



The CMS Innovation Center's Transformation Initiative

At-a-Glance

OVERVIEW

The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (Innovation Center) launched the Transformation Initiative to accelerate care delivery reform through value-based payment models intended to drive better care, improve outcomes, and lower costs. Value-based care can also support a better patient experience with greater coordination and communication among their care team.

Over the last decade, the Innovation Center has tested more than 50 models focused on advanced primary care, episode-based care, accountable care, state-based transformation efforts, and for specific populations.

The Innovation Center conducted a retrospective review of select models to assess care delivery changes to help inform a new framework to accelerate transformation.¹ The framework will aim to more systematically evaluate care delivery strategies that support transformation for providers and patients and to disseminate best practices so that all Americans can access effective, person-centered care.

The Innovation Center conducted a retrospective review of the evaluations of 23 current or recently ended models to inform its Transformation Initiative.

KEY THEMES FROM THE RETROSPECTIVE REVIEW



Models Fostered Care Coordination and Person-Centered Strategies

Model participants used care coordination and other person-centered strategies to deliver care.

Participants:

- Delivered team-based care.
- Emphasized patient navigation.
- Focused on care management using risk assessment and stratification to identify those with the highest needs.



Practice Changes Promoted Tailored Patient Care

Models facilitated practice changes that enabled providers to better tailor their care based on their patients' needs.

Providers in models reported:

- Greater flexibility in how they delivered care.
- Expanded use of data to enhance quality performance.
- Stronger partnerships with other providers, including those not in a model.



Care Delivery Changes Extended Beyond Innovation Center Models

In some cases, Innovation Center models have had impacts beyond those served by the model.

Broader impact included:

- Widespread changes in preventive screening.
- Care delivery changes maintained by providers after model ends.
- Increasing the shift from fee-for-service to value-based payments.

NEW FRAMEWORK

Moving forward, the Innovation Center will more systematically assess the impacts of models on health system transformation. There will be a greater focus on understanding care delivery strategies and tactics that are associated with better quality, outcomes, and patient experience at lower costs. The Innovation Center is committed to developing a stronger evidence base through iterative learning and evaluation across models to accelerate health system transformation.



The new framework will consider how the Innovation Center can:



Support and encourage health transformation in model design and incentives.



Expand its use of evaluation methodologies to:

- 1) More systematically capture and assess delivery system changes in models, and
- 2) Explore the model features and participant actions that are most associated with improved outcomes.



Use learning systems to better support model participants and generate cross-model learnings to accelerate transformation.



Disseminate promising delivery changes within and beyond model participants.



Implement prospective, rapid trials to assess discrete care delivery strategies and tactics to identify what works.