

***Improving Access to Adult Immunizations:
Highlights from the Patient Protection and Affordable
Care Act of 2010 (ACA)***

**Shana Alex Lavarreda, PhD, MPP
Director of Health Insurance Studies and Research Scientist**

**California Immunization Coalition Summit
Los Angeles, CA
4/18/11**



www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu

***National Health Care Reform:
The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010***

Goals of Health Care Reform

Improve Access to Health Care via Insurance Expansion

- ▶ **49.4 million uninsured estimated in 2010 (Urban Institute)**
 - ▶ Improve access to primary and specialty care.
 - ▶ Improve affordability of health care premiums and out-of-pocket spending.
 - ▶ End insurance company practices that are harmful to consumers.

Reduce Spending in the Health Care System (i.e. “Bend the Cost Curve”)

- ▶ **\$2.5 trillion dollars in overall spending (17.4% of GDP)**
 - ▶ One-third of health care spending is attributed to fraud and waste.
 - ▶ Overuse of services, geography and fee-for-service incentives are often blamed.

Improve Quality and Patient Safety

- ▶ **Reduce medical errors, improve outcomes, coordinate care**
 - ▶ Reward providers and insurers for providing high quality care.
 - ▶ Reduce readmissions and hospital-acquired infections.

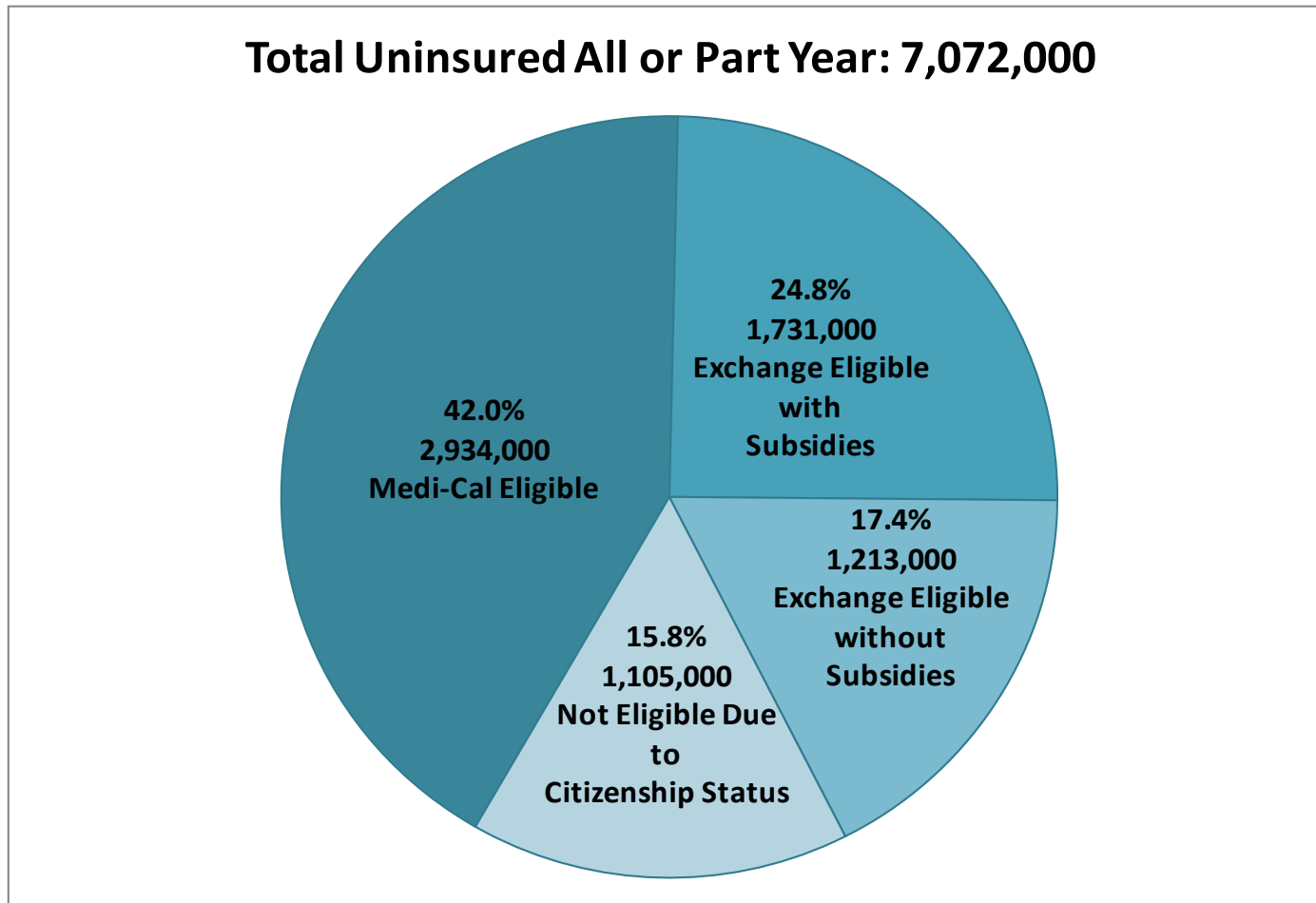
Improve Wellness and Health Behaviors

- ▶ **Incentivize healthy behaviors and preventive services**

Half of Uninsured Nationwide to be Covered with PPACA

CBO estimates of PPACA impact											
Millions of nonelderly people, by calendar year											
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Medicaid & CHIP	40	39	39	38	35	34	35	35	35	35	
Employer-based	150	153	156	158	161	162	162	162	162	162	
Nongroup & other	27	26	25	26	28	29	29	29	30	30	
Uninsured	50	51	51	51	51	51	52	53	53	54	
TOTAL	267	269	271	273	274	276	277	279	281	282	
Change (+/-)											
Medicaid & CHIP	*	-1	-2	-3	10	15	17	16	16	16	
Employer-based	*	3	3	3	4	1	-3	-3	-3	-4	
Nongroup & other	*	*	*	*	-2	-3	-5	-5	-5	-5	
Exchanges	0	0	0	0	8	13	21	23	24	24	
Uninsured	*	*	-1	-1	-19	-25	-30	-31	-31	-32	
Total final population											
Medicaid & CHIP										51	18.2%
Employer-based										158	56.4%
Nongroup & other										25	8.9%
Exchanges										24	8.6%
Uninsured										22	7.9%
TOTAL										280	100.0%

Two-Thirds of California's Seven Million Uninsured May Obtain Coverage Under Health Care Reform



Notes: Numbers may not add to 100% due to rounding.
Source: 2009 California Health Interview Survey

What exactly is an “Exchange” anyways?

- ▶ **State-based, web portals that will provide a highly-regulated market in which to shop for non-group or small-group (up to 100 employees) coverage.**

- ▶ **Federal government will provide subsidies to enable qualified uninsured adults and children with household incomes from 134% - 400% FPL to purchase insurance.**
 - ▶ Guaranteed issue for all who apply, with no consideration for pre-existing conditions in premiums.
 - ▶ Qualified = not an undocumented immigrant.
 - ▶ One “public option” survived – OMB-offered coverage, same as federal employees get.

- ▶ **California is still the only state to have passed legislation that sets up the Exchange.**

***How Access to Adult Immunizations
Will Be Increased Under ACA***

Changes in Private Coverage Benefits for Vaccinations

- ▶ **All preventive services must be included, at no charge.**
 - ▶ Designated with an A or B rating by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force.
 - ▶ Immunizations recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
 - ▶ Includes flu, pneumococcal, Hepatitis A & B, and HPV vaccines, among others.
 - ▶ Applies to *new* plans only, as of September 23, 2010.

- ▶ **“Grandfathered” status determines whether or not a plan is considered “new” as of the plan renewal.**
 - ▶ Plans lose their grandfathered status with “significant” changes (roughly 5%) to enrollee costs or benefits.
 - ▶ Increases in premiums do not affect grandfathered status.

Changes in Medicare Benefits for Vaccinations

- ▶ **Yearly “Wellness” Exam included for free.**
 - ▶ Includes discussion of preventive services schedule.

- ▶ **Flu, Pneumococcal, and Hepatitis B shots included at no charge.**
 - ▶ Flu shot is given annually.
 - ▶ Pneumococcal and Hepatitis B shots given when needed.
 - ▶ May not apply to those in Medicare Advantage plans.

- ▶ **Changes to Part D (may impact other vaccinations).**
 - ▶ Reducing coverage gap by \$250 in 2010, with gradual reduction in costs over time.
 - ▶ By 2020, coverage gap removed (for both generic and brand).

Creation of the Prevention and Public Health Fund

- ▶ **\$182 million released in March 2011 for clinical prevention, including increasing awareness of and access to immunizations.**
 - ▶ Builds on \$112 million already released in 2010.

- ▶ **Funds are at the discretion of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and are given to state-level and some local-level government agencies.**

- ▶ **The Fund itself is currently a target for elimination by Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives.**
 - ▶ HR 1217 to repeal the Fund passed in the House on April 13, 2011, by a straight party-line vote of 236-183.

Capitalizing on Improved Access to Immunizations

- ▶ **Consider how the ACA may change the work that you do.**
 - ▶ How will the ACA impact the proportion of adult immunizations administered in the public versus private sector?
 - ▶ Will demand for adult immunizations in your setting increase or decrease?
Are you prepared?
 - ▶ Will there be new opportunities to provide adult immunizations in complementary settings such as pharmacies?
 - ▶ Can you recruit more adult immunization providers to participate in your immunization registry?
 - ▶ Will you expand quality improvement, assessment, and training activities to reach more adult immunization providers?
 - ▶ How can your agency educate clients and the community about the new benefits offered under the ACA?

Government Resources about Coverage and Vaccinations

▶ **www.healthcare.gov**

- ▶ Official DHHS website explaining provisions in ACA.

▶ **www.vaccines.gov**

- ▶ New DHHS website launched on March 30, 2011.

▶ **www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm**

- ▶ CDC ACIP list of recommended vaccinations.

Thank You – and I'm Here to Help!

Shana Alex Lavarreda, PhD, MPP

Director of Health Insurance Studies and Research Scientist

shana@ucla.edu, (310) 794-2261



www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu