eHealth Commission September 2022 News Highlights

Health IT/Broadband

- **(National Analysis) National Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), ONC Data Brief No. 60, Electronic Public Health Reporting & Recording of Social & Behavioral Determinants of Health Among Office-Based Physicians, 2019 (Aug 2022)-** From the ONC overview, "Using data from a nationally representative sample of physicians, this brief describes primary care and other office-based physicians' electronic public health reporting and social and behavioral determinants of health data recording capabilities and how they varied by physician and practice characteristics. This analysis offers insights into physicians' readiness to electronically support public health activities in the year prior to the pandemic; it does not report on physicians' overall levels of public health reporting—which can occur through manual, paper-based methods—nor does it reflect recent levels of electronic public health reporting which may have improved during the pandemic." [Retrieved at: https://www.healthit.gov/data/data-briefs/electronic-public-health-reporting-recording-social-behavioral-determinants-health]

- **(National Research Report) Urban Institute, Opportunities to Improve Data Interoperability and Integration to Support Value-Based Care (7/27/22)-** This report summarizes qualitative case study interviews conducted across 21 organizations to inform improvements to data integration supporting value-based care. [Retrieved* at: https://www.urban.org/research/publication/opportunities-improve-data-interoperability-and-integration-support-value]

- **(National Research Article) Daily Yonder, Report: Electronic Health Records Have Limited Influence on Reducing Costs for Rural Hospitals (8/18/22)-** This article, written by the researchers, highlights a study showing that electronic health records do not produce the same cost benefits for rural hospitals verses urban-based hospitals. A link to the published research is provided. [Retrieved at: https://dailyyonder.com/report-electronic-health-records-have-limited-influence-on-reducing-costs-for-rural-hospitals/2022/08/18/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=Center+for+Rural+Strategies&utm_campaign=d4e51ee6a3-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_08_19_03_59&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d1c8c07805-d4e51ee6a3-101181370&mc_cid=d4e51ee6a3&mc_eid=ebe4784080]

- **(Colorado-Specific Article) Government Technology, Colorado Communities Work Together to Expand Rural Broadband (8/10/22)-** This article (with webinar recording link) offers written highlights from the August 9th webinar during which members of the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments discuss Project THOR, with potential to touch 20% of the Colorado land mass. [Retrieved at: https://www.govtech.com/network/colorado-communities-work-together-to-expand-rural-broadband?utm_campaign=Newsletter%20-%20GT%20-%20GovTech%20Today&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=222463416&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--kIGZGsSg_RxKE5F0BZaVdpM_hLg9tBl2M-ULXuKlxUIS6cTrBl-8mhxu_8nM62xCFietN6KPdJsgXMGT0AmhkwL8QIX4m7MA0_yALjxkiJYVoIX48IdAJhEQONrEx_MhkyoF2&utm_content=222463416&utm_source=hs_email]

- **(National Trends) Health Care IT News, HIMSSCast: Tracking the present and future state of HIEs (7/29/22)-** In this recorded webcast, John Kansky, president and CEO of Indiana Health Information Exchange, discusses the evolution of exchanges and predicts their future direction. [Retrieved at: https://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/himsscast-tracking-present-and-future-state-hies]

Social Determinants of Health/Health Equity

- **(National Data Resource) Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), Social Determinants of Health Database**- AHRQ, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, updated its Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Database in July 2022. The database was developed to make easier finding a range of well-documented, readily linkable SDOH variables across domains without having to access multiple source files, facilitating SDOH research and analysis. [Retrieved at: https://www.ahrq.gov/sdoh/data-analytics/sdoh-data.html]

- **(Research Article) Patient Engagement HIT, Social Determinants of Health Explain Half of Racial Health Disparities (8/16/22)-** This article discusses recent research that finds that SDOH play a significant

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*All sites retrieved 9/6/22

role in racial health disparities, with links to the research and related resources. [Retrieved at: https://patientengagementhit.com/news/social-determinants-of-health-explain-half-of-racial-health-disparities]

- **(State-to-State Analysis) WalletHub, 2022's States with the Most Underprivileged Children (8/10/22)-** WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across three key dimensions to calculate each jurisdiction's overall score and ranking. Colorado ranked 41. [Retrieved at: https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-states-underprivileged-children/5403]

- **(Policy/Practice) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Social Determinants of Health Data Exchange for Chronic Disease Prevention Initiative: Public Health Use Case Package (Version 1.2) (8/10/22)-** This CDC publication presents public health priority use cases supporting the exchange of individual-level social care data for patient and population health improvements. [Retrieved at: https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__bit.ly_3AetGC0&d=DwMF-g&c=sdnEM9SRGFuMt5z5w3AhsPNahmNicq64TgF1JwNR0cs&r=BuqJ_XwT26o-xxAxWo841Tr9Hd5VROD_pclWCtVAoyl&m=iF9TGaosv-XaRA9mD2sF7TEUhaJq6GtREKE2qIJnndb72dQKVIJ8Tq1cwCycAT75&s=Tjg7hZrxL4PHcNxGY5Q5ja1IFytxHmFVRcJv9zkwz44&e=]

- **(Local Spending Analysis) The Brookings Institute, How local governments are combating economic disadvantage with American Rescue Plan funds (8/23/22)-** This article reviews the latest data from the Local Government ARPA Investment Tracker (with link to the tracker) and highlights spending trends. While Colorado municipalities are not mentioned in the article, they are captured in the tracker. [Retrieved at: https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2022/08/23/how-local-governments-are-combatting-economic-disadvantage-with-american-rescue-plan-funds/?utm_campaign=Brookings%20Brief&utm_medium=email&utm_content=223765141&utm_source=hs_email]

Medicaid

- **(National Analysis/Recommendations) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) , Office of Health Policy, Unwinding the Medicaid Continuous Enrollment Provision: Projected Enrollment Effects and Policy Approaches (8/19/22)-** ASPE released this issue brief that includes current projections resulting from the sunset of continuous enrollment provisions at the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency, along with actions underway to mitigate coverage losses. [Retrieved at: https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/404a7572048090ec1259d216f3fd617e/aspe-end-mcaid-continuous-coverage_IB.pdf?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter_axiosvitals&stream=top]

- **(Colorado-Mentioned Issue Brief) Health Management Associates (HMA), Bolstering the youth behavioral health system: Innovative state policies to address access & parity (8/16/22)-** In this issue brief, HMA reviews promising state policies to address access and parity within the youth behavioral health system. [Retrieved at: https://www.healthmanagement.com/insights/briefs-reports/bolstering-the-youth-behavioral-health-system-innovative-state-policies-to-address-access-parity/?utm_medium=email&_hsmi=223659831&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--ragF3rBZvh6EOjZuG_AuMMMBScMJrJpXwOPrZ42GBs_ff-f9Cqh0dKuYV7inWXJBYhwoU9zB1sCXl-R34VNbBxRMe8O37JPC8MBUeEz5KQn8mvQik5u4dFffi2-49vHm4q58i&utm_content=223659831&utm_source=hs_email]

- **(Federal Regulation) HHS-Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Fact sheet: Streamlining Eligibility & Enrollment Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) (8/31/22)-** This fact sheet outlines a proposed federal rule that would make it easier for millions of qualified people to enroll in and retain Medicaid coverage. It is available for a 60-day comment period. [Retrieved at: https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/streamlining-eligibility-enrollment-notice-propose-rulemaking-nprm]

Public Health

- **(Policy/Practice Recommendations) Berkley Media Studies Group (BMSG), Championing public health amid legal and legislative threats: Framing and language recommendations (8/31/22)-** Through this publication, BMSG and its partner, Real Language, offer five tips to communicate a public health message more effectively. [Retrieved at: https://www.bmsg.org/resources/publications/championing-public-health-amid-legal-and-legislative-threats-framing-and-language-recommendations/]