

What's Next? Reporting on Health Reform Between Now and 2014

June 10, 2010

Resource List

All materials can be found in full at the sources indicated

GENERAL

Chapter One: Health Reform, from the Alliance sourcebook for reporters, *Covering Health Issues*

Joanne Kenen for the Alliance for Health Reform, April 29, 2010.

<http://bit.ly/a7OTNe>

This first chapter of the Alliance's sourcebook for reporters has been completely revised to reflect the provisions in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (PPACA) and the companion Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010. Contains key facts about the reform law, background, tips for reporters, story ideas, experts with contact information, and helpful websites. All other chapters of the guide, "Covering Health Issues," have been revised as well. For links to other chapters, go to the table of contents -- www.allhealth.org/sourcebookTOC.asp?SBID=3

Navigating the Implementation Process: Reform Overview

Health Reform GPS, April 12, 2010.

<http://bit.ly/dAVWff>

Health Reform GPS is a website established by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services offering information about health reform implementation. This document is a short overview of the reform law, with a separate section on immediate reforms.

What Will Happen Under Health Reform--And What's Next? A Resource for Journalists

The Commonwealth Fund, a supplement to the Columbia Journalism Review, May/ June 2010

<http://bit.ly/dCMbAs>

This resource from The Commonwealth Fund, published specifically for journalists, is a guide to covering health care reform implementation. The document outlines the provisions of the new health law, explains how health reform will increase coverage, and addresses health care costs. It also contains charts, tables, and a health reform timeline

Health Care Reporting Guide for Journalists

Joanne Kenen, New America Foundation, June 2009.

<http://bit.ly/9RY8vK>

Joanne Kenen's short guide to health care journalism clarifies confusing terms for journalists new to the health care field and provides a list of helpful resources for journalists.

Covering Health Issues, 5th Edition—Appendix C: Covering Health Issues for News and Radio

Originally Written by Deborah Potter, Newslab. Adapted by the Alliance for Health Reform, April 29, 2010.
<http://bit.ly/dm8fEk>

This short appendix from the Alliance's sourcebook is geared specifically towards TV and Radio media. The appendix gives suggestions on how to make health journalism more accessible and engaging for the consumer, and provides examples of effective health reporting.

Medicine Means Sometimes Having To Say You Are Sorry

Joanne Kenen for Miller-McCune, April 2, 2010.
<http://bit.ly/aih0IX>

This article explains how malpractice and medical errors may better be addressed through physicians taking responsibility for their errors and discussing outcome with their patients, rather than by denying errors and addressing problems in a court of law.

HEALTH REFORM IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINES

Health Reform Implementation Time Line

The Kaiser Family Foundation, April, 27 2010.
<http://bit.ly/dum65T>

This in-depth timeline separates the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act into different sections and tracks the implementation of health reform between 2010 and 2014. The subsections include: insurance reform, Medicare, Medicaid, prescription drugs, prevention/wellness, tax changes, workforce, and quality improvement.

Implementation Timeline for Federal Health Reform Legislation

National Governors Association, April 13, 2010.
<http://bit.ly/bRINTs>

This timeline covering 2010 through 2018 is designed specifically for states. The timeline cites provisions in the law and correction measures that will help states to implement immediate reforms and plan for long term revisions to the health care system.

Health Care Reform Law: Timeline for Small Businesses

National Federation of Independent Businesses, retrieved on May 26, 2010
<http://bit.ly/98V3XC>

This 4 page document details the implementation of those provisions of health care reform that directly affect small businesses from now until 2018. The document outlines the changes in taxes, fees and mandates that will be implemented largely between 2010 and 2013, and the health care system changes that will begin in 2014.

HEALTH REFORM AND HIGH-RISK POOLS

Fact Sheet: Temporary High Risk Pool Program

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, retrieved on May 26, 2010
<http://bit.ly/a8diPU>

This short fact sheet provides basic background regarding the eligibility and corresponding premiums of individuals to receive insurance through temporary high risk pools. The document also gives basic information on the states' roles in funding high-risk pools and provides a chart of the potential federal allocation for high-risk pools per state.

Covering High-Risk Insurance Pools

The Association of Health Care Journalists, retrieved on May 26, 2010

<http://bit.ly/dwSiVB>

This Association of Health Care Journalists landing page provides links for reporters covering high-risk insurance pools. Among the links provided are links to recent coverage of high risk pools, resources for obtaining information about high-risk pools, and suggestions from health journalists on covering high-risk pools.

Covering High-Risk Insurance Pools: Victoria Colliver

By *Victoria Colliver (San Francisco Chronicle)* for the *Association of Health Care Journalists*, retrieved on May 26, 2010

<http://bit.ly/bwde4B>

Note: Viewing this resource online requires ACHJ membership

A guide written by health care journalist Victoria Colliver on how to report on high-risk pools. Specifically, the article addresses the role of the states in funding high-risk pools and the key questions journalists should be asking.

Covering High-Risk Insurance Pools: Sarah Varney

By *Sarah Varney (KQED Public Radio and the California Report)* for the *Association of Health Care Journalists*, retrieved on May 26, 2010

<http://bit.ly/atR7uC>

Note: Viewing this resource online requires ACHJ membership

Journalist and radio reporter Sarah Varney provides journalists with suggestions for high-risk pool news stories. She focuses specifically on how high-risk pools will affect the individual

Covering High-Risk Insurance Pools: David Hage

By *David Hage (Minneapolis Star Tribune)* for the *Association of Health Care Journalists*, retrieved on May 26, 2010

<http://bit.ly/9rcFLE>

Note: Viewing this resource online requires ACHJ membership

David Hage, a reporter for the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, briefly explains problems and successes the Minnesota high-risk pool has encountered and uses Minnesota's pool as a resource to generate questions about the issues high-risk pools may create nationwide.

Health Coverage for the High-Risk Uninsured: Policy Options for Design of the Temporary High Risk Pool

National Institute of Health Care Reform, May 2010

<http://bit.ly/aKRz3j>

A detailed Policy Analysis document that addresses key issues of high-risk pools including: eligibility, transitions from high-risk to health insurance markets in 2014, issues regarding high-risk pools, and integration of high-risk pools into current state pools and insurance markets.

HEALTH REFORM AND MEDICAID

The Future of Children's Health Coverage

Lisa Swirsky, Alliance for Health Reform

<http://bit.ly/aCnRHq>

This four-page issue brief details the children's coverage expansions in the new health reform law, particularly Medicaid expansions, and also the law's potential to strain existing coverage programs for children.

Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program Provisions in the New Health Reform Law

The Kaiser Family Foundation, April 7, 2010

<http://bit.ly/bSiTZO>

After providing a brief overview of changes to the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and Medicaid financing under health reform, the document provides a 10 page chart that summarizes specific provisions of each programs. Furthermore, the chart compares provisions of Medicare and CHIP before and after implementation of the Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Medicaid Coverage and Spending in Health Reform: National and State-by-State Results for Adults at or Below 133% FPL

Kaiser Family Foundation, May 2010

<http://bit.ly/c632QB>

The executive summary of a study produced by the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, which estimates the national and state-by-state budget costs for implementing expansions of the Medicaid program. The study found that while the federal government will pay for the majority of costs incurred by the new Medicaid program in states, states will face a substantially smaller budget increase. In addition, the study predicts increases in coverage under Medicaid expansion and includes charts to outline findings.

Early Medicaid Expansion Under Health Care Reform

Families USA, May 2010

<http://bit.ly/aRpakM>

A fact sheet produced by Families USA that explains early Medicaid expansion option for the state expansion of Medicaid programs before January 1, 2014. The fact sheet outlines eligibility for adults to get Medicaid benefits under expansion, the benefits states are required to provide under expansion, and the federal matching rates that states may expect to receive under early expansion.

HEALTH REFORM AND MEDICARE

Health Reform's Changes in Medicare

Amanda Cassidy for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Health Affairs, May 20, 2010

<http://bit.ly/9iOniu>

This Health Policy Brief explains the provision changes to Medicare under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Among these changes the brief outlines the expansion of prescription drug coverage, primary care improvements, and reduction in payments for Medicare providers.

Summary of Key Changes to Medicare in 2010 Health Reform Law

The Kaiser Family Foundation, retrieved on May 27, 2010

<http://bit.ly/9nsIMq>

This summary provides a comprehensive overview of changes to Medicare under health care reform legislation. The document is broken down into a chart format, separately outlining individual provisions of, and changes to, Medicare. It also includes an implementation time line for Medicare through 2015.

Major Medicare Savings under Health Reform Legislation

American Medical Association, April 7, 2010

<http://bit.ly/aWUXbu>

This short document provides the budget savings specific to Medicare for individuals in specific government programs, and various medical organizations, institutions and practitioners.

HEALTH REFORM AND PRIVATE COVERAGE

Near-Term Changes in Health Insurance: Newly enacted health reform legislation mandates dozens of health insurance changes. Many go into effect this year and next.

Health Affairs and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, May 4, 2010.

<http://bit.ly/dBJQyK>

From Health Affairs and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, this health policy brief focuses on reforms to the private insurance market between 2010 and 2012. According to the brief, the objectives of reform are to increase insurance coverage and availability of information about the market.

Health Premiums Likely To Rise More

Noam M. Levey for the Los Angeles Times, April 3, 2010.

<http://bit.ly/dahp7q>

This article by Noam M. Levey provides both a compelling example of health reporting and an informative analysis of loopholes in the health reform law, which may allow insurance companies to greatly increase premiums.

Changes Coming To Insurance Plans

Kaiser Health News, April 6, 2010

<http://bit.ly/dpydRE>

An article on addressing changes to the private health insurance market that provides a good example of how a health care journalist makes a complex topic approachable and understandable for the reader.

Summary of Coverage Provisions in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

The Kaiser Family Foundation, April 28, 2010

<http://bit.ly/cjVSe6>

This Kaiser Family Foundation Summary overviews key changes to the private insurance market and coverage options for individuals. It details the Individual Mandate, the Expansion of Public Programs, the American Health Benefit Exchanges, Changes to Private Insurance, Employer Requirements, and Coverage and Cost Estimates.

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2009: Health Insurance Market Reforms

National Association of Insurance Commissioners, April 20, 2010.

<http://bit.ly/dx1WF3>

In this chart outlining reforms to the health insurance market, changes to the market are broken down into different sections; what government department is overseeing implementation, to which programs and individuals changes are applicable to, and the date changes will be executed.

Some Recent Grads Face Health Care Coverage Gap

Julie Rovner for the Morning Edition, May 27, 2010

<http://n.pr/bGrsQc>

This article by Julie Rovner clarifies confusion surrounding provisions in the new health reform legislation to extend coverage to young adults as dependents on their parents' plans. Specifically, the article addresses how gaps between college graduation and the time employers will sign young adults on to their families' plans as dependents will affect young adults.

HEALTH REFORM AND SMALL BUSINESSES

Summary of Small Business Health Insurance Tax Credit Under PPACA (P.L. 111-148)

Congressional Research Service, April 5, 2010.

<http://bit.ly/bRUK8b>

This short summary details the small business tax credit. The summary briefly explains the tax credit, outlines eligibility requirements for small employers, and provides information about the phase-out of the credit, after a total of 6 years, when FTEs are expected to increase.

Will the Small Business Tax Credit help small business owners provide insurance?

National Federation of Independent Business, retrieved on May 27, 2010.

<http://bit.ly/bhKNOJ>

A short one page analysis that explains the plausibility of the Small Business Tax Credit to provide relief for small business owners responsible for covering their employees. The article outlines the tax credit and then uncovers concerns about the credit's viability to aid small businesses.

Lower Premiums, Stronger Businesses: How health insurance reform will bring down the costs for small businesses

Department of Health and Human Services, retrieved on May 28, 2010.

<http://bit.ly/chSMS6>

This document produced by the Department of Health and Human Services explains how health insurance reform could reduce the health coverage costs of small businesses.

HEALTH REFORM AND THE STATES

Health Insurance Reform and Your State (HHS-Gov): Map By State

United States Department of Health and Human Services, retrieved on May 26, 2010.

<http://bit.ly/4Q9due>

This interactive website features a map of the United States that allows users to click on any state and see the health reform changes that have been implemented to date in that state.

State Decision-Making in Implementing National Health Reform

National Governor's Association, retrieved on May 26, 2010.

<http://bit.ly/9CSBES>

This comprehensive discussion draft written before reform outlines the major challenges states will face as a result of the passage of health care reform. The draft is intended to help states better formulate solutions for the difficult decisions they may face.

The Mississippi Delta's Healthcare Blues

Noam M. Levey for the LA Times, June 3, 2010.

<http://bit.ly/dgcrzE>

This piece by Noam M. Levey uses a human interest story in order to investigate the health care received by the uninsured and roadblocks to obtaining Medicaid. The article explains the current situation, improvements expected after reform is implemented, and problems that may still exist post-reform.

Facing Obamacare: What States Should Know Now

Dennis Smith for the Heritage Foundation, May 3, 2010.

www.heritage.org/Research/Reports/2010/05/Facing-Obamacare-What-the-States-Should-Do-Now=

This article explains the effects that large-scale federal health care reform may have on restricting the traditional role and authority of states. The article explains how the new law will weaken states by restricting traditional state authority, empowering bureaucracy, and hurting state economies.

State Actions to Implement Federal Health Reform

National Conference of State Legislators, May 20, 2010.

www.ncsl.org/?tabid=20231

This document consists of a basic table outlining state implementation efforts of legislation and “executive orders” related to federal health reform. Among state efforts are the creation of task forces, the appointment of officials for health reform implementations, and proposals of legislation to alter or oppose federal actions.