

# Medicaid Coverage for the National DPP Demonstration Project

Marti Macchi, Kelly McCracken, Stefanie Hansen, Wendy Childers

## INTRODUCTION

NACDD's *Medicaid Demonstration Project*, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is showing how state Medicaid agencies and state health departments can collaborate to implement and deliver a sustainable coverage model for the National DPP. The **two-year project with Maryland and Oregon** is a test of the feasibility and effectiveness of various ways of offering the National DPP lifestyle change program to the Medicaid population.

Based on learnings from the demonstration project and extensive research with other public and private payers, NACDD and Leavitt Partners launched the online **National DPP Coverage Toolkit** in June 2017. The Coverage Toolkit is a resource to help states and organizations navigate the potential complexities of offering the program as a covered benefit. It is organized by payer type: Medicaid agencies, Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs), commercial plans and employers, and Medicare Advantage.

## OBJECTIVES

- Demonstrate and evaluate the feasibility, effectiveness, and sustainability of selected approaches to offer the National DPP lifestyle change program to Medicaid beneficiaries.
- Develop, refine, and disseminate tools to assist states in leveraging opportunities to provide coverage for the National DPP lifestyle change program for Medicaid beneficiaries and commercial health plan members.
- Implement a comprehensive evaluation of project activities and outcomes.



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## IMPACT

- **Increased Coverage:** demonstrating sustainable coverage for Medicaid enrollees under current Medicaid rules and regulations, increasing program participation among Medicaid beneficiaries, and strengthening the ability of state Medicaid agencies and state health departments to make a compelling business case for the most effective options for covering the National DPP within Medicaid.
- **Evaluation:** NACDD, along with RTI International, is assessing the process for Medicaid coverage and delivery, analyzing the cost of different delivery models, and evaluating enrollment, engagement, and retention strategies and participant outcomes.
- **Sustain and Spread:** lessons learned from the project are being shared nationwide through the Coverage Toolkit, numerous presentations and webinar series, and a Virtual Learning Collaborative.

## OUTLOOK

Several states provide coverage of the National DPP through Medicaid or to state employees. Over 60 commercial health plans provide some coverage for the program, and Medicare will start to reimburse for this program in 2018.

A number of states are in consultation with NACDD and Leavitt Partners as they work toward coverage of the National DPP within Medicaid, and the number of interested payers continues to grow. The expansion of these project resources and the release of the project's final evaluation in October 2018 will provide further insight and guidance in this work.