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Health Pulse

Insurers urge 'broader definition' of valued-based care in DSRI 2.0

The New York Health Plan Association is urging a "broader definition" of valued-based payment arrangements when it comes to the state's request for a four-year waiver amendment to support the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment program.

The association is asking the state Department of Health to ensure that all providers move toward value-based payment.

"There has to be mutual accountability on both sides of the table," said Eric Linzer, president and CEO of the association.

Some larger institutions have been unwilling to enter value-based deals, even though they are a significant priority of the current iteration of DSRI, Linzer said.

"There needs to be an expectation by the state for providers to move towards these arrangements," he said. "Otherwise, it can become difficult for plans to really accomplish what the state is seeking."

Additionally, for the next round of DSRI, value-based payment agreements shouldn't have "overly prescriptive standards," he said. Arrangements with physician practices, health centers and community-based organizations should be a priority. If the arrangements between those providers and plans "improve outcomes, lower costs and align with state and federal priority areas, there should be a recognition that they are meeting the goals of a value-based payment arrangement."

Further recommendations by the association for DSRI 2.0 include that the state ensure that Medicaid plan rates are adequate and address uncertainty surrounding potential Medicaid budget cuts, which can hinder value-based payment negotiations. Providing existing managed long-term-care plans with better opportunities to show the value of home-based care management for improving outcomes and reducing costs is also suggested.

The association is calling for an active seat at the table when it comes to [value-driving entities](#) for DSRI 2.0. In particular, the state should look to the collaboration between it and health plans on the previous development and launch of the New York State of Health Marketplace as a model for developing the entities, Linzer said.