



Health Management and Policy Presentations

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#### Producing Population Health: Collective Action Requires Infrastructure, Incentives & Evidence

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# **Producing Population Health:**

## Collective Action Requires Infrastructure, Incentives & Evidence

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Systems and Services Research

## **Failures in population health**

Figure 1. There are large differences in life expectancy and health care spending across OECD countries 2008<sup>1</sup>



1. Or latest year available. Source: OECD Health Data 2010.

## **Failures in population health**

U.S. Men and Women Under Age 65 Have Higher Rates of Potentially Preventable Deaths Slowest Rate of Improvement, 1999–2007

Amenable mortality, men ages 0–64 Amenable mortality, women ages 0–64



\* Data for Germany are 1999 and 2006.

Source: Adapted from E. Nolte and C. M. McKee, "In Amenable Mortality—Deaths Avoidable Through Health Care—Progress in the US Lags That of Three European Countries," *Health Affairs,* published online Aug. 29, 2012.

## **Failures in population health**

#### **Premature Deaths per 100,000 Residents**

U.S. Average = 103 Deaths per 100.000



Commonwealth Fund 2012

## **Drivers of population health failures**



Schroeder SA. N Engl J Med 2007;357:1221-1228

## **Drivers of population health failures**

>75% of US health spending is attributable to conditions that are largely preventable

- Cardiovascular disease
- Diabetes
- Lung diseases
- Cancer
- Injuries
- Vaccine-preventable diseases and sexually transmitted infections

<5% of US health spending is allocated to prevention and public health



**Supports** 

- Fragmentation
- Duplication
- Variability in practice
- Limited accessibility
- Episodic and reactive care
- Insensitivity to consumer values & preferences
- Limited targeting of resources to community needs

- Fragmentation
- Variability in practice
- Resource constrained
- Limited reach
- Insufficient scale
- Limited public visibility & understanding
- Limited evidence base
- Slow to innovate & adapt



Inefficient delivery Inequitable outcomes Limited population health impact



## What are Population Health Strategies?

- Designed to achieve large-scale health improvement: neighborhood, city/county, region
- Target fundamental and often multiple determinants of health
- Mobilize the collective actions of multiple stakeholders in government & private sector

- Usual and unusual suspects

## New incentives & infrastructure are in play



## What Makes Population Health Strategies So Hard?

- Concentrated costs & diffuse benefits
- Time lags: costs vs. improvements
- Uncertainties about what works
  - Asymmetry in information



the COMMONS

- Weak and variable institutions & infrastructure
- Imbalance: resources vs. needs

Difficulties measuring progress

Stability & sustainability of funding

Courtesy Omaha Community Playhouse

SIRF

1014

### **Can Public Health Infrastructure Help?**

Organized programs, policies, and laws to prevent disease and injury and promote health on a population-wide basis

- Epidemiologic surveillance & investigation
- Community health assessment & planning
- Communicable disease control
- Chronic disease and injury prevention
- Health education and communication
- Environmental health monitoring and assessment
- Enforcement of health laws and regulations
- Inspection and licensing
- Inform, advise, and assist school-based, worksite-based, and community-based health programming

...and roles in **linking people** to medical care & social supports



Public Health Prevent. Promote. Protect.

#### U.S. Delivery of Recommended Public Health Activities



#### Variation in Scope of Public Health Delivery Delivery of recommended public health activities, 2012



# Complexity in population health delivery systems



#### Organizations engaged in local public health delivery



### Seven types of population health delivery systems



Source: Mays et al. 2010; 2012

### Health Consequences of Delivery System Change



Fixed-effects models control for population size, density, age composition, poverty status, racial composition, and physician supply

# Mortality reductions attributable to investments in public health delivery, 1993-2008



and unmeasured confounding

Mays et al. 2011

# Medical cost offsets attributable to investments in public health delivery, 1993-2008

For every \$10 of public health spending, ≈\$9 are recovered in lower medical care spending over 15 years



## Some Promising Examples Hennepin Health ACO

- Partnership of county health department, community hospital, and FQHC
- Accepts full risk payment for all medical care, public health, and social service needs for Medicaid enrollees
- Fully integrated electronic health information exchange
- Heavy investment in care coordinators and community health workers
- Savings from avoided medical care reinvested in public health initiatives
  - Nutrition/food environment
  - Physical activity



## **Some Promising Examples**

#### **Massachusetts Prevention & Wellness Trust Fund**

- \$60 million invested from nonprofit insurers and hospital systems
- Funds community coalitions of health systems, municipalities, businesses and schools
- Invests in community-wide, evidence-based prevention strategies with a focus on reducing health disparities
- Savings from avoided medical care are reinvested in Trust Fund



## **Some Promising Examples** Arkansas Community Connector Program

- Use community health workers & public health infrastructure to identify people with unmet social support needs
- Connect people to home and community-based services & supports
- Link to hospitals and nursing homes for transition planning
- Use Medicaid and SIM financing, savings reinvestment
- **ROI \$2.92**

Source: Felix, Mays et al. Health Affairs 2011



www.visionproject.org

## **Roles for Scholarship & Leadership**

- Identify common interests, incentives & problems
- Mitigate asymmetries in power & information
- Use theory, evidence & experience to design strategies with high probability of success
- Use policies, payment systems, & resource sharing models to incentivize collective action
- Measure progress & provide feedback
  - Fail fast
  - Continuously improve
- Evaluate health & economic impact



## **Finding the connections**



- Act on aligned incentives
- Exploit the disruptive policy environment
- Innovate, prototype, study then scale
- Pay careful attention to shared governance, decision-making, and financing structures
- Demonstrate value and accountability to the public

#### Toward a "rapid-learning system" in population health



Green SM et al. Ann Intern Med. 2012;157(3):207-210

## **More Information**



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