

From: JOHN WALSH
Sent: Wednesday, November 08, 2017 4:02 PM
Subject: Comments on "Delaware's Road to Value"

While the per capita health care costs in Delaware are very high, and obviously action should be taken to bend that curve, establishing the benchmark linked to the state's economic growth should not be done without dealing with the many factors that contribute to cost.

Some may be long term remedies (possible state medical school), others can be done rather quickly and at relatively little cost, such as using APRNs to serve the population since there is a primary care physician shortage.

Some of the proposals are a form of HMO organization, and while they can work, it should be noted that in the past such organizations have not "caught on" (I was a member of one years ago, and while I found it to be a very good provider of care, it did not last.)

Briefly put, there will be need to expect significant up-front costs to save money further on.

There is no instant fix, and entrenched groups will be expected to advocate strongly for their constituents.

Hiring and training health providers, be they community health workers, patient navigators, mental health workers, APRNs, dental health professionals will be time consuming and again, costly up front.

Briefly put, a good primary care provider, and coordination of care coupled with education on healthy lifestyles can be very effective in reducing costs down the line, but expecting costs to be reduced immediately is wishful thinking.

Respectfully,

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