

DataSpeak
Risk Adjustment for Children's Services
May 11, 1999

Facilitator's Guide

The MCH Information Resource Center's (IRC) DataSpeak program is designed to provide the MCH community with current information on timely MCH data and related policy issues. In the interest of facilitating the application of information presented during DataSpeak audioconferences, the MCH IRC encourages state and local Departments of Health and other groups to organize DataSpeak participants to listen to and discuss the programs together. The following questions are suggested to facilitate discussion regarding the development of risk adjusted payments for children's services, the topic of the May 11 Dataspeak audioconference.

Suggested Discussion Questions

- How does our state reimburse providers for services provided to chronically ill or disabled children, including those in the Medicaid and Title V/Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) programs?
- Is there interest (e.g., on the part of Medicaid officials, managed care organizations) to implement a risk adjustment system? If one is already in place, is there interest in modifying the current approach? In what ways?
- What additional information do we need about available risk adjustment methodologies to consider possibilities for implementing or modifying risk adjusted payments for services provided to CSHCN? (Note that background articles are listed on the Dataspeak web site: www.uic.edu/sph/dataspeak)
- What data sources does our state have available that would be needed to implement/modify a risk adjustment system (e.g., program eligibility files, claims data)? What enhancements would be needed?
- What expertise and/or funding would we need in order to move toward implementing a risk adjustment system in our state, or improving the one that is already in place?

PLEASE GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK ON THIS NEW DATASPEAK RESOURCE!

Did you use this facilitator's guide? If so, how? Was it a useful resource?

Email your comments to mchirc@hsrnet.com.

As always, we appreciate your feedback.