



# **AFFORDABLE CARE ACT: IMPACT ON HIV, STI, ADULT VIRAL HEPATITIS PROGRAMS IN MARYLAND**

## **NASTAD National Viral Hepatitis Technical Assistance Meeting**

**OCTOBER 18, 2011**

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INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION**



# MISSION

- To improve the health of Marylanders by reducing the transmission of infectious diseases, helping impacted persons live longer, healthier lives, and protecting individuals and communities from environmental health hazards
- We work in partnership with local health departments, providers, community based organizations, and public and private sector agencies to provide public health leadership in the prevention, control, monitoring, and treatment of infectious diseases and environmental health hazards.



# Objectives

- To provide a summary of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (“ACA”) implementation in Maryland
- To describe key areas of impact of health care reform on HIV, viral hepatitis, and STI programs
- To describe key areas of action for AVHCs



# Overarching Goal of Health Care Reform in Maryland



**Not about reform.**



**Not about health care.**



**IT'S ABOUT  
HEALTH**



# Health Care Reform Coordinating Council

- ✓ Executive and legislative branch leadership
- ✓ 6 workgroups
- ✓ 35 public meetings
- ✓ Regional public hearings
- ✓ Hundreds of public comments



**Health Care Reform Coordinating Council**

Created by Executive Order 01.01.2010.07

**Final Report and Recommendations**

January 1, 2011

**Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor**

**John M. Colmers, Secretary  
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**



# HCRCC Report: 16 Recommendations in 5 Categories



Public Health, Safety Net and Special Populations



Outreach and Education



Improving Delivery System

Leadership and Oversight

Reducing Health Disparities





# Expanded Coverage and Projected Savings from Health Care Reform

**\$850** million in savings to the Maryland budget over 10 years

Access to affordable health care for more than **350,000** Marylanders by 2020



# Insurance Market Conformity Legislation

Administration  
Package, signed  
4/12/2011

- ✓ Aligns Maryland insurance law with the Affordable Care Act
- ✓ Assures important protections for Maryland residents such as
  - ✓ Coverage until 26
  - ✓ Pre-existing conditions
  - ✓ Lifetime limits



# Four Pillars of ACA



Stronger Insurance Coverage

Expanded Access to Health Care

More Affordable Insurance Coverage

Cost Control and Quality Improvement



## Pillar I

# Stronger Insurance Coverage: Marylanders Already Benefitting



- **Young adults** can stay on parents' insurance plan until age 26.



- No **children** denied coverage because of pre-existing condition.



- No **lifetime limits** on benefits and harder to rescind policies when people get sick.

- Small business **tax credits**.



- **Preventive services** like mammograms and flu shots.



## Pillar II Expanded Access to Health Care



- ✓ New Health Benefit Exchange: a transparent, competitive marketplace where individuals and small businesses can purchase private insurance coverage.





# Health Benefit Exchange Bill

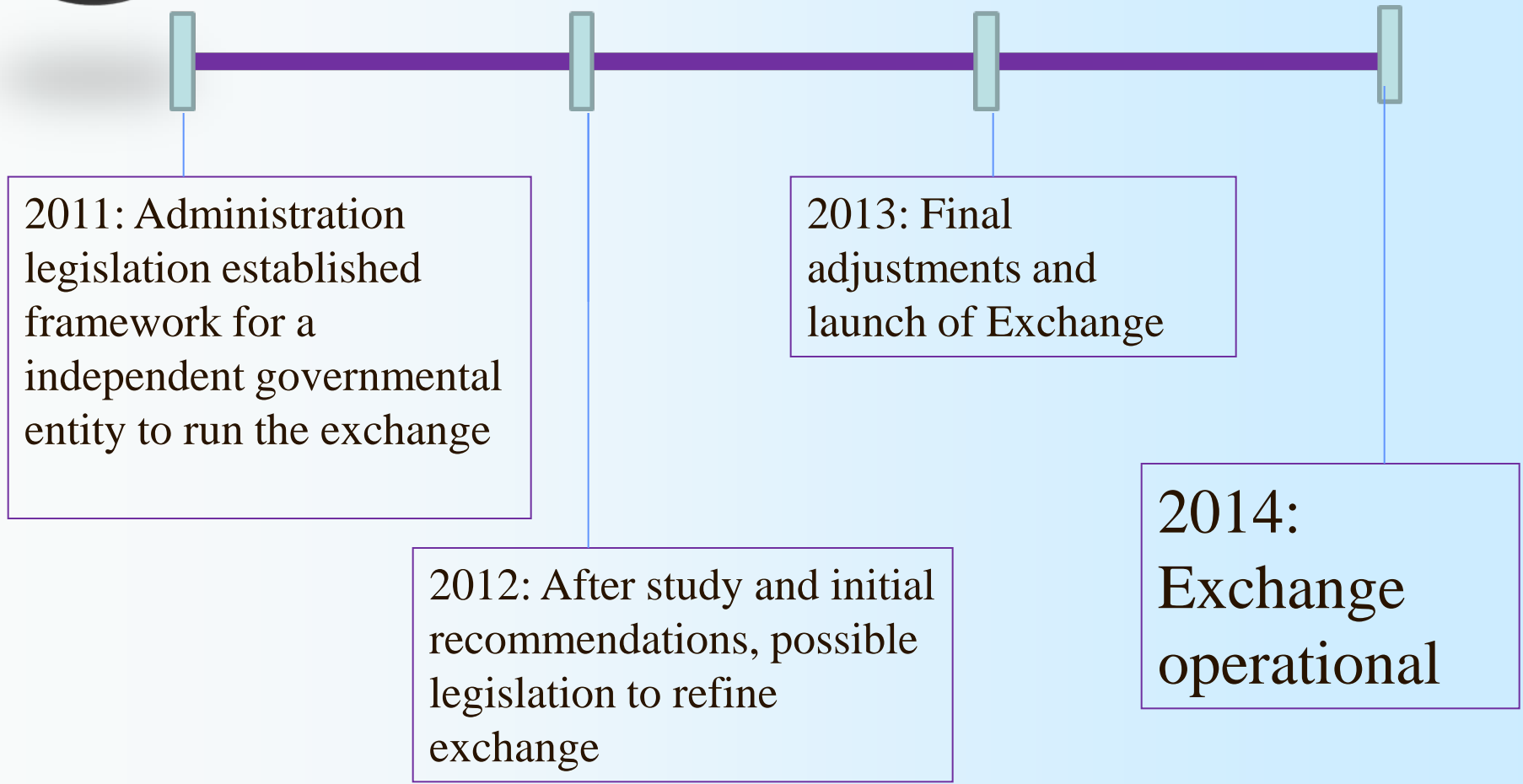
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Administration  
Package, signed  
4/12/2011

- Signed into law April 12, 2011.
- Established as independent unit of State government with a Board.
- Specific provisions promote transparency, accountability, and flexibility.
- Establishes core functions and duties required under the Affordable Care Act.
- Identifies key policy issues to be studied and reported to Legislature in December.



# Timeline for Health Insurance Exchanges





# Studies Due Prior to 2012 Session

- Operating Model
- Insurance Market Rules (In/Out of Exchange)
- Navigators and Consumer Assistance
- SHOP Exchange
- Financial Model
- Communications/Marketing



## Pillar III

# More Affordable Coverage: Support for Maryland Families and Employers



**Medicaid Expansion:**  
More people eligible with  
higher federal match

**Federal Subsidies:**  
Financial assistance for  
families up to 400% FPL

**Small Business Tax  
Credits:** 35% of premium  
(2010) and 50% (2014)



## Pillar IV

# Cost Control and Quality Improvement: Save Money While Making People Healthier



**Keeping people healthy:** Investments in wellness and prevention

**Higher quality and more efficient care delivery models:** Pilots and demonstration project with leadership from doctors and hospitals

**Health Information Technology:** Support ongoing efforts to develop Health Information Exchange and meaningful use of Electronic Medical Records



# Health Quality and Cost Council

Revised EO  
released  
May 26, 2011

- ✓ Council established in 2007 through Executive Order
- ✓ Public-private partnership
- ✓ Successful initiatives underway

## RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ Chronic disease management
- ✓ Support for ongoing efforts on HIT
- ✓ Elimination of health disparities
- ✓ Opportunities under the ACA
- ✓ Dissemination of patient-centered outcomes research among health care providers



# Maryland HCR Implementation

- ✓ Affordable Care Act is a tremendous opportunity to improve health in Maryland
- ✓ Maryland poised to strengthen insurance, expand access, make coverage affordable, and promote quality and lower costs
- ✓ Administration activity underway:
  - Insurance Market Conformity Legislation
  - Exchange Enabling Legislation
  - Executive Orders



# HEALTH CARE REFORM IMPACT ON HIV, STI, AND VIRAL HEPATITIS PROGRAMS



# Impact of Health Care Reform on HIV, STI, VH (Clients)

- Reduces discrimination by health plans due to health status (pre-existing condition)
- Eliminates the disability requirement for Medicaid and sets new national income standard of 133% FPL; removes asset test
- Offers federal subsidies to lower income individuals to make coverage and services more affordable
- Begins to close the “donut hole” for Medicare Part D; eventually closing it by 2020
  - Allows ADAP to count as TrOOP



# Impact of Health Care Reform on HIV, STI, VH (Clients)

- There is potential for many current clients to be covered by Medicaid or by private insurance through the Health Insurance Exchange (HIE)
  - Intake process at clinics and CBOs will need to be altered to include screening for additional benefits
  - Providers need to ensure that they're included in Medicaid, Medicaid managed care, and private insurance provider networks
  - Providers will need to ensure infrastructure in place for billing of various payers



# Impact of Health Care Reform on HIV, STI, VH (Screening)

- US Preventative Health Task Force Guidelines “A” or “B” rating
  - HIV testing only for high risk individuals
  - STI testing only for high risk individuals and pregnant women
  - strongly recommends screening for hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection in pregnant women at their first prenatal visit
  - recommends *against* routinely screening the general asymptomatic population for chronic hepatitis B virus infection
  - recommends *against* routine screening for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in asymptomatic adults who are not at increased risk (general population) for infection
  - found insufficient evidence to recommend for or against routine screening for HCV infection in adults at high risk for infection



# Impact of Health Care Reform on HIV, STI, VH (Funding)

- Ryan White Reauthorization and Appropriations in 2013 -  
????
  - AIDS Drug Assistance Programs – continue medication access, insurance continuation, wrap around assistance = more complexity to internal systems
- STI – decreased (?) safety net funding for local health departments and partners (Planned Parenthood)
- VH – significant potential for coverage of Hep A and B vax and care/meds for Hepatitis C



# Impact of Health Care Reform on HIV, STI, AV (Practice)

- Continuum of care
- Integration of prevention and care services
- Integrated data systems
- Greater accountability
- Quality assurance



# **HEALTH CARE REFORM: WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREPARE VIRAL HEPATITIS PROGRAMS?**



# HCR Implementation Issues

- Necessary Relationships
- Health Information Technology (HIT)
- Infrastructure Capacity
- Reimbursement models



# Key Relationships

- Internal State Health Department
  - Epi and Lab
  - IT
  - Immunization Program
  - Medicaid (external to some)
  - NCHHSTP programs
- External
  - State health information exchange
  - State health insurance exchange
  - State Insurance Administration
  - Community Health Centers/Primary Care Associations



# Health Information Technology

- Increasing infrastructure
  - Health information exchanges
  - Electronic Lab Reporting
- Increasing use of HIT
  - Disease reporting
  - Immunization registries
  - Secondary data use
- Parallel timelines
  - HIEs with hospitals, labs, practices
  - Meaningful use
  - ELR connections
  - EHR connections

# Future Maryland HIE – Public Health Connection



LHDs



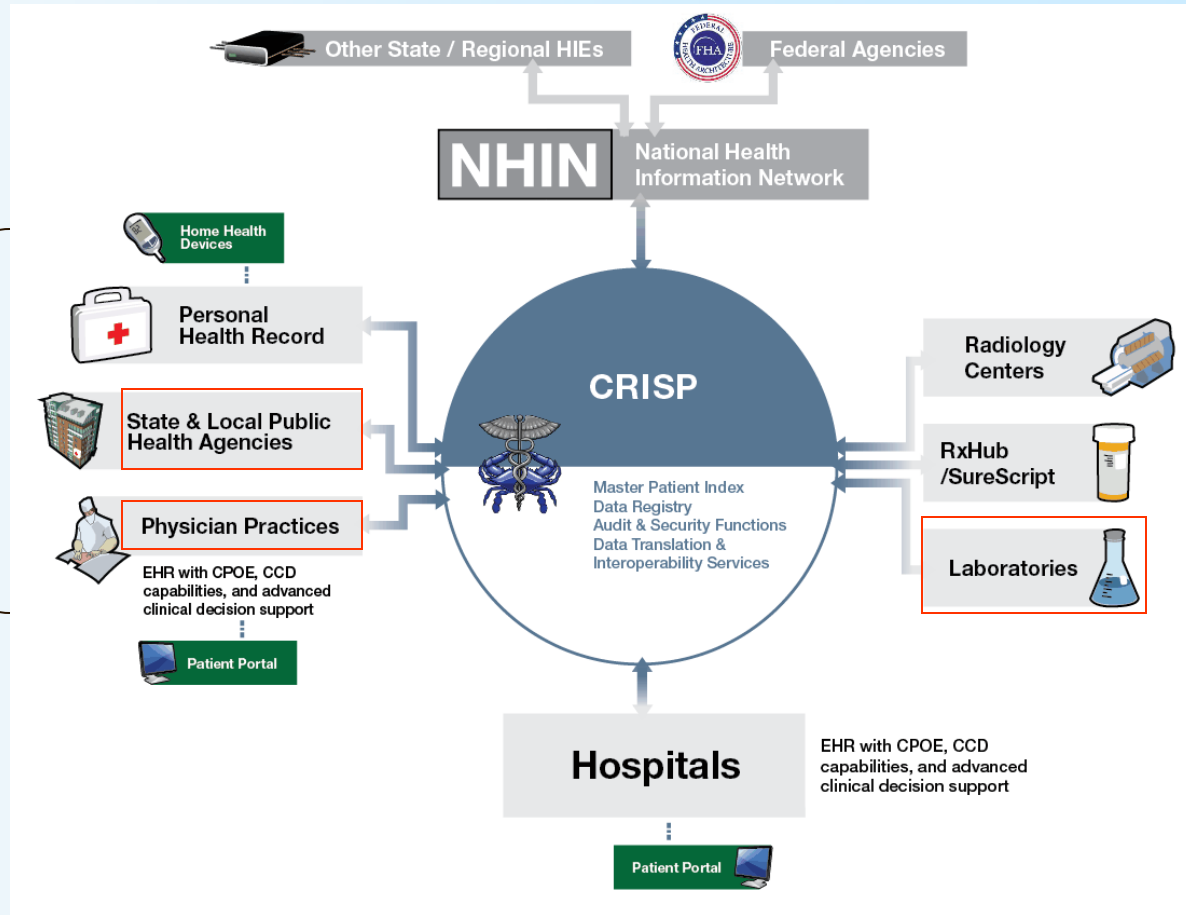
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# Infrastructure Capacity

- Public health/safety net providers need to have infrastructure to bill private and public insurances
  - May need state legislation or other authority to allow contracting
  - HIT
- Provider shortage
- Public Health Informatics



# Reimbursement Models

- Clinical care and CBO partnerships?
- Patient Centered Medical Homes
- Private insurance reimbursement for clinical services at public health sites
- Insurance reimbursement for public health functions



# Resources to Stay Informed

<p><a href="http://www.healthreform.maryland.gov/">http://www.healthreform.maryland.gov/</a></p>	<p>Maryland's plans and progress for Health Care Reform implementation</p>
<p>Center for Medicare Advocacy <a href="http://www.medicareadvocacy.org/">http://www.medicareadvocacy.org/</a></p>	<p>Policy analysis and beneficiary information on the new law's impact on Medicare, including Part D</p>
<p>FamiliesUSA <a href="http://www.familiesusa.org/health-reform-central/">http://www.familiesusa.org/health-reform-central/</a></p>	<p>Summaries, fact sheets, issue briefs; Join listserv for information updates, including periodic national conference calls on health reform topics</p>
<p>Kaiser Family Foundation <a href="http://healthreform.kff.org/">http://healthreform.kff.org/</a></p>	<p>Summaries and implementation timeline; Fact sheets on Part D, exchanges and subsidies</p>



# Resources to Stay Informed

<p>Treatment Access Expansion Project <a href="http://www.taepusa.org/">http://www.taepusa.org/</a></p>	<p>Analysis of HIV-related provisions, including presentations</p>
<p>HealthReform.gov <a href="http://www.healthreform.gov/">http://www.healthreform.gov/</a></p>	<p>Administration website with information on the new law, including an ongoing Q&amp;A forum and state-specific information</p>
<p>Department of Health and Human Services Office of Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight <a href="http://www.hhs.gov/ociio/">www.hhs.gov/ociio/</a></p>	<p>Responsible for implementation of various elements of health care reform. Also administers the federal high risk pool.</p>



# Maryland Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Administration



**<http://ideha.dhmh.maryland.gov/>**