



# Committee Members

- **Linda McCauley**, Emory University (Co-Chair)
- **Asaf Bitton**, Ariadne Labs
- **Tumaini Coker**, University of Washington School of Medicine and Seattle Children's
- **Carrie Colla**, Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
- **Molly Cooke**, University of California, San Francisco
- **Jennifer DeVoe**, Oregon Health & Science University
- **Rebecca Etz**, Virginia Commonwealth University
- **Susan Fisher-Owens**, University of California, San Francisco School of Dentistry
- **Jackson Griggs**, Heart of Texas Community Health Center, Inc.
- **Robert Phillips, Jr.**, American Board of Family Medicine (Co-Chair)
- **Shawna Hudson**, Rutgers University
- **Shreya Kangovi**, University of Pennsylvania
- **Christopher Koller**, Milbank Memorial Fund
- **Alexander Krist**, Virginia Commonwealth University
- **Luci Leykum**, University of Texas at Austin
- **Mary McClurg**, Eshelman School of Pharmacy at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- **Benjamin Olmedo**, Dignity Health
- **Brenda Reiss-Brennan**, Intermountain Healthcare
- **Hector Rodriguez**, University of California, Berkeley
- **Robert Weyant**, School of Dental Medicine at University of Pittsburgh

**Staff:** Marc Meisnere, Sharyl Nass, Tracy Lustig, Sarah Robinson, Samira Abbas    **NAM Fellows:** Kameron Matthews, Lars Peterson, Dima Qato

# Statement of Task

NASEM committee will examine the current state of primary care in the United States and **develop an implementation plan** to build upon the recommendations from the 1996 IOM report, *Primary Care: America's Health in a New Era*, **to strengthen primary care services** in the United States, especially for underserved populations, and **to inform primary care systems** around the world.

# An Updated Definition of Primary Care

High-quality primary care is the provision of whole-person, integrated, accessible, and equitable health care by interprofessional teams that are accountable for addressing the majority of an individual's health and wellness needs across settings and through sustained relationships with patients, families, and communities.

# Study Context

- Primary care is the only part of health care system that results in **longer lives** and **more equity**
- It is **weakening** in the U.S. when it is needed most
- Systems, localities, and states have had success implementing high-quality primary care

# 5 Objectives for Achieving High-Quality Primary Care

1

PAYMENT

Pay for primary care teams to care for people, not doctors to deliver services.

2

ACCESS

Ensure that high-quality primary care is available to every individual and family in every community.

3

WORKFORCE

Train primary care teams where people live and work.

4

DIGITAL HEALTH

Design information technology that serves the patient, family, and interprofessional care team.

5

ACCOUNTABILITY

Ensure that high-quality primary care is implemented in the United States.

# HHS Initiative to Strengthen Primary Health Care

June, 2022

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Immediate Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health



**OASH**

Office of the  
Assistant Secretary  
for Health

## Why We Need to Strengthen Primary Health Care

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- Primary health care is the foundation of and entry to our health care system
- Primary health care results in longer lives and more equity<sup>1,2</sup>
- The primary health care foundation is weakening

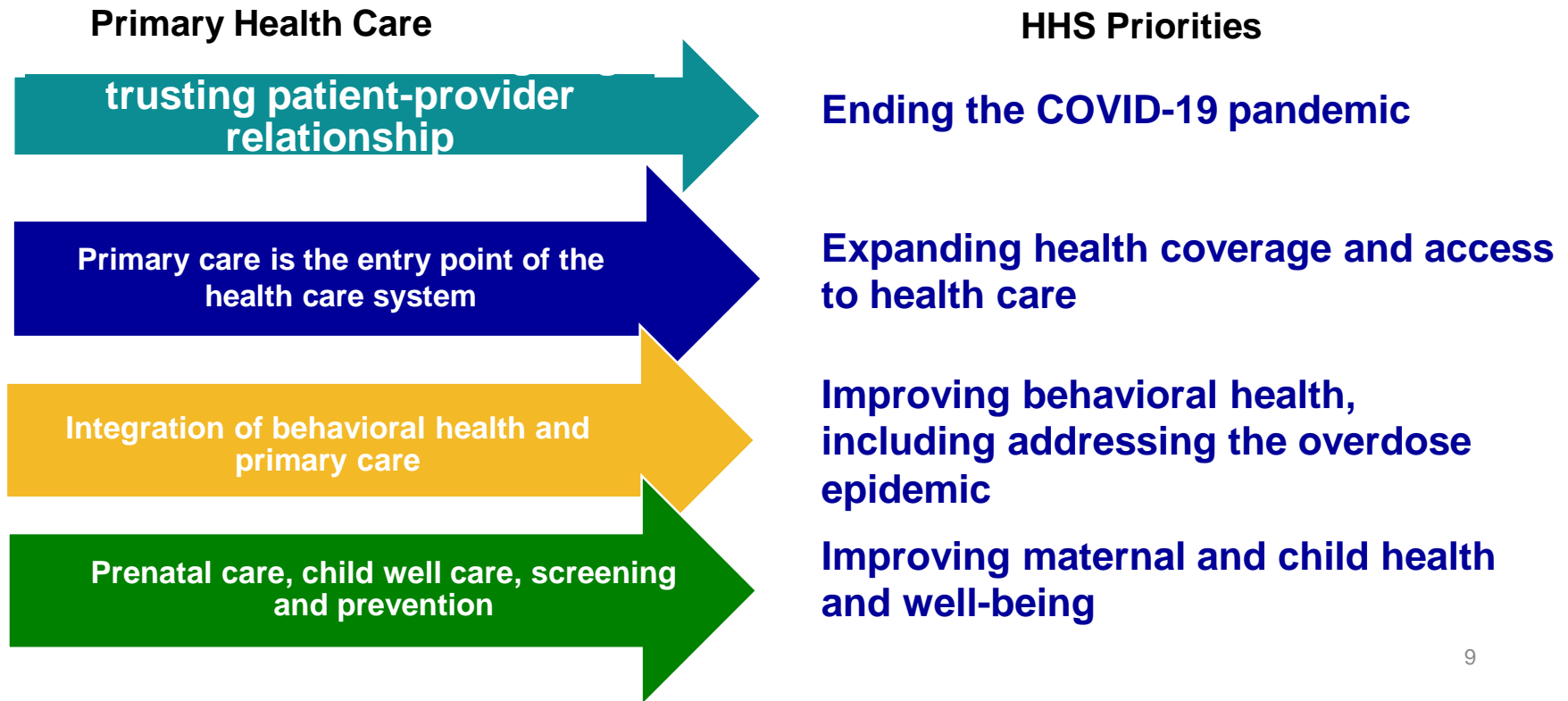
***Strengthening primary health care is essential to achieving HHS priorities and goals***

[1. Shi, Scientifica 2012](#)

[2. Basu et al. Jama Int Med 2020](#)



## Strengthening Primary Health Care Advances HHS Priorities



# HHS Initiative to Strengthen Primary Health Care: Overview

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- **Launch**
  - September 2021 by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)
- **Aim**
  - Provide a federal foundation to strengthen primary health care that will ensure high quality primary health care for all, improve the health of individuals, families and communities, and improve health equity
- **First Task**
  - **Develop an *initial* HHS Plan to Strengthen Primary Health Care**
  - Submit to Secretary Becerra in September 2022
  - Recommend HHS infrastructure for ongoing leadership and focus on ensuring high quality primary health care for all
  - Prioritized, initial actions to be taken by HHS and across HHS agencies
  - Deliverables with timeline



# FEDERAL REGISTER

The Daily Journal of the United States Government



Notice

## Request for Information (RFI): HHS Initiative To Strengthen Primary Health Care

A Notice by the [Health and Human Services Department](#) on 06/27/2022



This document has a comment period that ends in 8 days. (08/01/2022)

[SUBMIT A FORMAL COMMENT](#)

### PUBLISHED DOCUMENT

#### AGENCY:

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services

### DOCUMENT DETAILS

Printed version:  
[PDF](#)

Publication Date:

[Request for Information closes Aug 1](#)

Currently raising money for an external advisory committee hosted by NASEM

# Payment Recommendations

- Primary Care for America's Health
- Primary Care Collaborative
- CMMI new Primary Care Payment Model (in development)
- ACO-REACH



# Partners

Primary Care for America advocates in partnership with innovative primary care organizations, united in our goal to provide high-quality, comprehensive, accessible primary care to all patients.

## Founding Partners



Transforming health care for seniors by empowering primary-care physicians to focus on the entire health of their patients.



Empowering primary care physicians to succeed financially by keeping people healthy.



Advancing the specialty of family medicine to enhance patient care.



Committed to the optimal physical, mental, and social health and well-being for all infants, children, adolescents, and young



The nation's largest medical specialty society, representing 161,000 internal medicine physicians.



Enabling primary care to be the difference-maker in patients' lives, improving health and reducing costs in sustainable, scalable ways.



The largest family-owned, physician-led primary care provider serving underserved populations with affordable care delivering



The largest and most trusted EHR platform for independent primary care.



Building the most trusted, accessible and personalized healthcare experience alongside our patients and clients.



## Primary Care Investment

Advocacy Agenda

Federal Policy Updates

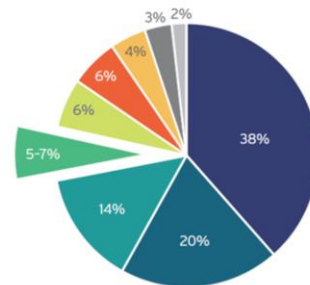
State Policy Updates

Primary Care Investment

Higher investment in primary care is associated with lower costs, higher patient satisfaction, fewer hospitalizations and emergency department visits, and lower mortality. Despite current high levels of healthcare spending in the United States, the proportion spent on primary care is insufficient. A shift in resources to support greater access to comprehensive, coordinated primary care is imperative to achieving a stronger, higher-performing healthcare system.

Underinvestment in primary care gives rise to patient access and workforce issues. A significant financial incentive for physicians and other clinicians to choose other areas of specialty undermines primary care.

### Spending on primary care compared to all other healthcare spending



## Key Resources

### State Reports on Primary Care Spending:

- Utah State Report (2021)
- New England Regional Report (2020)
- Maine State Report (2020)
- Oregon State Report (2020)
- Vermont State Report (2020)
- Colorado State Report (2019)
- Washington State Report (2019)
- Delaware State Report (2019)
- Oregon State Report (2019)
- Rhode Island State Report (2014)

### How are states working toward investing in primary care?

This paper reviews multi-stakeholder advisory groups in eight states that are measuring primary care spending, including how the groups relate to state government and the role they play in primary care measurement, investment, and health-system reform efforts.

GET THE PAPER



Developing a new PC  
Model building on CPC+:

Longer run  
More capitation  
More upfront payment  
support  
More meaningful  
measures

**Accountable Care Organization (ACO)  
Realizing Equity, Access, and  
Community Health (REACH) Model**

Primary Care Capitation  
separate from Global Cap

Aims for 7% of total spend  
(now 3-4%)

# Health of US Primary Care Scorecard



## Primary Care Transformation

> HEALTH OF US PRIMARY CARE SCORECARD

> PRIMARY CARE INVESTMENT: STATE POLICY AND SPENDING MAPS

Despite evidence that primary care improves the health of the population, primary care in the United States is in a vulnerable position, according to a new report from [National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine's High-Quality Primary Care](#). The Milbank Memorial Fund at Johns Hopkins University and the Robert Graham Center are collaborating to develop an annual "Health of US Primary Care Scorecard" to track the implementation of high-quality primary care and inform policy. The report will be led by a [Committee members](#), who will inform measure selection.



**Milbank Memorial Fund  
Collaborates with The  
Physicians Foundation and  
Robert Graham Center on New  
US Primary Care Scorecard**

[READ MORE](#)

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# We need You!

- We need YOU in Primary Care
- We need Nursing at the Implementation Table
- We need the National Nurse Practitioner Residency & Fellowship Training Consortium to weigh in on the HHS Initiative To Strengthen Primary Health Care RFI



# Thank you!

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