



Health Reform: One Rural Community at a Time

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Standing in the shadows of Bob LeBow, M.D.

2002: “I see my patients continuing to wander in the health care wilderness, without much hope of finding the path out. Even more ominous, I see millions of currently insured Americans facing the danger of losing their coverage—and their dignity—as our healthcare system slips towards ‘meltdown.’”

“Our health care system—or, more precisely, nonsystem—has evolved into a monster, a disorganized, overly complex creature that robs people of their health, their money and their dignity.”

Source: Health Care Meltdown Boise, Idaho: JRI Press. 2002.

The Pathway to the Future: Paved by PPACA?

- Financial Access
- Geographic Access
- System change and quality improvement
- Public health

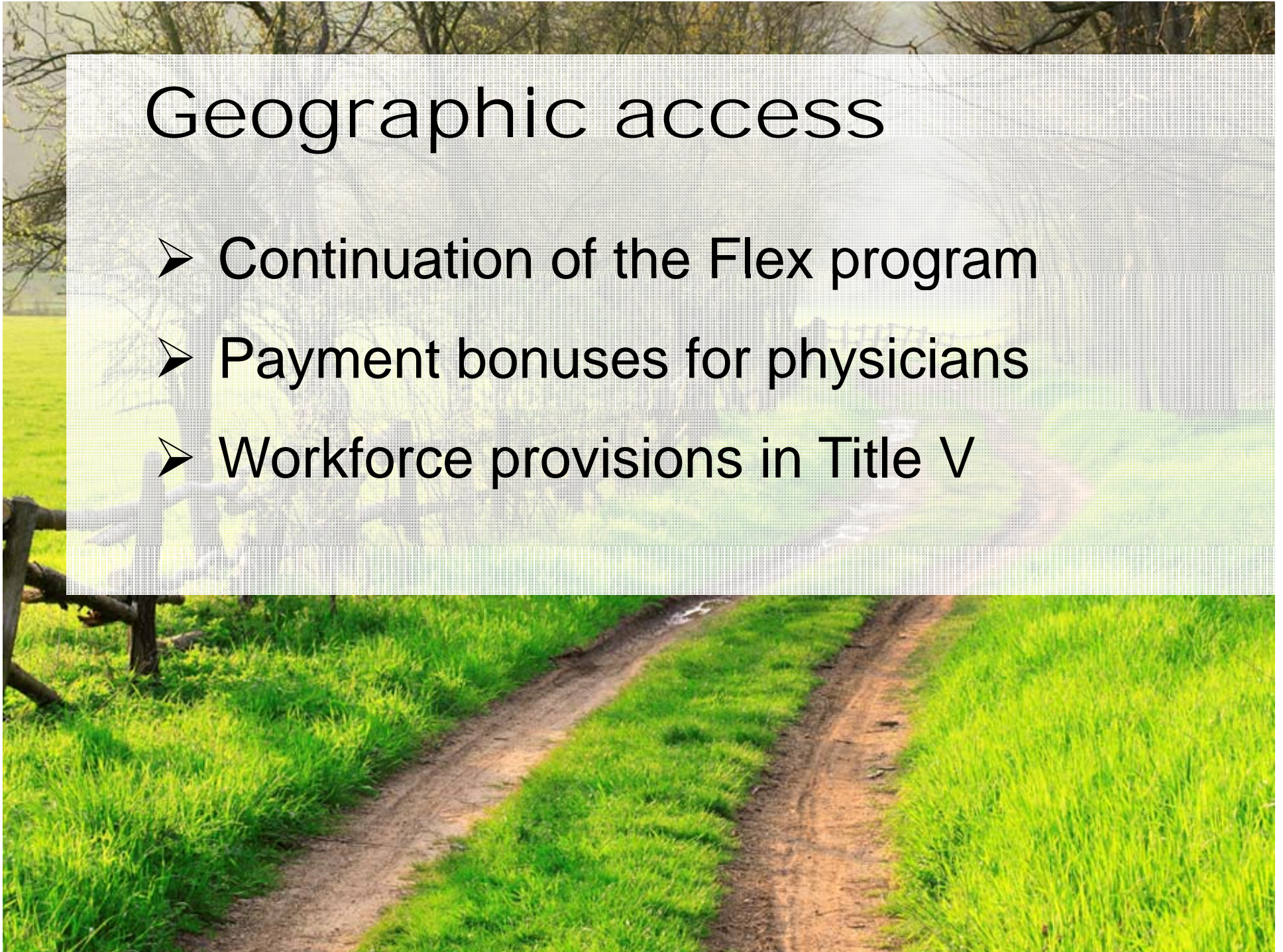


Financial access

- Medicaid expansion
- Insurance reform
- Insurance availability through exchanges
- Getting reality to match expectations

Geographic access

- Continuation of the Flex program
- Payment bonuses for physicians
- Workforce provisions in Title V



System change

- In payment policy the move to value-based purchasing
- An emphasis on measuring and reporting quality
- Accountable Care Organizations
- Bundled payment (consultation with small rural hospitals, including CAHs, regarding participation in this program – pilot program)

System change

- Drivers are toward integrated systems of care, including quality measures applied to patient transfers
- Broadening to include more emphasis on care in the home – Section 3024 establishes an Independence at Home Medical Practice category, serving at least 200 applicable beneficiaries and using electronic health information systems, remote monitoring, and mobile diagnostic technology
- Community health teams, patient centered-medical homes, health teams (Section 3502)
- Regionalized systems for emergency care

System change: big picture

- Secretary develops a national strategy by January 1, 2011 to improve the delivery of health care services, patient health outcomes and population health
- Secretary develops quality measures assessing health outcomes and functional status, management and coordination across episodes and care transition, and experience, quality, and use of information to and used by patients

Big picture continued

- Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation in CMS
- National Health Care Workforce Commission
- Patient-centered Outcomes Research Institute and trust fund: rural-relevant comparative effectiveness research?

Using elements of the legislation as a package

- Integrating systems for payment and quality improvement
- Patient focus and primary care
- Opportunity for public health overlay – next six slides

PPACA Opportunities: Title IV, Subtitle A

- The new National Prevention, Health Promotion and Public Health Council
- The new Advisory Group on Prevention, Health Promotion, and Integrative Public Health
- Use of a new Prevention and Public Health Fund
- CDC to convene an independent Community Preventive Services Task force

PPACA Opportunities: Title IV, Subtitle A, continued

- Planning and implementation of a national public-private partnership for a prevention and health promotion outreach and education campaign to raise public awareness of health improvement across the life span
- Establish and implement a national science-based media campaign on health promotion and disease prevention

PPACA Opportunities: Title IV, subtitle B

- School-based health centers
- Medicare coverage of personalized prevention plan services

PPACA Opportunities: Title IV, subtitle C

- CDC grants for implementation, evaluation, and dissemination of evidence-based community preventive health activities in order to reduce chronic disease rates, prevent the development of secondary conditions, address health disparities, and develop a stronger evidence base of effective prevention programming
- Grants to provide public health community interventions, screenings, and clinical referrals for persons between ages 55 and 64

PPACA Opportunities: Title IV, subtitle D

- Funding for research in the area of public health services and systems
- Employer based wellness assisted
- Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Grant Program
- Funds to carry out childhood obesity demonstration projects

PPACA Opportunities: Title V

- Public Health Workforce Loan Repayment Program established
- Expands student loan forgiveness to include public health agencies
- Scholarships for mid-career professionals in public health
- Establishes Public Health Sciences Track to award advanced degrees in public health, epidemiology, and emergency preparedness and response

Much remains to be done

- Bob Lebow's lament and new world of coverage
- Bob Lebow's lament and new system for finance and delivery of services
- Are we there yet? Or at least on the right path?



For details on the PPACA and rural,
turn to

- NRHA document for members
- RUPRI Center document posted in June
- RUPRI Panel document posted in July



Thank you!

<http://www.unmc.edu/ruprihealth/>

<http://www.rupri.org/>