An Early Look at Medicaid Expansion Waiver Implementation in Michigan and Indiana

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Michigan and Indiana are among the seven states using a Section 1115 demonstration waiver to implement Medicaid expansions in ways that differ from the terms of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). While each waiver is unique, Michigan and Indiana’s waivers include some similar provisions. Some of these features are not found in other waivers approved to date, although additional states have expressed interest in pursuing similar models.

This issue brief explains some of the key components in Michigan and Indiana’s waivers and presents insights based on their early implementation experiences. The findings are based on 22 in-person and telephone interviews conducted in July and August, 2016 with state officials, providers, health plans, beneficiary advocates, and enrollment assistors in Michigan and Indiana, and incorporate data and reports from the state Medicaid agencies and other publicly available sources. We also conducted four focus groups (two in each state) with beneficiaries enrolled in waiver coverage to learn about their firsthand experiences.

Key Provisions in Michigan and Indiana’s Expansion Waivers

Michigan and Indian’s expansion waivers both include provisions related to premiums, health accounts and healthy behavior incentive programs. However, the populations subject to premiums, the consequences for failure to pay, the process to effectuate coverage, and the administration of the health accounts and healthy behavior incentive programs vary considerably between the two states. The waiver in Indiana includes some additional provisions including a waiver of non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) and those that alter the effective coverage date. Both Michigan and Indiana had used Section 1115 demonstration waivers to provide limited benefit coverage to some adults prior to the ACA. Michigan provided a limited benefit package to childless adults up to 35% FPL, and Indiana provided a limited benefit package with a high deductible health account to parents and a capped number of childless adults up to 100% FPL, called HIP 1.0. Box 1 provides a description of the key provisions in the current ACA expansion waivers.
**Box 1: Description of Key Provisions in Healthy Michigan and HIP 2.0 Waivers**

**Healthy Michigan** was implemented in April 2014. Expansion adults in Michigan include working parents from 64-138% FPL, jobless parents from 37-138% FPL, and childless adults from 0-138% FPL. Additional changes for those from 100-138% will take effect in April, 2018.

- **Premiums.** Expansion adults with income from 100-138% FPL ($990-$1,366 per month for an individual in 2016) pay monthly premiums of 2% of income (about $20 to $27/month) into health accounts. Failure to pay premiums does not result in a loss of Medicaid eligibility, but past due premiums can be recouped from state income tax refunds or lottery winnings. Premium payments are due until after six months of enrollment.

- **Copayments.** Expansion adults make monthly payments into health accounts based on their average copayments, at state plan amounts, for services used in the previous six months. Failure to pay copayments does not result in a loss of Medicaid eligibility, but past due copayments can be recouped from state income tax refunds or lottery winnings.

- **Health Accounts and Healthy Behavior Incentives.** Care is provided by health plans in exchange for capitation payments. In Michigan, compliance with specified healthy behaviors results in a 50% reduction in future premiums for those above poverty and a $50 gift card for those below poverty.

Indiana’s **HIP 2.0** was modeled on Indiana’s pre-ACA coverage expansion, HIP 1.0, and implemented in February, 2015. The waiver applies to expansion adults as well as some traditional Medicaid enrollees including parents. Expansion adults include working parents from 24-138% FPL, jobless parents from 18-138% FPL, and childless adults from 0-138% FPL.

- **Premiums and Effective Coverage Date.** Premiums are 2% of income for all waiver beneficiaries (including some traditional Medicaid enrollees such as parents). Those with income from 0-5% FPL (up to $50/month in 2016) pay a flat $1.00/month. Premiums are paid into a Personal Wellness and Responsibility (POWER) health account. Non-medically frail expansion adults with income from 100-138% FPL must pay a premium to effectuate coverage; those who fail to pay premiums within 60 days are disenrolled and locked out of coverage for six months. Coverage for expansion adults from 0-100% FPL does not begin until payment of a premium or the expiration of the 60-day premium payment period. Expansion adults from 0-100% FPL who fail to pay premiums within 60 days are moved to a more limited benefit package (HIP Basic, without dental and vision benefits and with more limited prescription drug coverage) and incur point-of-service copayments. Traditional Medicaid enrollees who do not pay premiums are guaranteed state plan benefits. Policies including the Fast Track premium pre-payment option and an expanded presumptive eligibility program are intended to help reduce delays in effectuating coverage.

- **Copayments.** Expansion adults with incomes below poverty who fail to pay premiums receive the more limited benefit package and must make point of service copayments. HIP 2.0 authorizes a two-year demonstration to test whether graduated copayments ($8 for first visit and $25 for subsequent visits in the same year) discourage non-emergency use of the ER.

- **Health Accounts and Healthy Behavior Incentives.** In Indiana, health plans provide care after exhausting the $2,500 POWER account deductible (funded by the state and beneficiary premiums). Beneficiaries who pay premiums and / or receive preventive services can rollover a portion of their share of the unused POWER account balance at the end of the year to apply to the next year’s premiums.

- **Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT).** Indiana received a time-limited waiver of the responsibility to provide NEMT to non-medically frail expansion adults, which CMS extended through the end of the demonstration.¹

- **Gateway to Work.** Indiana offers a voluntary state-funded work referral program, which is not part of the HIP 2.0 waiver terms and conditions.
Key Insights From Early Implementation of Michigan and Indiana Waivers

Five key insights emerge from an early look at Michigan and Indiana’s Medicaid expansion waivers.

1. **Medicaid expansion design, whether through state plan authority or waivers, is highly dependent on the features of a state’s underlying Medicaid program.** Michigan and Indiana both had implemented limited adult coverage expansions through waivers prior to the ACA, and these expansions along with the states’ pre-existing Medicaid delivery systems influenced the structure and design of their post-ACA waivers. Michigan incorporated its pre-existing capitated managed care delivery system into Healthy Michigan, while Indiana modified its pre-existing high deductible health account model under HIP 2.0. Regardless of whether a state adopts a traditional expansion or uses a waiver, expanding Medicaid can result in substantial reductions in the uninsured and increased access to needed health care.

2. **Implementation of complex programs involves collaboration with a variety of stakeholders, sophisticated IT systems, and administrative costs.** Both states’ waivers apply different rules based on differences in beneficiary income, health status, or other characteristics, which require time and resources to track. Challenges with information exchange between the state, health plans, and providers have created some confusion and delays in effectuating coverage in Indiana. Timely and accurate data about various beneficiary characteristics, such as income level, medical frailty, and healthy behavior status, will trigger different policies and delivery systems under the 2018 changes for those from 100-138% FPL in Michigan’s waiver, thus taking on increasing importance for the state and beneficiaries there.

3. **Premium costs and complex enrollment policies can deter eligible people from enrolling in coverage.** Particularly for very low-income populations, even very low premiums may be unaffordable, and the cost of making payments (i.e., purchasing a money order) may add increased financial strain as well as a barrier. Policies in Indiana that tie the start of the coverage period to making a payment can be a further impediment, deterring some eligible people from enrolling. In addition, assessing the affordability of premiums in Indiana is challenging because it is difficult to track and adjust premium payment amounts for populations with frequent changes in income and to track how many individuals receive help from third parties to pay premiums.

4. **Health accounts can be confusing for beneficiaries.** Beneficiaries in our focus groups as well as advocates and providers in both states did not demonstrate a clear understanding of the policies associated with these models. This feedback shows that these models are hard to understand even in Indiana, a state with long-standing experience with health accounts.

5. **Beneficiary and provider education and tangible incentives appear central to implementing healthy behavior incentive programs.** Beneficiaries in both states indicated that gift cards that could be used immediately to purchase needed items were more appealing rewards than decreased cost-sharing amounts in the future, which is understandable, given the low incomes and precarious financial situation of many beneficiaries and the complicated formulas to calculate future cost-sharing reductions. To date, it is too early to determine if health accounts and healthy behavior incentives can change behavior, lead to more efficient use of health care services, and improve health outcomes, but these items hopefully will be assessed in the formal waiver evaluations.
Looking ahead from a national perspective, it is not yet clear what role Section 1115 Medicaid expansion waivers will play as the new Administration and Congress move to repeal the ACA and debate possible broader changes to Medicaid financing such as a block grant or per capita cap. Repeal of the ACA would remove the statutory authority to cover expansion adults and the associated federal financing. However, given that some other states have expressed interest in pursuing Medicaid expansion waivers with components similar to those in Michigan and Indiana, it is important to understand the administrative framework and early implementation challenges and successes of the models being tested in Michigan and Indiana as more formal evaluations are conducted.
Introduction

Michigan and Indiana are among the seven states using a Section 1115 demonstration waiver to implement Medicaid expansions in ways that differ from the terms of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The ACA expands Medicaid to nearly all non-elderly adults with income up to 138% of the federal poverty level (FPL, $16,394 per year for an individual in 2016), as of January, 2014, although the Supreme Court’s ruling on the ACA’s constitutionality effectively made the expansion optional for states. The law also provides 100% federal funding for the expansion through 2016, declining gradually to 90% in 2020 and thereafter. Twenty-five of the 32 states adopting the Medicaid expansion as of December, 2016 have done so through traditional state plan authority, as envisioned by the ACA, with the Obama Administration approving waivers in the remaining seven states.

While each waiver is unique, Michigan and Indiana’s waivers include some similar provisions. Appendix Table 1 lists the specific waiver authorities granted in each state. Some of these features are not found in other waivers approved to date, although additional states have expressed interest in pursuing similar models. This issue brief explains key components of Michigan and Indiana’s waivers and presents findings based on the two states’ early implementation experiences. The findings are based on 22 in-person and telephone interviews conducted in July and August, 2016 with state officials, providers, health plans, beneficiary advocates, and enrollment assistors in Michigan and Indiana, and incorporate data and reports from the state Medicaid agencies and other publicly available sources. We also conducted four focus groups (two in each state) with beneficiaries enrolled in waiver coverage to learn about their firsthand experiences.

What are the Key Provisions in Michigan and Indiana’s Medicaid Expansion Waivers?

Michigan and Indiana’s waivers both include provisions related to premiums, health accounts, and healthy behavior incentive programs. However, the populations subject to premiums, the consequences for failure to pay, the process to effectuate coverage, and the administration of the health accounts and healthy behavior incentive programs vary considerably between the two states.

Programs in Place Prior to Medicaid Expansion

To understand Michigan and Indiana’s waivers, it is important to also understand the scope of Medicaid coverage in these states before they implemented the ACA’s Medicaid expansion. Under federal law before the ACA, adults without dependent children only could be covered through Section 1115 demonstrations, which required states to achieve savings in other areas so that federal Medicaid matching funds could be used to expand coverage. The ACA creates a new eligibility pathway and authorizes federal matching funds for these adults, eliminating the need for waiver authority and budget savings to provide coverage. Prior to 2014, Michigan and Indiana both had established limited coverage expansions through Section 1115 waivers: Michigan provided a limited benefit package to childless adults up to 35% FPL, and Indiana provided a limited benefit package with a high deductible health account to parents and a capped number of childless adults up to 100% FPL, called HIP 1.0.
PREMIUMS AND EFFECTIVE COVERAGE DATE

Under federal law, Medicaid beneficiaries with income below 150% FPL cannot be charged premiums, and premium payments cannot be required to effectuate coverage. Instead, coverage is effective as of the application date with retroactive coverage for medical bills incurred up to 90 days prior to application. Michigan and Indiana both obtained waiver authority to impose premiums on beneficiaries with income from 100-138% FPL, and Indiana obtained additional waiver authorities to alter the effective date of coverage.

MICHIGAN

In Michigan, expansion adults with income from 100-138% FPL ($990-$1,366 per month for an individual in 2016) pay monthly premiums of 2% of income (about $20 to $27/month) into health accounts (Figure 1). Failure to pay premiums does not result in a loss of Medicaid eligibility, but past due premiums can be recouped from state income tax refunds or lottery winnings. Michigan’s application and enrollment process was not changed by its waiver. Beneficiaries can enroll in coverage after being determined eligible, and no premium payments are due until after six months of enrollment (Figure 2). Additionally, Michigan applies the federal rule that provides for coverage of medical bills incurred up to 90 days prior to Medicaid eligibility.

INDIANA

In Indiana, premiums are 2% of income for all beneficiaries under the waiver, except that those with incomes from 0-5% FPL (up to $50/month in 2016) pay a flat $1.00/month (which is greater than 2% of income for those below 5% FPL) (Figure 3). Premiums are paid into a Personal Wellness and Responsibility (POWER) health account.6

Non-medically frail expansion adults with incomes from 100-138% FPL must pay a premium to effectuate coverage, and those who fail to pay premiums within 60 days are disenrolled and locked out of coverage for six months. Coverage for expansion adults from 0-100% FPL does not begin until payment of a premium or the expiration of the 60-day premium payment period. Expansion adults from 0-100% FPL who fail to pay premiums within 60 days are moved to a more limited benefit package (HIP Basic, without dental and vision benefits and with more limited prescription drug coverage) and incur point-of-service copayments. Unlike in traditional Medicaid, there is no retroactive coverage for expansion adults.
Unlike Michigan, some traditional Medicaid populations also are covered under Indiana’s waiver. These include mandatory parents (whose eligibility is based on income thresholds associated with the former AFDC cash assistance program under Section 1931), 19 and 20 year olds, and those who are moving from welfare to work and eligible for Transitional Medical Assistance). These groups can choose whether to pay monthly premiums or point-of-service copayments; in either case, they receive the traditional Medicaid state plan benefit package (with vision and dental) instead of the more limited HIP Basic benefit package for expansion adults from 0-100% FPL who do not pay premiums. Coverage for these groups begins with payment of a premium or after the expiration of the 60-day premium payment period (Figure 4).

There are policies in Indiana’s waiver intended to help reduce delays in effectuating coverage, including the Fast Track premium pre-payment option (Figure 5) and an expanded presumptive eligibility program (Figure 6). In addition, the prior claims payment program seeks to control the impact of the elimination of retroactive eligibility on traditional adults who are subject to the waiver and have incurred medical bills within the three months prior to application.
COPAYMENTS

Federal law allows states to charge nominal copayments for certain services, including up to $8 per visit for non-emergency ER use, and all Medicaid cost-sharing is subject to a cap of 5% of family income. In Michigan, all expansion adults make monthly payments into health accounts based on their average copayments, at state plan amounts, for services used in the previous six months. Failure to pay copayments does not result in a loss of Medicaid eligibility, but past due copayments can be recouped from state income tax refunds or lottery winnings. In Indiana, those who pay premiums only have copayments for non-emergency use of the ER. Expansion adults with incomes from 0-100% FPL who fail to pay premiums receive the more limited benefit package and must make point of service copayments. HIP 2.0 also includes a two-year demonstration to test whether graduated copayments ($8 for first visit and $25 for subsequent visits in the same year) discourage non-emergency use of the ER.

HEALTH ACCOUNTS AND HEALTHY BEHAVIOR INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

Both Indiana and Michigan have provisions in their waivers related to health accounts. Traditional health savings accounts are linked with high deductible health plans and allow individuals to contribute tax-free funds that can be used to cover medical expenses. The health accounts in Indiana and Michigan’s waivers do not have all of these features. For example, beneficiary contributions are not pre-tax, and beneficiaries receive medically necessary care from capitated Medicaid health plans without regard to a traditional deductible. In Michigan, all care is provided by health plans in exchange for capitation payments. In Indiana, health plans provide care in exchange for capitation payments once the deductible funds are exhausted, and most of the $2,500 deductible is funded by the state with the remainder funded by beneficiary premiums. Michigan requires its health plans to contract with a single third party vendor to administer the accounts, while the accounts are administered directly by the health plans in Indiana.

Both Michigan and Indiana also have healthy behavior incentive programs. In Michigan, compliance with specified healthy behaviors results in a 50% reduction in future premiums for those above poverty and a $50 gift card for those below poverty. All beneficiaries who comply with healthy behaviors have future monthly copayments in excess of 2% of income reduced (Figure 7). In Indiana, beneficiaries who pay premiums timely can rollover their share of the unused POWER account balance at the end of the year to apply to the next year’s premiums. The rollover balance is doubled by the state for those who receive certain preventive services as a healthy behavior reward. Those who have not paid premiums but receive preventive services can rollover account funds to apply to 50% of the amount of the next year’s premiums (Figure 8).
**Other Key Provisions in Indiana’s Waiver**

**Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT).** Indiana received a time-limited waiver of the responsibility to provide NEMT to non-medically frail expansion adults, which CMS subsequently extended through the end of the demonstration. Medically frail expansion adults and mandatory parents, 19 and 20 year olds, and those eligible for Transitional Medicaid Assistance receive NEMT.

**Medically Frail Beneficiaries.** Under federal law, beneficiaries who are determined to be medically frail must have access to the traditional Medicaid state plan benefit package and cannot be required to enroll in an alternative benefit plan (ABP). An ABP allows states to design a benefit package based on the contents of certain private health plans, which may vary from the traditional Medicaid benefit package. Expansion adults receive an ABP, although states must provide medically frail beneficiaries with access to traditional Medicaid benefits to the extent they differ from the ABP. In Indiana, medically frail beneficiaries also are exempt from the lock-out for failure to pay premiums, and they must receive NEMT. Michigan currently does not vary program rules based on medical frailty status but will do so when waiver amendments applicable to beneficiaries from 100-138% FPL take effect in April, 2018.

**Gateway to Work.** Indiana offers a voluntary state-funded work referral program, which is not part of the HIP 2.0 waiver terms and conditions. To date, HHS has not approved waiver requests that would require work as a condition of Medicaid eligibility.
Key Findings

**WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS FOR COVERAGE AND ACCESS UNDER MICHIGAN AND INDIANA’S WAIVERS?**

Like other states that have expanded Medicaid, Michigan and Indiana experienced reductions in the number of uninsured residents and large gains in Medicaid enrollment. Between 2013 and 2015, the uninsured rate fell by 7.7 percentage points in Michigan, and 7.2 percentage points in Indiana, both larger than the national average decrease of 6.1 percentage points and the 6.7 percentage point decrease in all Medicaid expansion states. Along with reductions in the uninsured, Michigan and Indiana both experienced large increases in Medicaid enrollment, as expected by the coverage expansion. There are over 650,000 beneficiaries enrolled in Healthy Michigan as of December 2016, and nearly 390,000 beneficiaries enrolled in HIP 2.0 in Indiana as of October, 2016. Indiana and Michigan both reported that they reached or exceeded enrollment targets shortly after implementation. Michigan and Indiana each transferred about 60,000 beneficiaries from their pre-ACA expansions to waiver coverage. Indiana also transferred nearly 70,000 non-expansion adults, including mandatory parents, 19 and 20 year olds, and those receiving Transitional Medicaid Assistance as they transition from welfare to work, to HIP 2.0 waiver coverage.

Both states are experiencing some issues with the streamlined enrollment processes and renewals required by the ACA, which are not unique to their waivers. In Michigan, eligibility determinations can be processed within one day; however, individuals with more complex income situations, such as self-employed or seasonal workers, can experience waits. In Indiana, those who were enrolled in the state’s pre-ACA expansion seemed to transition smoothly to HIP 2.0, but new Medicaid applicants often appeared to experience a harder time with HIP 2.0 enrollment. Many Indiana beneficiaries, advocates, and enrollment assisters reported waiting 30 to 45 days to receive an eligibility determination, and some reported waits of 8 to 10 months. In both states, renewal notices were described as confusing, leading some eligible beneficiaries to lose coverage at renewal. To help retain eligible beneficiaries in coverage, Michigan is working to implement a passive renewal process, and Indiana began its passive renewal process in June, 2015.

Beneficiaries were able to access needed health care services with their new Medicaid coverage, although challenges remain in certain areas. Many people who gained coverage in both states previously had been uninsured or had sporadic periods of coverage, leaving them without reliable access to primary care. Others previously had employer-sponsored coverage that they found unaffordable. Participants in our focus groups reported that obtaining Medicaid gave them peace of mind along with the ability to address health problems and access needed services, including primary, preventive and specialist care, mental health services, dental care, and prescription drugs. These observations are supported by Michigan state data showing that beneficiaries could get appointments and access care. There were some reports of beneficiaries in both states encountering challenges accessing certain services, including dental and behavioral health, similar to other states and at least partially attributed to pent-up demand by those who were previously uninsured. These access issues were reported as more pronounced in rural areas.
WHAT IS THE EFFECT OF PREMIUMS IN MICHIGAN AND INDIANA?

MICHIGAN

Although Michigan beneficiaries cannot be disenrolled from coverage or denied services for failure to pay premiums, some have had their state income tax refunds garnished. The state began charging premiums in October, 2014. From October, 2014 through July, 2016, about 38% of beneficiaries who owed premiums had paid them, resulting in collection of 31% of premiums owed (about $4.7 million out of $15.5 million). A Michigan state report to CMS noted that some beneficiaries calling the help line about their quarterly health account statements reported an inability to pay amounts owed. As of July, 2016, over 112,000 Michigan beneficiaries owed past due premiums or copayments, but only about 44,200 (less than 40%) of these were in “consistent failure to pay” status, subjecting them to garnishment. Beneficiaries reach “consistent failure to pay” status when they have not paid premiums and/or copayments within three consecutive months and owe at least $50 or when they have not paid at least half of their total premiums and copayments billed in the last year. The state recovered over $207,000 from about 2,150 tax refund intercepts and an additional $380 from six lottery winners from October 2014 through October 2016.

Beneficiary advocates and enrollment assisters in Michigan noted that money order fees could sometimes equal or exceed the amount of premiums or copayments owed. Money orders are a common form of payment for those without bank accounts or credit cards. Of those making payments in Michigan, 71% are sending payments through the mail as of July 2016. Unlike Indiana, credit cards are not accepted as a form of payment in Michigan, although some beneficiary advocates preferred this policy as they saw it as preventing beneficiaries from accumulating consumer debt for health care costs that they could not afford. Other payment challenges reported by Michigan beneficiaries included lack of money or competing demands due to family caregiving responsibilities, joblessness, disability, and hospitalization.

INDIANA

More than one-third (37%) of HIP 2.0 enrollees with incomes below poverty were not paying monthly premiums and therefore were enrolled in HIP Basic, the more limited benefit package with point-of-service copayments, as of October, 2016 (Figure 9). The consequences for failing to pay premiums vary by income in Indiana (Figure 2). The large majority (86%) of HIP 2.0 beneficiaries have incomes below poverty, and as of October, 2016, 63% of these beneficiaries were paying monthly premiums to enroll in HIP Plus, the expanded benefit package with dental and vision benefits and without point-of-service copayments.

Figure 9

HIP 2.0 Enrollment by Income and Benefit Package as of October, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income ≤100% FPL</th>
<th>Total HIP 2.0 Enrollment = 389,205 beneficiaries</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income &gt;100% FPL</td>
<td>HIP Basic 37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIP Plus 63%</td>
<td>Total Enrolled ≤100% FPL = 335,150 beneficiaries</td>
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NOTE: All beneficiaries > 100% FPL are enrolled in HIP Plus.

To date, a limited number of Indiana beneficiaries with income above poverty have been locked out of coverage for failure to pay monthly premiums. Approximately 14% of HIP 2.0 enrollees have income above poverty and therefore are subject to disenrollment and a 6-month coverage lock-out for failure to pay monthly premiums after a 60-day grace period. Between August and October, 2016, 4,621 HIP 2.0 beneficiaries were disenrolled and locked out of coverage for six months for failing to pay premiums. Based on the state’s enrollment data, this represents about 8.5% of beneficiaries with incomes above poverty.

“...You have to sit out for six months and pray you don’t get sick for six months.” – Indiana Medicaid Enrollee

However, individuals at all income levels in Indiana thought the lock-out applied to them. This belief was reported by beneficiaries in our focus groups as well as advocates and providers interviewed in Indiana, and may be due to the fact that under Indiana’s pre-ACA waiver (HIP 1.0), beneficiaries at all income levels were subject to disenrollment and a 12-month lock-out for failure to pay premiums.

More than half of HIP 2.0 beneficiaries are assessed the flat minimum premium of $1.00 per month. Those with income from 0-5% FPL pay flat $1.00 monthly premiums to access HIP Plus benefits, instead of paying premiums at 2% of income. A large share of HIP 2.0 enrollees (51.5%) are reported by the state as having income between 0-5% FPL (up to about $50 per month for an individual in 2016) as of July, 2016. The high share of individuals in this group may be due to the administrative challenges of having to track and re-adjust premium amounts based on changes in income in a population that experiences frequent income fluctuations.

Data may be understating the number of HIP 2.0 beneficiaries receiving financial assistance to pay premiums. As of January 2016, 124 employers and 75 non-profit organization are recognized by the state as third parties making premium payments on behalf of 131 and 1,244 beneficiaries, respectively (less than 1% of beneficiaries). However, beneficiary advocates, health center staff, and enrollment assistors report that many more beneficiaries receive financial assistance than are reflected in the data and observed that family, friends, churches, and community-based organizations often are paying premiums for beneficiaries through informal arrangements that are not reflected in the state data. The state acknowledges that its data are limited to entities that have a formal arrangement with health plans as a third party payer. A 2015 state survey of HIP 2.0 beneficiaries found that 30% of those paying premiums to receive the enhanced HIP Plus benefit package reported receiving help with premiums as opposed to paying on their own. Among those who reported receiving help, 86% said they had help from a family member, and 25% said they had help from a friend (respondents could report more than one source of help).

Indiana health centers, enrollment assisters, and beneficiary advocates reported that premiums presented affordability barriers, especially for those with the lowest income. These interviewees reported affordability issues especially for people with no or very low income and those who are homeless. Previous research has shown that premiums act as barriers to obtaining and maintaining coverage for those with low incomes.
**What is the Effect of Changes in the Effective Coverage Date in Indiana?**

Under Indiana’s waiver, the requirement that individuals pay an initial premium before HIP Plus coverage is effective means that some people above poverty who are otherwise eligible for coverage do not enroll, and some applicants below poverty may experience waits of up to 60 days in effectuating coverage. Under HIP 2.0, there are two steps in the enrollment process that may postpone coverage (Figure 4). There is a period of time between the application and the conditional eligibility determination, and then an additional period from conditional eligibility to enrollment in coverage. Beneficiaries who have been determined otherwise eligible for HIP 2.0 but have not made their first premium payment are considered “conditionally eligible” for 60 days.

In July, 2016, 6% of those determined otherwise eligible for HIP 2.0 were considered conditionally eligible and need to pay their premium or for those at or below 100% FPL, wait for the 60-day payment period to expire to obtain coverage. The remaining individuals were enrolled in HIP Plus or HIP Basic coverage (Figure 10). The interim waiver evaluation prepared for the state noted that the number of conditionally eligible people may be as high as 30,000 during any given month and estimated that approximately two-thirds of conditionally eligible applicants eventually enroll in coverage by the end of the 60-day payment period, either by paying a premium to enroll, or for those from 0-100% FPL, defaulting to the Basic benefit package due to non-payment after 60 days, leaving approximately one-third eligible but unenrolled.

The “Fast Track” premium pre-payment option and expanded presumptive eligibility policies were adopted to safeguard against lengthy delays in effectuating coverage in Indiana, but beneficiaries, advocates, and enrollment assisters reported administrative complexity and confusion with these options. HIP 2.0 applicants could make the $10 Fast Track pre-payment by mail beginning in March 2015 (after they received an invoice from their selected health plan) and online by credit or debit card at the time of application beginning in June 2015. According to state data, 18% of total HIP 2.0 ever-enrolled members made Fast Track payments as of January 2016. However, some enrollment assisters and beneficiaries reported that Fast Track payments were lost or not showing up in the health plans’ IT systems leading to lags in effectuating coverage. Health plans do not process online Fast Track payments until the Medicaid eligibility determination is received from the state, and there have been issues with that information transfer process, generating confusion for providers, plans, and beneficiaries about coverage status. Some beneficiaries reported receiving Fast Track invoices from multiple health plans and difficulty having a payment they had made applied to their selected plan.

**Between August and October, 2016, nearly 25,000 people were determined presumptively eligible for HIP 2.0,** although some beneficiary advocates and providers reported that beneficiaries may encounter difficulty accessing care during that period. Beneficiary advocates and
providers noted particular challenges with presumptively eligible beneficiaries attempting to fill prescriptions, which they attributed to IT system issues that can take 24 hours to transfer a beneficiary’s coverage status to health plans. To date, not all eligible providers are enrolled in the presumptive eligibility program, and not all enrolled providers are submitting presumptive eligibility applications. In addition, just under 42% of presumptively eligible beneficiaries were approved for full Medicaid between August and October 2016; while this rate has improved, it remains unclear whether the denials are due to procedural reasons, such as missing documentation to verify eligibility, or because the applicants are in fact ineligible. One study of a small sample of individuals suggests that procedural denials accounted for the large majority of those who did not move from presumptive eligibility to full coverage.

**Some HIP 2.0 beneficiaries are incurring medical bills that are eligible for Indiana’s prior claims reimbursement program.** This program was implemented in August, 2015, as a condition of the waiver of three months of retroactive coverage. The prior claims payment program applies to mandatory parents, 19 and 20 year olds, and those who receive Transitional Medicaid Assistance who have incurred medical bills within the 90 days prior to their Medicaid application date. Indiana reported that over 10% of beneficiaries eligible for the prior claims payment program as of October, 2015, had incurred retroactive bills (628 out of 5,950 beneficiaries). Indiana proposed discontinuing the prior claims payment program, but CMS denied this request in July 2016, noting that 13.9% of beneficiaries eligible for the program incurred costs averaging $1,561 per person based on the latest data available. CMS will allow the state to discontinue the prior claims payment program when 5% of beneficiaries qualify.

**WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF COPAYMENT POLICIES IN MICHIGAN AND INDIANA?**

**Beneficiaries in our focus groups did not understand the design of Michigan’s waiver that replaces point of service copayments with monthly payments based on past service use.** Some beneficiaries in our focus groups reported that they preferred the predictability of having a set monthly payment amount, while others preferred paying the amount due at the point-of-service. The state implemented the monthly copayments in October 2014. Between October, 2014 and July, 2016, about 37% (about 180,000 out of 486,000) of those who owed co-payments had paid, resulting in collection of 36% (about $1.3 million out of $3.5 million) of co-payments owed. This may indicate the need for further beneficiary education about what the payments are and how they are determined.

**Having a predictable and affordable monthly cost was seen by Indiana beneficiaries in our focus groups as preferable to incurring copayments for individual services, which can be burdensome for those who have multiple prescriptions or doctor visits in a month.** For those with the lowest incomes who are assessed flat $1.00 monthly premiums and who have multiple medical appointments and/or prescriptions, it is often less expensive to pay the $12 annual premiums instead of point-of-service copayments in Indiana. Because point-of-service copayments are $4 for outpatient visits for non-preventive care and preferred prescription drugs and $8 for non-prescription drugs, a beneficiary with more than a couple of office visits and/or prescriptions can incur $12 or more in copayments in a month as opposed to paying $12 for an entire year of HIP Plus premiums at $1.00 per month. Advocates and enrollment assisters reported that beneficiaries appeared to be more motivated to pay monthly premiums based on the opportunity
to avoid point-of-service copayments than by the ability to obtain additional benefits like vision and dental available in HIP Plus, although those services were cited as valued by beneficiaries as well.

**Because it has not yet been fully implemented, it is too early to assess the impact of Indiana’s separate waiver authority to impose graduated copayments for non-emergency use of the ER.**

Indiana was approved to implement graduated ER copayments in February, 2016, and as of April, 2016, health plans were identifying beneficiaries to enroll in the ER copay demonstration. Between July and September 2016, about 23% of emergency room visits among all HIP 2.0 beneficiaries were deemed non-emergent by the health plans (nearly 33,000 out of just over 141,000 total ER visits). Even without the graduated ER copayments, Indiana reports that HIP beneficiaries historically have used the emergency room for non-emergent uses less often than traditional Medicaid beneficiaries in Indiana. At least one interviewee noted that there were some long-term benefits that could result from a non-emergent ER visit in terms of connecting people to coverage because some people who are eligible for HIP 2.0 enrolled in coverage via a presumptive eligibility determination in an emergency department.

**What has been the effect of Health Accounts in Michigan and Indiana?**

**Beneficiaries, their advocates, and providers interviewed for this report in both states expressed confusion about the purpose and use of health accounts and the associated account statements.** Beneficiaries described the account statements as long and complicated. Enrollment assisters and providers (especially community health centers) reported that beneficiaries had a lot of questions about their health accounts. This is consistent with findings from a state evaluation of Healthy Michigan beneficiaries showing that many did not understand how premiums and copayments are calculated, and most did not see any relationship between the account statement and their health-related behaviors including service costs. Michigan is revising its account statements based on stakeholder recommendations to use consistent terminology, define key terms such as health risk assessment and healthy behavior reward, refer to the dollar amount maximum instead of the 5% of income cap on out-of-pocket costs, use the term “discount” to describe healthy behavior incentives, and shorten and simplify language.

In Indiana, beneficiaries were confused about the purpose of the POWER accounts, and many do not understand that their POWER account debit card was intended to be used at the point of service so that the provider could be reimbursed by the state. Some thought that the $2,500 deductible in the POWER account represented a cap on services, which could inhibit, rather than encourage the receipt of necessary preventive services.

**Some health plan interviewees in both states reported administrative burdens associated with the health accounts.** In Michigan, health plans noted high administrative costs to collect payments and differentiate payment requirements by beneficiary income. The plans also expressed interest in more flexibility around administering the accounts; for example, they would prefer to have a choice of vendor rather than being required to use the single vendor selected by the state. In addition, health plans would rather devote more resources and attention to achieving cost savings through providing care management to high utilizers instead of the state-required healthy behavior program.
In Indiana, the POWER account debit card was seen as an administrative burden by some provider interviewees. Not all providers have the technology to use it, and some that can may choose not to do so and instead use the traditional billing and reimbursement process. Although the POWER account debit card provides faster reimbursement, providers noted that those payments are at a discounted rate, and they would prefer to receive the full reimbursement rate even if that means waiting longer for payment. Additionally, providers explained that they may not know all of the services to be received and the associated billing codes before the appointment begins so they cannot correctly process the POWER account debit card at patient check-in.

“They send me a little credit card. . . I don't know how that works.” – Indiana Medicaid Enrollee

“When I get those statements...I’m not really understanding what it’s all about... I mean you're seeing all your services, but I really don't understand the POWER account, what it’s all about and so on. It's hard to understand.” – Indiana Medicaid Enrollee

What Effect Have Healthy Behavior Incentives Had in Michigan and Indiana?

Few beneficiaries to date have completed the health risk assessment (HRA) process that is required for Michigan’s healthy behavior program, but those that do go on to select a healthy behavior to maintain or address to earn a reward. As of September, 2016, just over 16% of Healthy Michigan beneficiaries enrolled in a health plan for at least six months had completed an HRA. There is some concern that beneficiaries who are auto-assigned to a health plan may not be aware of or participate in the HRA process because most beneficiaries complete the initial HRA questions with the enrollment broker when they choose a plan. As of September 2016, 42% of Healthy Michigan beneficiaries were auto-assigned to a health plan. Between October and December 2015, none of the Healthy Michigan plans met or exceeded the state performance measure (20%) for timely completion of an HRA within 150 days of enrollment. However, a state survey of primary care providers found that 79% had completed at least one HRA with a patient, with most completing more than 10, and most providers thought that financial incentives for patients and practices had at least a little influence on HRA completion, although just over half thought that patients’ interest in addressing health risks had at least as much influence.
Of the over 121,000 beneficiaries who have been enrolled in a health plan for at least six months and completed an HRA in Michigan as of September, 2016, 99% agreed to address or maintain a healthy behavior, and 60% agreed to address more than one healthy behavior. The largest share of beneficiaries selecting a healthy behavior through September, 2016 chose weight loss (66%) either alone or in combination with another healthy behavior, followed by chronic condition follow-up (43%), immunizations (40%), and tobacco cessation (37%) (Figure 11). Compliance with healthy behavior incentives in Michigan will become more important beginning in April 2018, when failure to comply will result in enrollment in a Marketplace Qualified Health Plan with Medicaid premium assistance, instead of Medicaid managed care, for beneficiaries from 100-138% FPL under the terms of Michigan’s amended waiver.

As of July, 2016, data were not yet available about health account rollover funds in Indiana. Beneficiaries need to be enrolled for a year before they are eligible to receive the HIP 2.0 healthy behavior reward. As a result, few Indiana beneficiaries, advocates, or providers in our focus groups and interviews were aware of how the HIP 2.0 healthy behavior incentive program works.

“I mean… everybody wants to be healthy… and if you have some kind of incentive like oh, at the end… I’m getting $50, you know you can always use $50. So yeah, I think it’s a good incentive.” – Michigan Medicaid Enrollee

“I got a $50 gift card because I got my blood pressure down and my cholesterol down. And that… made everybody happy…but other than that I think it’s just about… going to see the doctor, getting your blood[work] done… It’s just like putting oil in your car, you know you’ve got to do something.” – Michigan Medicaid Enrollee

In both states it is unclear if a deferred benefit is an adequate incentive to participate in a healthy behavior program. As of July, 2016, nearly 86,000 Healthy Michigan beneficiaries have received gift cards, just over 39,000 have received a 50% reduction in premiums, and just under 23,000 have received a 50% reduction in copayments. A survey of Healthy Michigan beneficiaries found that nearly 40% “agreed that information about healthy behavior rewards helped them do something they might not have done otherwise.” In our focus groups, many participants had received gift cards, and one participant was aware of receiving a reduction in his cost-sharing amount. Beneficiaries noted that the more immediate receipt of the gift card, as opposed to a future reduction in cost-sharing amounts, was a greater incentive to complete the healthy behavior program requirements. While not offered by the state, some HIP 2.0 health plans offer gift cards as an incentive for complying with the plan’s own healthy behavior program, and beneficiaries in our focus groups reported liking and being motivated by those more immediate and tangible rewards. The future premium and cost-sharing reductions in Michigan and the roll-over of the POWER account funds in Indiana appeared to be less of an incentive compared to the gift card.
**What effect have Other waiver Provisions had in Indiana?**

“Medically frail” status in Indiana is viewed as an important beneficiary protection by beneficiary advocates and providers, but the current process may not identify all who qualify. As of July, 2016, just over 12% of beneficiaries enrolled in HIP 2.0 were identified as medically frail. There were some reports of lags in processing medical frailty determinations and concerns that the software does not recognize those who qualify based on substance use disorder because those services previously were not covered by Medicaid and therefore do not show up in claims history data. Beneficiary advocates and providers emphasized the importance of allowing providers to bring a beneficiary’s treatment history to the health plan’s attention, and at least one plan allows its caseworkers to identify beneficiaries as medically frail based on health issues that are not yet showing up in the claims history. Michigan currently does not vary program rules based on medical frailty status but will have to come up with a process to do so when its waiver changes for those from 100-138% FPL take effect in April, 2018.

While Indiana’s evaluation found that the availability of NEMT did not affect whether beneficiaries miss medical appointments due to a lack of transportation, community health centers and beneficiary advocates shared anecdotal concerns about negative impacts of Indiana’s NEMT waiver on access to care. The state’s evaluation asked beneficiaries if they had missed an appointment only if they first reported that they had scheduled an appointment; it did not ask whether beneficiaries had not scheduled a needed appointment due to a lack of transportation. The evaluation also found that those with income at or below 100% FPL were more likely to cite transportation as a reason for missing an appointment, compared to those with higher incomes. This also was true for those with higher risk scores, reflecting more severe health needs, compared to those with lower risk scores. Health centers and other community-based organizations reported helping beneficiaries with transportation to medical appointments by providing bus tokens and taxi vouchers.

**To date, there has not been significant participation in the Gateway to Work referral program.** As of January, 2016, 551 individuals had attended program orientations, and the state attributed low participation to the fact that the program is still relatively new. Beneficiary advocates attributed the low participation to the fact that many HIP 2.0 beneficiaries already are working (although many have jobs that do not offer health insurance), and others already participate in a similar program based on their receipt of food stamps or through the state vocational rehabilitation agency. Because the work referral program is voluntary, beneficiary advocates did not view it as a barrier to accessing Medicaid.

**What Insights Have Emerged from Michigan and Indiana?**

Five key insights emerge from an early look at Michigan and Indiana’s Medicaid expansion waivers.

1. **Medicaid expansion design, whether through traditional state plan authority or waivers, is highly dependent on the features of a state’s underlying Medicaid program.** Michigan and Indiana both had implemented limited adult coverage expansions through waivers prior to the ACA, and those expansions along with the states’ pre-existing Medicaid delivery systems influenced the structure and design of their post-ACA waivers. Michigan incorporated its pre-existing capitated managed care delivery system into Healthy Michigan, while Indiana modified its pre-existing high
2. Implementation of complex programs involves collaboration with a variety of stakeholders, sophisticated IT systems, and administrative costs. Both states’ waivers apply different rules based on differences in beneficiary income, health status, or other characteristics, which require time and resources to track. Challenges with information exchange between the state, health plans, and providers have created some confusion and delays in effectuating coverage in Indiana. Timely and accurate data about various beneficiary characteristics, such as income level, medical frailty, and healthy behavior status, will trigger different policies and delivery systems under the 2018 changes for those from 100-138% FPL in Michigan’s waiver, thus taking on increasing importance for the state and beneficiaries there.

3. Premium costs and complex enrollment policies can deter eligible people from enrolling in coverage. Particularly for very low-income populations, even very low premiums may be unaffordable, and the cost of making payments (i.e., purchasing a money order) may add increased financial strain as well as a barrier. Policies in Indiana that tie the start of the coverage period to making a payment can be a further impediment, deterring some eligible people from enrolling. In addition, assessing the affordability of premiums in Indiana is challenging because it is difficult to track and adjust premium payment amounts for populations who experience frequent changes in income and to track how many individuals receive help with paying premiums.

4. Health accounts can be confusing for beneficiaries. Beneficiaries in our focus groups as well as advocates and providers in both states did not demonstrate a clear understanding of the policies associated with these models. This feedback shows that these models are hard to understand even in Indiana, a state with long-standing experience with health accounts.

5. Beneficiary and provider education and tangible incentives appear central to implementing healthy behavior incentive programs. Beneficiaries in both states indicated that gift cards that could be used immediately to purchase needed items were more appealing rewards than decreased cost-sharing amounts in the future, which is understandable, given the low incomes and precarious financial situation of many beneficiaries and the complicated formulas to calculate future cost-sharing reductions. To date, it is too early to determine if health accounts and healthy behavior incentives can change behavior, lead to more efficient use of health care services, and improve health outcomes, but these items hopefully will be assessed in the formal waiver evaluations.

At the time of our interviews for this study in summer 2016, both Michigan and Indiana were looking ahead to continued implementation of their waivers. Michigan reported plans to focus on its healthy behavior incentive program and simplify the health account statements under the waiver. At the same time, the state was working on issues that are related but not specific to the waiver, such as modernizing the eligibility determination system, streamlining the renewal process, overseeing health plan contracts, and integrating physical and behavioral health services. Michigan also was planning to prepare to implement the new waiver authorities approved by CMS that will affect beneficiaries between 100-138% FPL starting in April, 2018.

Indiana was planning additional outreach efforts targeted to eligible but uninsured residents. The state also planned to work on implementation of some waiver provisions, including the graduated copayments for non-
emergency use of the ER and the POWER account roll-over healthy behavior rewards, that had not yet been fully implemented. In addition, enrollment assisters, health centers, and advocates pointed to needed improvements in the enrollment and renewal processes and noted the need for continued beneficiary education as well as IT system improvements related to the POWER accounts.

Looking ahead from a national perspective, it is not yet clear what role Section 1115 Medicaid expansion waivers will play as the new Administration and Congress move to repeal the ACA and debate possible broader changes to Medicaid financing such as a block grant or per capita cap. Repeal of the ACA would remove the statutory authority to cover expansion adults and the associated federal financing. However, given that some other states have expressed interest in pursuing Medicaid expansion waivers with components similar to those in Michigan and Indiana, it is important to understand the administrative framework and early implementation challenges and successes of the models being tested in Michigan and Indiana as more formal evaluations are conducted.

The authors gratefully acknowledge Michael Perry, Sean Dryden, and Naomi Mulligan Kolb with PerryUndem Research/Communication for their work managing the fieldwork logistics, conducting the interviews, and moderating the focus groups. We also extend our deep appreciation to all the participants for sharing their perspectives and experiences to inform this project.
## Appendix Table 1: Waiver and Expenditure Authorities Related to Medicaid Expansion in Michigan and Indiana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authority</th>
<th>Michigan</th>
<th>Indiana</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premiums</td>
<td>Allows state to charge monthly premiums of 2% of income for beneficiaries from 100-138% FPL.</td>
<td>Allows state to require monthly premiums of 2% of income as a condition of eligibility for non-medically frail beneficiaries from 100-138% FPL. Allows state to charge monthly premiums of 2% of income for beneficiaries from 0-100% FPL to access an enhanced benefit package. Waives 5% cap on out-of-pocket costs so that beneficiaries from 0-5% FPL are charged $1.00/month to access enhanced benefits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparability</td>
<td>Allows state to vary premiums, copayments and healthy behavior reductions by population.</td>
<td>Allows state to vary cost-sharing from state plan requirements so that beneficiaries who pay premiums only have non-emergency ER use copays and those not paying premiums have copays for other services at state plan amounts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures for Healthy Behavior Incentives</td>
<td>Authorizes federal matching funds for healthy behavior incentives that offset beneficiary cost-sharing liability.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reasonable Promptness</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Allows state to begin coverage on 1st day of month in which premium is paid or 1st day of the month in which 60-day payment period expires for those under 100% FPL. Allows disenrollment and 6 month lock-out for those from 100-138% FPL who do not pay premiums.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retroactivity</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Allows state to not provide coverage prior to 1st day of month in which beneficiary pays 1st premium. Allows state not to provide coverage until 1st day of month in which the 60-day payment period expires for those from 0-100% FPL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost-Sharing for Non-Emergency Use of ER</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Allows state to test graduated co-payment up to $25 for 2 years.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of Administration</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Allows state to not provide NEMT to non-medically frail expansion adults.**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost-Effectiveness</td>
<td>Allows state-developed cost-effectiveness tests for Medicaid premium assistance to purchase Marketplace QHP coverage (effective April 2018).</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provider Payment</td>
<td>Allows state to limit provider payments for beneficiaries enrolled in Marketplace QHPs to QHP market rates (effective April 2018).</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior Authorization</td>
<td>Allows prescription drug prior authorizations for Marketplace QHP enrollees to be addressed in 72 hours instead of 24 hours, with a 72-hour supply provided in emergencies (effective April 2018).</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures for QHP Premiums and Cost-</td>
<td>Authorizes federal matching funds for QHP premium assistance costs that do not meet federal cost-effectiveness test or that include benefits not covered under Medicaid state plan.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharing Reductions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Endnotes


2 See, e.g., Robin Cohen, Michael Martinez, and Emily Zammitti, Health Insurance Coverage: Early Release of Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey, 2015, (Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics, May 2016), http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhis/earlyrelease/insur201605.pdf. (noting significant difference in non-elderly adult uninsured rate from 2013 to 2015 in the following states that had traditional Medicaid expansions: AZ (-9.6%), CA (-12.6%), CO (-9.8), IL (-7.9), KY (-15.7%), MD (-7.1%), NH (-7.8%), NV (-14.2%), NJ (-7.3%), NY (-6.6%), OH (-7.0%), OR, (-8.7%), PA (-5.5%), RI (-6.8%), WA (-12.3%), and WV (-19.9%)); Benjamin D. Sommers et al., Changes in Self-reported Insurance Coverage, Access to Care, and Health Under the Affordable Care Act, 314 JAMA 366 (July 28, 2015), http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=2411283 (finding that lacking a personal physician and limited access to medications both declined significantly more in expansion states than in non-expansion states).


4 The other five states using waivers are Arizona, Arkansas, Iowa, Montana, and New Hampshire.

5 The enhanced federal match for expansion adults in 2017 is 95%.

6 Technically, Indiana considers these payments to be contributions to the health account deductible and not premiums.

7 Deductible funds are not applied to preventive services.


Enrollees calling about account statements also asked about amounts owed and for clarification about the statement contents. Id. at 9.


Id.


Id.

CMS denied Indiana’s request to lock beneficiaries at all income levels out of coverage for six months for failure to complete the eligibility renewal process timely noting that this is inconsistent with Medicaid’s objective of ensuring access to coverage and does not account for challenges that people with low incomes may face in complying with renewals, such as language access issues, difficulties obtaining mail, disabilities, and homelessness. CMS, State Demonstrations Group, (Baltimore, MD: CMS, July 29, 2016), https://www.medicaid.gov/Medicaid-CHIP-Program-Information/By-Topics/Waivers/1115/downloads/in/Healthy-Indiana-Plan-2/in-healthy-indiana-plan-support-20-lockouts-redetermination-07292016.pdf.


Id. at 40.


Id.


These issues appeared to be more pronounced for those sending money orders by mail as opposed to using a credit or debit card online at the time of application.


This waiver authority lasts for two years, from February 2016 through January 2018. Letter from Eliot Fishman, CMS to Joseph Moser, Indiana Medicaid Director (September 16, 2016).


Id.


The state's NEMT waiver evaluation found "no evidence" that HIP 2.0 beneficiaries without NEMT were more likely to miss appointments due to transportation or other reasons compared to HIP 2.0 beneficiaries enrolled in the one health plan that does offer NEMT as a value-added benefit. Even with the NEMT waiver, about two-thirds of the HIP 2.0 population does receive NEMT, either because they are exempt from the NEMT waiver (pregnant, medically frail, and mandatory parents, 19 and 20 year olds, and those receiving Transitional Medical Assistance) or because they belong to the one health plan that separately offers the benefit as a managed care value-added service to its enrollees. The Lewin Group, *Indiana HIP 2.0: Evaluation of Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Waiver*, at ES-2, ES-1, Prepared for FSSA, (Fairfax, VA: November 2, 2016), [https://www.medicaid.gov/Medicaid-CHIP-Program-Information/By-Topics/Waivers/in/Healthy-Indiana-Plan-2/in-healthy-indiana-plan-support-20-monthly-rpt-july-2016-07202016.pdf](https://www.medicaid.gov/Medicaid-CHIP-Program-Information/By-Topics/Waivers/in/Healthy-Indiana-Plan-2/in-healthy-indiana-plan-support-20-monthly-rpt-july-2016-07202016.pdf).

62 *Id.* at ES-2.

63 *Id.* at ES-3.

64 *Id.* at ES-3, ES-4.


66 See, e.g., Robin Cohen, Michael Martinez, and Emily Zammitti, *Health Insurance Coverage: Early Release of Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey*, 2015, (Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics, May 2016), [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhis/earlyrelease/insur201605.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhis/earlyrelease/insur201605.pdf), (noting significant difference in non-elderly adult uninsured rate from 2013 to 2015 in the following states that had traditional Medicaid expansions: AZ (-9.6%), CA (-12.6%), CO (-9.8), IL (-7.9), KY (-15.7%), MD (-7.1%), NH (-7.8%), NV (-14.2%), NJ (-7.3%), NY (-6.6%), OH (-7.0%), OR (-8.7%), PA (-5.5%), RI (-6.8%), WA (-12.3%), and WV (-19.9%); Benjamin D. Sommers et al., *Changes in Self-reported Insurance Coverage, Access to Care, and Health Under the Affordable Care Act*, 314 JAMA 366 (July 28, 2015), http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=2411283 (finding that lacking a personal physician and limited access to medications both declined significantly more in expansion states than in non-expansion states).