Team-based Care Approaches to Improve Health Outcomes

FINDINGS IN BRIEF

Team-based care is evidence-based but reimbursement for behavioral health and pharmacy services is limited
Practice teams have a positive impact on chronic conditions and have evolved to integrate behavioral health and pharmacy services. Health care professionals cited lack of insurance coverage for integrated behavioral health services and medication therapy management delivered via telehealth as significant barriers to providing much-needed services to patients.

The impact of state-funded incentive programs to address primary care workforce shortages is unclear
Successful team-based care depends on a robust health workforce. Practices rated difficulty recruiting or retaining clinical staff as the top factor limiting optimal implementation. Virginia has invested state funds in multiple primary care work force incentive programs; however, the value and impact of these programs is unknown.

Practices need implementation support to transition from traditional to team-based primary care
Team-based care is cost-effective but requires up front investments in infrastructure, staffing, and training that may not be attainable for all practices. With additional resources, the existing structure of Virginia's regional Area Health Education Centers could be leveraged to provide implementation support to smaller or independently owned practices.

Current fee-for-service payment models are a barrier to team-based care sustainability
Stakeholders and survey respondents reported that the current fee-for-service payment models are a significant deterrent to sustaining team-based primary care. Virginia could support expansion of team-based care using value-based payment models with Medicaid beneficiaries.

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