integrated Eligibility

Fully Integrated Plan Selection

Likely Reality in Many States



Medicaid Plan Selection Exchange Plan Selection

Two Conspiracies Afoot

- Supporters deny how many challenges states are confronting
- Opponents deny how much progress states are making

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