Los Angeles County Enrollment Successes

Los Angeles County performed well during the first two open enrollments. Growth in Medi-Cal managed care enrollment over the period from December 2013 to July 2015 grew by 56.5%.[1] Enrollment in LA Care grew by 52%, and in Health Net by 66%. Both Medi-Cal managed care plans for Los Angeles County had average rankings on the Medi-Cal managed care HEDIS scores.[2]

Los Angeles reached 226% of anticipated enrollment for the first year's open enrollment in Covered California -- far lower than neighboring Orange and San Diego counties.[3] Los Angeles gained market share from 28.7% to 29.1% between year one and year two of Open Enrollment. The northern part declined in market share of new enrollments in year two from 12.7% to 12.1%; and the southern part grew from 16.0% to a 17.0% market share.[4] Premiums in Covered California for Los Angeles County residents were among the most affordable in the state.[5] Rate increases in Los Angeles were substantially less than the statewide weighted average of 4.0% -- 0.2% in Region 15 and +2.5% in Region 16.[6]

Los Angeles relies heavily on an extensive network of county and community clinics. The composition of community clinic visits in the Los Angeles region changed substantially between 2013 and 2014 in response to the ACA expansion. Medi-Cal managed care patient visits increased by 57.6%; Medi-Cal fee for service patient visits increased by 6%; Their privately insured visits (includes Covered California) increased by 3.8%, and their uninsured patient visits fell by 28%. Non-profit clinics' bottom lines were $-1.35 per visit in 2014.[7] This is a steep reduction (128%) from their bottom line in 2013, which was $4.79, primarily reflecting a 14% growth in FQHC expenses outpacing a 10% growth in FQHC revenues. Total clinic visits increased by 1.7% (7.1% for FQHCs).

[1] California Department of Health Care Services. Medi-Cal Managed Care Enrollment Reports (December, 2013 and July 2015) at *http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/reports/Documents/MMCD_Enrollment_Reports/MMCDEnrollRptSep2013.pdf* and *http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/reports/Documents/MMCD_Enrollment_Reports/MMCEnrollRptJuly2015.pdf*

[2] California Department of Health Care Services, Medi-Cal Managed Care Performance Dashboard at *http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Pages/MngdCarePerformDashboard.aspx*

[3] Covered California, First Open Enrollment Period 2013-2014, Lessons Learned p. 69 at *https://www.coveredca.com*; Covered California, Executive Director's Report Open Enrollment Year 2 Update (March 5, 2015), Active Member Profiles (June 2015) at *http://hbex.coveredca.com/data-research/* Eight percent of Covered California subscribers with incomes between 138 and 150% of FPL are selecting bronze rather than enhanced silver; 17% of subscribers with incomes between 150 and 200% of FPL are choosing bronze rather than enhanced silver, and 33% of subscribers with incomes between 200 and 250% of FPL are choosing bronze rather than enhanced silver. Covered California Active Member Profile as of June 2015.

[4] Covered California Regional Open Enrollment Data (2015), Enrollment by Pricing Region, Enrollment by County

[5] Covered California Plans and Rates (July, 2015) at *www.CoveredCa.com*. In Region 15, the lowest priced bronze HSA plan is $153 a month for a 25 year old, $161 for the lowest priced bronze HMO, and $165 for the lowest priced bronze PPO. In Region 16, the lowest priced bronze HSA plan is $180 a month for a 25 year old, $150 for the lowest priced bronze HMO, and $179 for the lowest priced bronze EPO.

[6] Ibid. The lowest bronze fell by -2.9% and the lowest silver increased by 5.4% in Region 15 while the lowest bronze fell by -9.9% and the lowest silver by -4.5% in Region 16.

[7] Acosta M. 2015. Regional Primary Care Clinic Stats from Final OSHPD Data. Insure the Uninsured Project. Available at: *http://itup.org/blog/2015/10/05/preview-of-regional-primary-care-clinic-stats-from-preliminary-oshpd-data/*