



Rural Hospital Participation in New Care Delivery and Payment Opportunities

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What is RHSATA?

- Rural Health System Analysis and Technical Assistance
 - Project funded by HRSA's Office of Rural Health Policy to understand and facilitate rural health transformation toward value-driven healthcare
 - Vision is to build and distribute a knowledge base through research, practice, and collaboration that helps create high performance rural health systems
- Led by University of Iowa's RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis, in partnership with Stratis Health and Washington University in St. Louis
- Project tag line: *Building knowledge through research and collaboration to effect change toward a high performance rural health system.*

Four Converging Forces in Rural Health Care

- Changes in payment policies and financing sources
- Continually evolving quality measures and expectations
- Alternative models of care to deliver services locally including from distant sources
- Regional health care affiliations

Why is RHSATA needed?

- To assist rural health leaders understand the converging forces underway in health care delivery and finance, which create new opportunities to design and strengthen local systems of care in rural America.
 - Understand how new health care delivery and financing systems affect rural communities and providers
 - Help rural providers transition to new approaches that support success in a rapidly changing environment and participate in opportunities afforded by demonstration and pilot projects
 - Contribute to transforming rural health care to a high-performance system

RHSATA Aims

- Assess rural implications and facilitate rural adaptability to changes in health care delivery, organization, and finance.
- Develop and test technical assistance tools and resources to enable rural providers and communities prepare for and take full advantage of public policy changes and private sector initiatives.
- Inform further developments in public policy and private action through dissemination of findings.

Aim 1: Assess Rural Implications

- Monitor and assess rural implications of public and private policy
- Identify demonstration or pilot projects for in-depth research
- Develop models that analyze impacts of specific health care changes on rural people, places, and providers
- Identify policies that develop, enhance, and sustain high performance rural health care

Aim 2: Develop and test tools and resources

- Develop tools and resources for rural providers and places to increase awareness, conduct assessments, and plan/implement changes
- Provide technical assistance to specific rural communities and health care providers, utilizing the tools and resources
- Create and disseminate a roadmap or toolkit that can be adapted for use in other rural places, incorporating feedback from the technical assistance experience

Aim 3: Inform and Disseminate

- Use dissemination strategies proven successful by the RUPRI Center and Stratis Health
- Provide specific consultation services as requested
- Develop new dissemination approaches that assure timely and actionable information is provided to public policy makers, health sector stakeholders, and communities

RHSATA Progress to Date

- Advisory Committee convened to offer insight and feedback
- Data analysis and taxonomy development underway to profile characteristics and demographics of rural places to model the impacts of specific health care changes on rural people, places, and providers
- Sharing insights in state and national meetings
- Basic project website launched, new design coming soon

RHSATA Progress to Date (continued)

- Technical Assistance team has developed “roadmap to value” and will soon be releasing first series of tools and resources, including:
 - Short video for rural leaders about the roadmap to value, with accompanying discussion guide
 - Series of “Rural Innovation Profiles”
 - Fact sheets on rural relevant federal demonstration projects (Frontier Extended Stay Clinics (FESC), Frontier Community Health Integration Program (F-CHIP), Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative, Shared Savings Programs/Accountable Care Organizations)

RHSATA Roadmap to Value

- **Inform**: create awareness of need for change
- **Assess**: strengths, needs, and capacity to build value
- **Prepare**: identify action based on organizational and community needs
- **Action**: change that creates value



$$\text{Value} = \frac{\text{Quality} + \text{Experience}}{\text{Cost}}$$

Collaboration that fosters
health care value
is the key



Strategies to Support Improved Value

RHSATA will provide tools and resources to:

- Measure and report performance
- Adopt and effectively use technology
- Redesign care processes
- Change organizational cultures
- Build community capacity

What can you do?

- Help us link to tools and resources you have found helpful in transforming your work and organization toward value
- Tell RHSATA about your rural health care delivery or financing innovation.
 - Go to <http://cph.uiowa.edu/RHSATA> and click on “Tell Us Your Innovation”
- Identify innovative practices or projects that may be appropriate for a “Rural Innovation Profile”
- Continue to be a leadership voice for rural health value, increasing awareness and action



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