



Overview of 2024 Workplan Items - Previously Approved & Newly Referred

Previously Approved Workplan Items

At the December 6, 2023, meeting JCHC members approved two comprehensive staff studies and three additional staff presentations for inclusion on the 2024 workplan. Work on these studies and presentations is already underway. Presentations are tentatively scheduled for early summer and briefings on the studies are tentatively scheduled for fall.

Studies

- **Strategies to Extend Health Care Access to Vulnerable Populations** including mobile health clinics, community paramedicine, home visiting programs, use of community health workers, and telehealth.

Expected Completion: October 2024

Workload Impact: Very High (3 FTEs)

- **Performance of Health Care Workforce Programs**

Expected Completion: September 2024

Workload Impact: Medium (1 FTE)

Presentations

- **Social determinants of health** (June 2024)
- **Services for individuals with traumatic brain injury in long term care settings** (July 2024)
- **Impact of technology on children** (July 2024)

Newly Referred Workplan Options

Three additional potential workplan items were referred to the JCHC during the 2024 Session of the General Assembly. One additional potential workplan item was sent by letter from another Commission.

Any new items added to the 2024 JCHC workplan would require either narrow scoping to allow work to be completed within the limits of existing staff resources or prioritization over an existing workplan option.

- **Policy Solutions to the Commonwealth's Fentanyl Crisis**

Source: HJ 41 (Srinivasan), approved by the General Assembly

Expected Completion: November 2025

Preliminary study objectives:

- Describe the fentanyl crisis within the context of other drug crisis and addiction trends in recent history;

- Document the impact of the rise in fentanyl prevalence and fentanyl overdoses in the Commonwealth, including the impact on the Commonwealth's health care system;
- Identify the causes of the rise in fentanyl prevalence and fentanyl overdoses in the Commonwealth; and
- Identify strategies for reducing the prevalence of fentanyl and the number of fentanyl overdoses in the Commonwealth.

Strategic Objectives: Accessibility, Equity

Workload Impact: High (2 FTEs)

➤ **Anesthesia Workforce in the Commonwealth**

Source: HB 1322 (Sickles) & SB 33 (Locke), continued to 2025 in the House Committee on Health & Human Services and Senate Committee on Education & Health and referred to the JCHC by letter

Expected Completion: No deadline provided

Preliminary study objectives:

- Understand and describe the existing anesthesia provider workforce in the Commonwealth, including types and numbers of providers, demographics, practice locations, and projected workforce shortages, if any;
- Describe supervision requirements for certified registered nurse anesthetists in the Commonwealth and other states and the impact thereof on (i) the anesthesia provider workforce and (ii) patient outcomes; and
- Describe regulatory requirements for certified anesthesiologist assistants in other states and the impact thereof on (i) the anesthesia provider workforce and (ii) patient outcomes.

Strategic Objectives: Accessibility, Quality, Equity

Workload Impact: Medium to High (1 – 2 FTEs)

➤ **Sickle Cell Disease in the Commonwealth**

Source: HJ 60 (Hayes), continued to 2025 in the House Committee on Rules and referred to JCHC by letter

Expected Completion: No deadline provided

Preliminary study objectives:

- Describe the prevalence and impact of sickle cell disease in the Commonwealth;
- Describe existing state-funded programs and services related to sickle cell disease; and
- Describe existing evidence-based treatment options for individuals with sickle cell disease and any barriers to accessing such treatment options, including treatment options for potential reproductive health challenges relating to or resulting from sickle cell disease and sickle cell treatment.

Strategic Objectives: Accessibility, Affordability, Equity

Workload Impact: Medium to High (1 – 2 FTEs)

➤ **Medicaid Program Eligibility Criteria and Options to Eliminate Medicaid Benefit Cliffs**

Source: Letter from the Virginia Disability Commission (April 29, 2024)

Expected Completion: No deadline provided

Preliminary study objectives:

- Describe eligibility requirements for each Medicaid eligibility category;
- Determine the extent to which individuals move between eligibility categories, and describe the events that trigger transitions between eligibility categories and the impact of such transitions;
- Identify strategies to reduce the impact of events that trigger transition between categories on access to services, including opportunities available under federal rules and strategies implemented in other states; and
- Identify strategies to reduce the administrative burden of disparate eligibility criteria for various eligibility categories, including burdens related to eligibility determinations.

Strategic objectives: Accessibility, Affordability, Equity

Workload Impact: High (2 FTEs)