## California Children with Special Health Care Needs and Their Families

Current Issues and Challenges Facing Our Most Vulnerable Population

## Children with Special Health Care Needs Program Staff



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## Our Focus Areas



## Objectives and Overview

## Objective of Presentation

To provide an overview of topics which are a priority to the CYSHCN field

## Objectives for Audience

To suggest issues that can be addressed by public agencies, and to identify resources to help guide new programs and policies

## Main Points to be Covered

- Health care system standards and performance improvement opportunities
- Care coordination
- Family engagement and support


## Improving the Systems of Care for CSHCN

- Grantmaking
- Advocacy
- Sharing Knowledge
- Newsletters
- Issue and Policy Briefs
- Convenings and Webinars
- Community Engagement


## California's Quality of Health Care for CSHCN: National Comparison

## National Ranking

- $50^{\text {th }}$ in having at least one preventive care visit
- $46^{\text {th }}$ for care coordination
- $50^{\text {th }}$ in $f a m i l y$-centered care
- $50^{\text {th }}$ in proportion of parents with above average stress
- $45^{\text {th }}$ in developmental screening
- $36^{\text {th }}$ for transition to adult care
- $43^{\text {rd }}$ in receiving needed mental health services

However, no "gold standard" exists for what constitutes a special health care need.

## Definition:

## Children with Special Health Care Needs

"Children with special health care needs are those who have or are at-risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally."

- Maternal and Child Health Bureau, July 1998


## Distribution of Children By Chronic IIIness Category

 or Children's Health

## Children with Medical Complexity

## A Vulnerable Population

- Chronic, severe health condition and medically fragile
- Care provided by 2 or more pediatric subspecialists
- Technology dependent
- Multiple body organs affected
- Functional limitations

High Utilizer of Health Care

- $<1 \%$ of general child population and $\sim 1 / 3$ of health care costs
- $10 \%$ of admissions and $41 \%$ of hospital charges
- $\sim 5 \%$ of Medicaid children and $>50 \%$ of costs
- 2 of 3 are enrolled in Medicaid
Age—mean (SD): 7.3 (6.5) years
Sex-male ..... 57.0
Race/Ethnicity
Black ..... 8.7
Hispanic ..... 56.4
Insurance
Medicaid Managed Care ..... 47.6
Medicaid Fee for Service ..... 19.6
CHIP ..... 7.5
Mixed/Other ..... 25.3
Medical Complexity
Complex Chronic ..... 51.4
Non-Complex Chronic ..... 25.3
Non-Chronic ..... 23.3


## Who are the CCS-Enrolled Children?

## System for CSHCN is Overlapping Programs



## Key Components of a High Performance System for CSHCN

- Whole child, comprehensive coordinated services
- Integrated services plans and information sharing
- Meaningful family involvement
- Equity of access to good quality services
- Transparent monitoring to assure quality


# CCS Program Spend by Health Service Category 

2010-2012


## Comprehensive Care for Children with Medical Complexity

|  | Usual Care <br> Rates are per 100 child-years, ( $\mathrm{N}=96$ ) | Comprehensive Care <br> Rates are per 100 child-years, (N=105) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Medical costs | \$26,781 per child year | \$16,523 per child year |
| Outpatient costs | \$1,722 per child year | \$6,713 per child year |
| Hospitalizations | 131 | 69 |
| ED visits | 90 | 190 |
| Hospital visits | 635 | 276 |
| ICU admissions | 44 | 9 |
| IC days | 178 | 52 |
| Rate of serious illness | 22 | 10 |

## Key But Missing Services for CSHCN

- Address Social Determinants of Health and Social Complexity
- Care Planning and Care Coordination
- Home Health Care
- Integrated Behavioral Health Care
- Integrated Funding
- Family Support
- Respite Care
- Transition Services
- Palliative Care
- Quality of Care Measures


## California Children’s Services (CCS) Program Transition

## Past Program



## Current Program



- Managing costs vs. managing care
- Limited benefits and barriers to care
- Limited access to pediatric subspecialists
- Loss of continuity
- Variable quality, including patient experience
- Fragmented care by undoing personal care systems



## Developing the National System Standards



## National System Standards: Core Domains

- Screening, assessment \& referral
- Eligibility and enrollment
- Access to care
- Medical home and care coordination
- Community-based services
- Family-professional partnerships
- Transition to adulthood
- Information technology
- Quality assurance \& improvement
- Insurance \& financing



## How States Are Using the Standards

1. Identify CYSHCN as a special population in managed care contracts
2. Determine performance improvement priorities
3. Guide strategic planning activities
4. Reference national system standards in managed care contracts
5. Create partnerships among Medicaid, MCOs, advocates and families to monitor access and quality
6. Guide local public health system development

## Measuring the Health of CSHCN: Outcome Domains

- Basic needs
- Inclusive education services

- Family-centered care
- Child social integration
- Child health-related quality of life
- Long-term child and family self-sufficiency
- Community-based support systems
- Health care support systems
- Patient medical home

Biomedical and Social Determinants of Health


## Social Complexity Indicators, 2018

Look Back Period: Presence of the risk factor in prenatal period (year before birth)-lifetime of the child.

|  | INDICATOR | CHILD FACTOR | FAMILY |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| FACTOR |  |  |  |

## Oregon's Medicaid Enrollees' Health Complexity

| MEDICAL COMPLEXITY (3 Categories) | SOCIAL COMPLEXITY <br> (Total Factors Possible = 12) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 3 or More Indicators | 1-2 Indicators | No Indicators |
| HIGH <br> Chronic, Complex | 3\% | 2.4\% | 0.7\% |
| MODERATE Chronic, Non-Complex | 9.5\% | 7.2\% | 1.7\% |
| LOW <br> Non-Chronic | 26.5\% | 32.6\% | 16.6\% |

## More on System Standards and Quality

## Edward Schor, MD

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UPCOMING WEBINAR:
March 14, 2019, 10:30-11:30 am PST
Identifying and Serving Children with Health Complexity: Spotlight on Pediatric Care Together Webinar Register: lpfch.org/cshcn



# Care Coordination for CSHCN 

Holly Henry, Ph.D.




## Care Coordination

Individualized care that is:

- Family-centered
- Assessment-driven
- Team-based
- Guided by care plan


## Benefits of Care Coordination

Enhanced caregiving that meets the needs of each patient and their families

## Patient \& Families

- Improved health outcomes
- Reduced burden on families
- Increased family functioning


## Clinicians

- Increased quality of care
- Increased patient and family satisfaction


## Healthcare Organizations

- Reduction in health care costs
- Reduction in health care utilization



## Barriers to Care Coordination

Our fragmented system of care

- Time intensive process
- No reimbursement
- No designated leader
- Lack of knowledge about available services
- Lack of staff trained to coordinate care
- Lack of standards
$48 \%$ of parents of children with special health care needs in California report not receiving effective care coordination



## Care Coordination

 Responsibility Across Our Health Care System

Our Approach:
Care Coordination

Help create and assure access to effective care coordination systems that connect children to services, facilitate service provider communications, and support families as primary caregivers.

## Pediatric Integrated Care Survey

Family Experience with the Integration of Health and Related Services


- Available in English and Spanish
- 5 Core Modules
- Access to Care
- Communication with Care Team Members
- Family Impact
- Care Goal Creation and Planning
- Team Functioning and Quality
- County programs serving CSHCN could use this tool to assess how well care is being coordinated


## Achieving a Shared Plan of Care

A Step-By-Step Approach to Developing a Comprehensive, Family-Centered and Integrated Plan


- Identify the needs and strengths of the patient and family
- Build essential partnerships
- Create the plan of care
- Implement the plan of care


## Pyramid of Complexity Tiering for CSHCN

## Aligning Services with Needs

- Share data across health care entities
- Information about social determinants of health should be included
- Rationale for tiering should be made transparent
- Tiering systems should include periodic reassessment


## Lessons from Medicare <br> Coordinating Care for CSHCN

- Identify and target specific subgroups
- Set clear goals for outcomes that are feasible in the time period
- Encourage engagement between care coordinators and primary care providers
- Require in-person contact between care coordinators and patients/families
- Facilitate information sharing
- Supplement care coordinators capabilities with those of clinical experts


## National Care Coordination System Standards

- Project in initial stages
- Key informant interviews and development of a National Work Group
- Will provide clear guidance on staffing ratios, sharing of information across systems, job training and risk assessments


## California Community Care Coordination Collaborative (5Cs)

Promoting inter-agency collaboration to improve local systems of care coordination

County Coalition Members include:

- California Children's Services
- Family Representatives
- MCAH Directors
- Medi-Cal Managed Care Organizations
- Mental Health
- Pediatric Providers
- Regional Center
- Public Health Nursing
- Special Education


## 5Cs System Work

Improving access to out-ofcounty Non-Emergency
Medical Transportation in San Joaquin County

Increasing coordination among Medi-Cal Managed Care, California
Children's Services and Regional Center to reduce wait times for incontinence supplies in Orange

## Hidden Health Care System in California Schools

As of 2014, California did not use any of its Title V funds to support school health services


- Only about one-third of CSHCN have an Individualized Education Plan, the other two-thirds may go unidentified in school
- Only $56 \%$ of school nurses reported they knew how many CSHCN were in the schools they served
- Only at entry to first grade are schools required to collect evidence of a child's health assessment - changes in status may not be reported or known by school
- County public health agencies may contract to assist with health care required during school hours



## Access to Durable Medical Equipment

"Parents of children with special health needs do not have spare time like other parents do. Not to mention that calling everyone is extremely frustrating and complicated. The job of resolving interagency billing disputes should not fall in our laps."

- Parent of CCS Child
"Most families with a child who has a disability would give anything to not need the requested equipment. It's like adding insult to injury to make it so difficult to obtain any equipment."
- from a Parent Interview


## Which service is most difficult to obtain for California CSHCN and their families?

| Service | Number of Respondents |
| :--- | :---: |
| Mental Health Care or Counseling | 15 |
| Behavioral Health Therapy Services | 10 |
| Private Duty Nursing | 6 |
| Neurology | 5 |
| Respite Care | 4 |
| Personal Care Services | 3 |
| Orthodontic Care | 3 |

## Access to Mental Health Services

Over one-third of California children who need mental health treatment fail to receive it


- CSHCN may receive mental health services from Medi-Cal Health Plans, County Mental Health Plans, Schools and/or Regional Centers
- Need for one centralized entity for initial screening and referrals for mental health concerns


## More on Care Coordination



## Holly Henry, Ph.D.

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## SUBSCRIBE TO CSHCN NEWSLETTER:

Stay informed on news, policy, research, events, and advocacy opportunities by subscribing to the newsletter from the California Advocacy Network for Children with Special Health Care Needs.

Sign up: 1 pfch.org/cshcn/join-us

## Family Engagement

 Allison Gray, MA
## In Their Own Words:

## Improving the Care Experience of Families with Children with Special Health Care Needs



- What are your children's special needs and how do these affect their health, well-being, functioning and development? How do they affect the rest of the family?
- How well are your children's needs being met? What about the system of care is working well for children and families? What is not working well?
- What specific recommendations do you have about how the system of care can better meet your children's needs?


## Family Experiences: Core Themes

Families of color, who are
non-English speaking, who have
limited education or low income
face added burdens
Families face extraordinary
additional burdens which are
largely unappreciated
Parents must serve as
advocate, case manager and
navigator because the system
is fragmented and services
are uncoordinated

| The service system is not |
| :--- |
| designed to accomodate |
| children and families |


| Children require special |
| :--- | :--- |
| \& sometimes significant |
| medical, developmental, |
| and/or other services |

Parents face grief, fear,
and uncertainty

## Family Provided Health Care

- 5.6 million children with special health care needs in the U.S. receive 1.5 billion hours of unpaid family-provided health care annually
- Parents providing this unpaid care lose out on an estimated $\$ 17.6$ billion in missed earnings annually


## - 30\% cut back or stopped working to care for their child <br> Burden on Families of CSHCN in CA <br> - 24\% report their children's conditions cause family financial problems <br> - $16 \%$ spend 11 hours or more per week coordinating care

## Family Recommendations

- Simplify eligibility and enrollment
- Broaden benefits
- Improve linkages between services
- Increase availability of respite care
- Improve access to mental health supports
- Assure family-centered care
- Improve care coordination, navigation and advocacy
- Reorganize service delivery
- Educate healthcare providers


"Fundamentally, parents feel that they don't have a voice."


## CCS Family Engagement Survey

## Initial survey of all state Title V MCH and CSHCN programs by Association of Maternal \& Child Health Programs (AMCHP)



- Survey based on previous surveys by the National Parent Resource Center (1992) and Family Voices (2002)
- Nationally, CSHCN programs had higher levels of family engagement than MCH programs
- Decentralization of CCS $\rightarrow$ separate county-level survey in California


## High Level Survey Results by County

Program Encourages or Seeks Family Input
No Response, 5


Self-Reported Effectiveness of Family Engagement Activities


## Opportunities for Family Engagement in 58 Counties



## Reported Benefits Resulting from Family Engagement



## Willingness to Learn More About Family Engagement



41 counties are interested in receiving training or information about increasing family engagement.

# Vision for <br> Family Engagement 

All public and private programs and agencies serving children and youth shall demonstrate meaningful family engagement.

## Family Engagement

The intentional practice of working with families at all levels individual, community, and policy - to achieve optimal outcomes in all aspects of health and well-being through the life course.

Assures parents and caregivers are engaged as full-partners in the planning and implementation of health care policies, programs, and individual service plans.

## Barriers

- Lack of orientation, mentoring and ongoing support to enable families to participate meaningfully
- Lack of consideration for families' schedules when setting meeting times and locations
- Lack of compensation for families' contributions and incurred costs
- Lack of guidance and protocols for engaging families
- Lack of opportunities for families to participate in program and policy planning
- Changes required in organizational culture and behaviors to engage with families



# Family Voices of California 

## Project Leadership

- Improved confidence in leadership skills
- Empowered to access more services for children
- Better prepared to advocate for their children and for systems change



## Project Leadership Trainings

## 280 Graduates

## 88 Facilitators

49 Agencies
4 States

## Graduate Activities



Serve on Groups 74\%


Contact Legislators
63\%


Provide Testimony 42\%


Interact with Media 19\%

## Build Partnerships

Family Resource Centers Network of California: frcnca.org

Family Voices of California:
familyvoicesofca.org

Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford Children's Health

- California Patient and Family Centered Care Network of Pediatric Hospitals
- State-Wide Learning Collaborative to Promote Parent Mentor Programs
- Establishing New Role for Parent Mentors as Members of Health Care Team


# Family Voices National 

- Framework for Assessing Family Engagement
- Systems Assessment Tool (FESAT) and Tool Kit
- Upcoming: Implementation/Technical Assistance for FESAT Tool


## A Framework for Assessing Family Engagement

Four Domains for Promoting Meaningful Family Engagement in the Health Care System


Visit lpfch.org/CSHCN to access publication:
A Framework for Assessing Family Engagement in Systems Change

## More on Family Engagement



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LOOK FOR US AT AMCHP 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE March 9-12 in San Antonio, TX
Introducing the FESAT: A Tool to Enhance Family Engagement in our Health Care System
Register: eventscribe.com/2019/AMCHP

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