

Joint Task Force on Universal Health Care



Task Force on Universal Health Care

April 29, 2021

Chair Bruce Goldberg
Vice-Chair Ed Junkins

Public Testimony – April

April 29th (7 written submissions)

- Concerns about residency status with respect to eligibility criteria for proposed plan ([link](#))
- Emphasizing health systems can led to improve health outcomes, offer higher quality, and lower costs ([link](#))
- Expansive set of considerations around funding a new universal care system ([link](#))
- Reference to Colorado’s Health Care for All analysis prepared by Lewin Group ([link](#))
- Ability for Oregonians to access medical care ([link](#))
- Support for a plan that offers all Oregonians access to health care ([link](#))
- Reasons to avoid regional risk-bearing care entities ([link](#))

Community Outreach



Vice Chair Junkins



**Oregon Association
of Hospitals and Health Systems**

Becky Hultberg, President/CEO

Joint Task Force on Universal Health Care

April 29, 2020



Designing a health care system

Who pays?

What services do you pay for?

How do you pay?

What we want

High quality health care

Prevention

Population health

Appropriate utilization of health care resources

... at the lowest possible cost to the individual and society

What we get from our payment system

Fee-for-service rewards:

- Volume
- Acuity
- Interventions

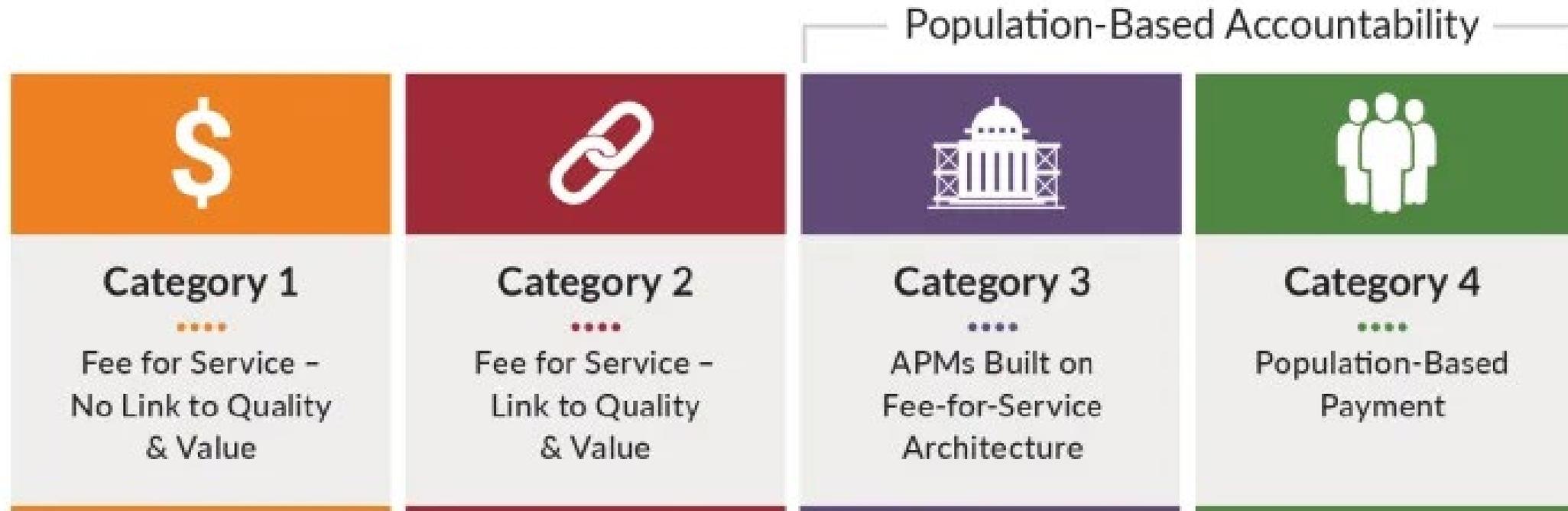
Why does our current payment system incentivize sick care when we want health care?

Incentives are misaligned

The way to get what we want out of our health care system is by aligning incentives and paying differently for health care.

That's value-based payment.

What is value-based payment?



Source: [Alternative Payment Model \(APM\) Framework and Progress Tracking Work Group](#)

Moving to value

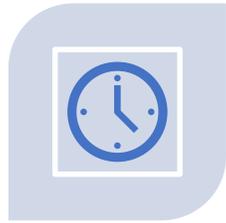
- Moving from a system that rewards quantity to one that rewards outcomes
- Fundamentally changing the business model of health care
- Operating two systems at once as we make this transition

This requires health care providers to take huge risk and make massive operational changes.

**We must
choose**



Navigating the transition



TIME



RESOURCES- AND
SOMETIMES INITIAL
INVESTMENT



ORGANIZATIONAL
CAPACITY FOR CHANGE



STABILITY IN THE
EXTERNAL
ENVIRONMENT



SHARED PUBLIC-
PRIVATE
COMMITMENT

To wrap it up...

- Regardless of who pays, how you pay matters.
- We should pay for the outcomes we want, which means moving to value-based payment.
- Moving to value is a huge transition with significant operational implications.
- We need to give the delivery system the time and runway to make this transition.



Thank You

June Deliverable

Oliver Droppers

Process Milestones (July 2020 – April 2021)

- COVID-19 Pandemic (March 2020); Legislature modifications (Aug. 2020)
- Task Force: 10 meetings, approx. 30 hours (3 meetings left)
- Established Technical Advisory Groups (4 TAGs)
 - Eligibility, Benefits, and Affordability: 8 meetings, 18 hours
 - Provider Reimbursement: 6 meetings, 12 hours
 - Finance and Revenue: 8 meetings, 16 hours (1 meeting left)
 - Governance: 4 meetings, 8 hours (2 meetings left)
- Recruited & Appointed Consumer Advisory Committee: 7 meetings, 14 hours (1 meeting left)
- Intermediate Strategies Work Group: 3 meetings, 6 hours (2 meetings left)
- Unparalleled effort and remarkable commitment among Task Force members amidst a global pandemic and legislative session

Proposal Progress – To Be Included in June Deliverable

**Proposal Adopted
February 25**



Provider
Reimbursement

**Proposal Adopted
March 25**



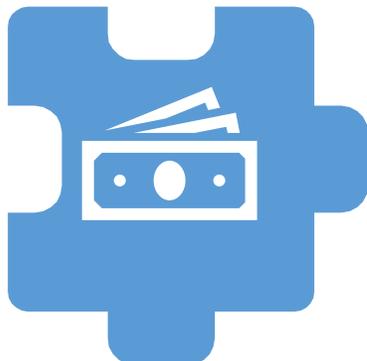
Eligibility &
Enrollment

Final Proposal April 29



Affordability &
Covered Benefits

**Proposal –
On Target May 27**



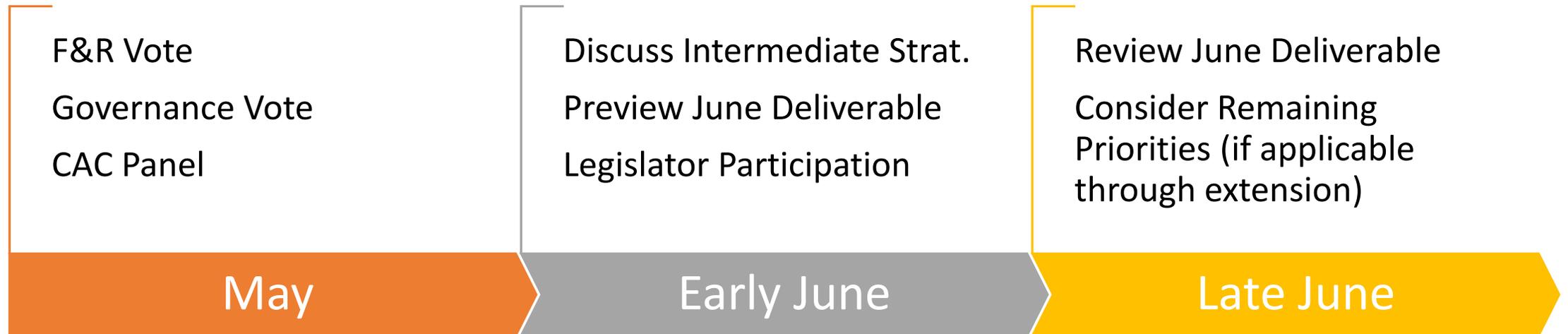
Financing and
Revenue

**Proposal -
On Target May 27**



Governance

Task Force Meetings May and June 2021



Outstanding Items – for Possible Extension

Outstanding design elements

- SDOH
- Role of private insurance
- Provider participation
- Private-pay patients
- Implementing portability of benefit
- Long-term services and supports
- Network adequacy
- Provider recruitment/retention
- Transition plan
- Cost control measures

Federal considerations and waivers

- Waiver applicability; federal approval and feasibility considerations

Refine benefits proposal and estimate cost

- Potential savings or increased costs

LRO estimates of revenue package

Stakeholder engagement

- Solicit input from stakeholders and industry partners
 - Employers, Health Care Industry, Long Term Care, Other?
- Remote community listening forums

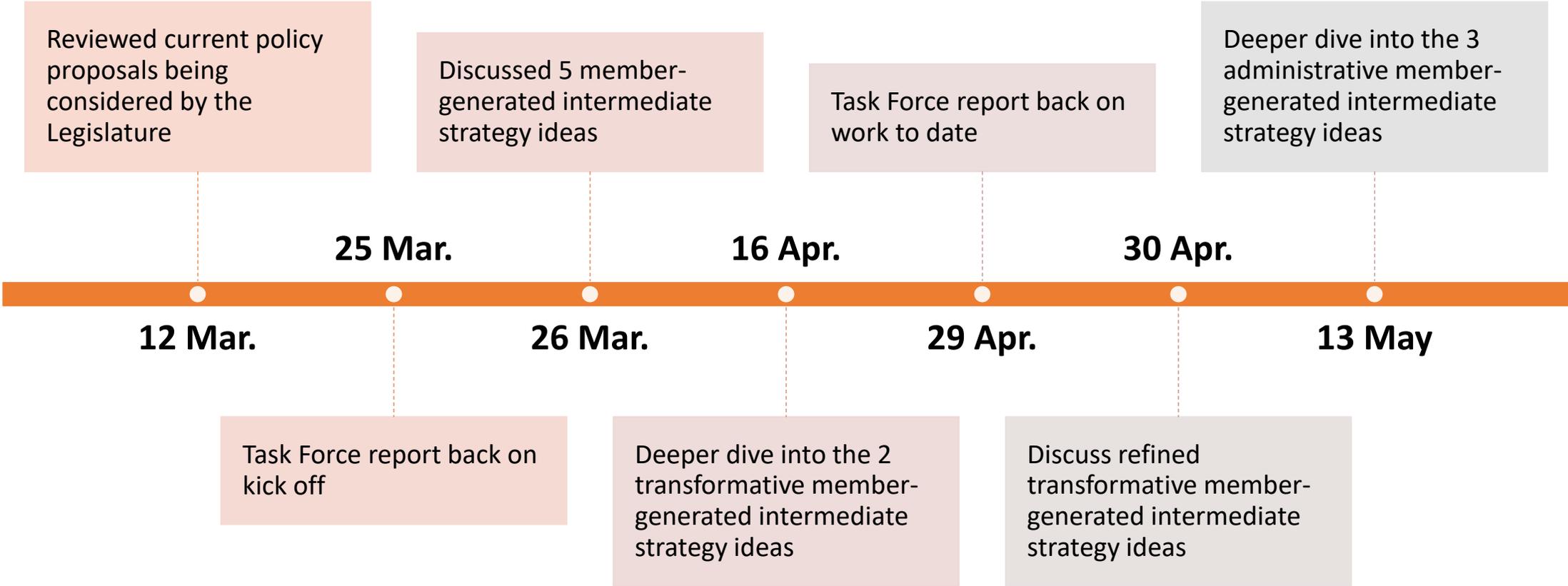
Intermediate Strategies Workgroup

Chair Goldberg

Charge & deliverables

- Legislative Letter:
 - A small work group, led by the Chair and Vice-chair, to identify intermediate strategies the legislature may consider to promote affordable universal coverage that will be consistent with and form a bridge to the Task Force's long-term, overall plan.
 - Assess and prioritize policies in preparation for the 2022 legislative session: policies which Oregon lawmakers can act upon, are consistent with the goals of the Task Force, and continue to build on Oregon's history of innovation.
 - Include these policy options in the report that is to be prepared by the Task Force in June.
- The Task Force will need to be clear in its report that no intermediate strategies achieve the Task Force goal. Some may be steps in the right direction, but none are sufficient in and of themselves.

Timeline



Member-Generated Intermediate Strategy Ideas

- Transformative ideas
 - Individual Market Transformation
 - Single Payer Medicare
- Administrative ideas
 - CCO consolidation
 - Value-based payment expansion
 - Employer-sponsored health insurance data collection

Transformative Ideas

Individual Market Transformation

- Make the individual market more affordable with a richer, standard benefit package
- 1332 waiver
- State establishes standardized global budget for carriers

Single Payer Medicare

- Create a single, statewide, state-run Medicare Advantage plan covering all Medicare enrollees
- More affordable with a richer benefit package
- Consider expanding eligibility to include those aged 55-65

Questions?

- Given the charge and deliverables, are we headed in the right direction?
- There will be more time to discuss in May/June
- Contact Ed and Bruce if you have an intermediate strategy idea that you would like to add to the list

Public Comment

Revised Benefits Proposal

26

Governance TAG Proposal Preview

John Santa, Governance TAG Lead

Governance TAG Workplan



March 18: TAG Scope & Workplan



April 1: Values, Role & Structure of Single Payer



April 15: Role & Structure of Regional Entities



April 26: Fiduciary Requirements



May 11: Authority



May 25: Review Proposal

Values

1. The single payer is dedicated to improving the health status of individuals, families and communities.
2. Health care, as a fundamental element of a just society, is to be secured for all individuals on an equitable basis by public means.
3. Access to a distribution of health care resources and services according to each individual's needs and location within the state should be available. Race, color, national origin, age, disability, wealth, income, citizenship status, primary language use, genetic conditions, previous or existing medical conditions, religion or sex, including sex stereotyping, gender identity, sexual orientation and pregnancy and related medical conditions, including termination of pregnancy, may not create any barriers to health care nor disparities in health outcomes.
4. The components of the system must be accountable and fully transparent to the public.
5. The single payer will invest in local communities, engage community members and health care clinicians to improve the health of the community and address regional, cultural, socioeconomic disparities in health care.

Single Payer Entity: Roles

- Apply the reserve powers unique to the single payer for financial management and stewardship
 - Establish all aspects of the budget, lead cost control efforts, support regional economies
- Oversee program administration
- Develop and implement program policy
- Support delivery system reform/improvement
- Achieve health equity to improve access, quality of care
- Support workforce development
- Develops and maintains the population health-based information system
- Maintain a government-to-government relationship with the Tribes

Single Payer Entity: Structure

The Single Payer should be a public entity designed with features to ensure the following:

- Reporting responsibility to the Oregon Legislature and Governor
- Ability to accept all types of funds (i.e. federal, state, donations etc.)
- The Single Payer budget is not subject to Oregon's tax rebate
- Authority for development and maintenance of prudent financial reserves to ensure solvency and that are protected to be appropriated only for use by the Single Payer

Single Payer Entity: Board

- The Single Payer board membership will:
 - Require Governor appointment and Senate confirmation
 - Represent a balance of expertise in healthcare and have an authentic community voice
 - Demonstrate no conflicts of interest at time of appointment, during their terms, and for a significant period after leaving the Board.
 - Receive reimbursement for their time
- The Board will have both community and regional/delivery system advisory committees
- Further discussion will be needed to determine the number of board members and the terms of membership

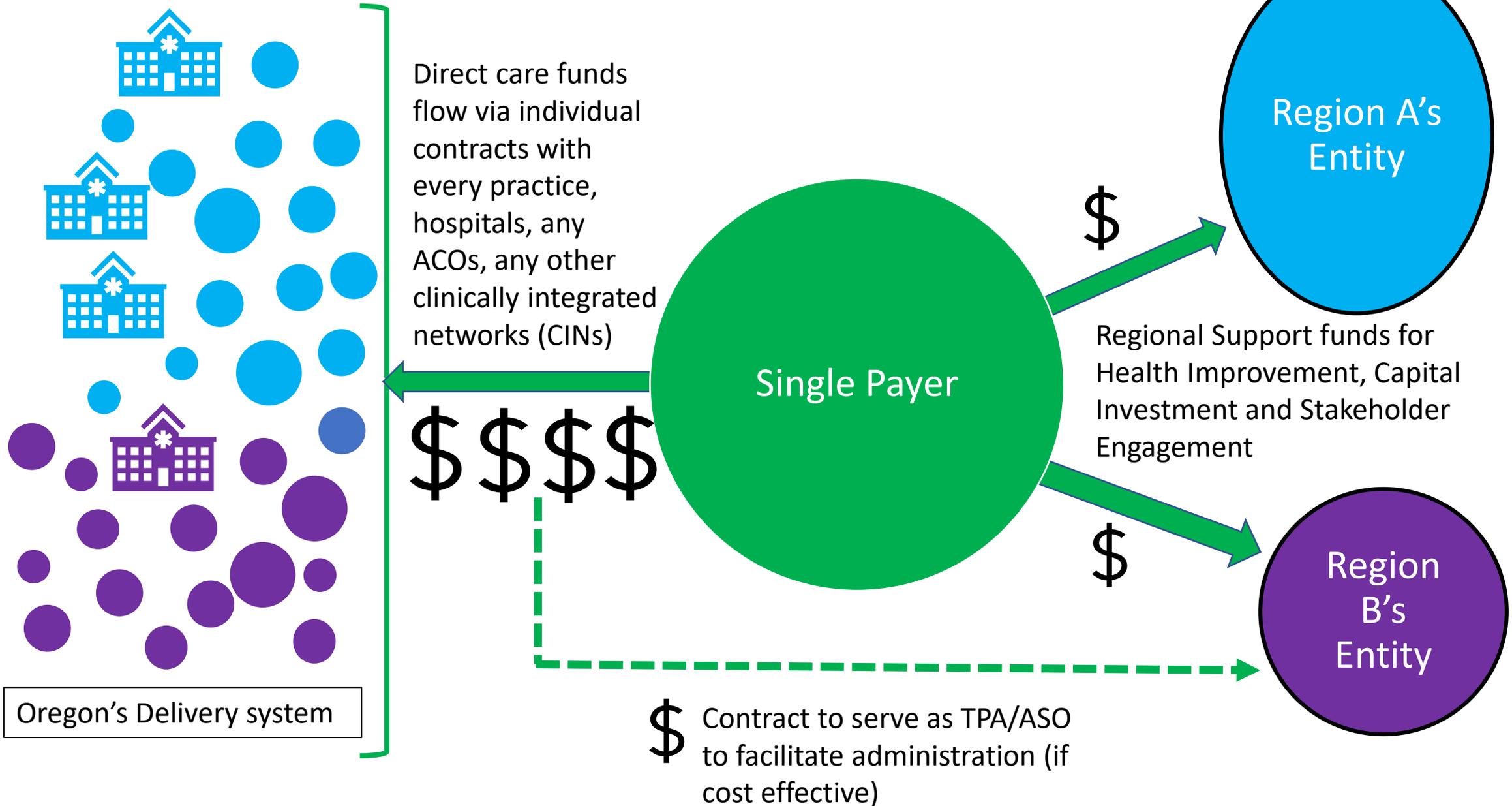
Regional Entities: Roles

- Advise the Single Payer related to management/implementation/coordination of care for the region which could include:
 - Advise on budget from the Single Payer entity to region's providers
 - Advise on contract and methods for reimbursing providers
- Manage a budget for health improvement, exceptional medical capital and critical infrastructure projects, and ongoing stakeholder engagement
- Ongoing community and stakeholder convening and regional planning processes to assess and prioritize regional health and financial needs, focusing on prevention, chronic conditions and equity
- Local government's work with the Single Payer will be through the Regional Entity(s)
- Assist and advise providers on the creation/improvement of delivery systems, fostering innovation
- Promote collaboration across the regional delivery system and other regions

Regional Entities: Structure and Relationship to Single Payer

- There will be one Regional Entity allowed per region
- The Regional Entities will be as transparent and publicly accountable as the Single Payer
- A board of Regional Entities recommends the budgets and contracts for each region
- The Single Payer determines criteria for Regional Entities
- Regional Entity advises the Single Payer on the following:
 - Regional budgets for provider reimbursement
 - Acceptable methods of provider payment methodologies
 - Cost control efforts
 - Regional budgets for health improvement, exceptional medical capital and critical infrastructure projects, and ongoing stakeholder engagement
 - Provider contracts

Flow of Funds



TAG Proposals – Task Force Considerations

- Does the proposal contribute to an equitable, affordable, comprehensive, high quality, publicly funded health care system that can serve all Oregon residents?
- What are the implications?
- Are there barriers to implementation and are they prohibitive?
- Are there additional considerations or alternatives the TAG should consider prior to finalizing the proposal?

Revised Benefits Proposal

Eligibility, Benefits & Affordability TAG Plus

Recap: Benefits Proposal Timeline

- February 25th Task Force meeting: TF reviewed draft proposal based on PEBB plan with no limits/no cost sharing
 - Robust discussion about establishing places where limits are appropriate, ensure plan is sustainable, how/whether SDOH services fit in
 - Staff edited proposal based on TF feedback to go back to TAG
- March 8th EBA TAG meeting: TAG reviewed edited Benefits proposal
 - Some limitations (cosmetic procedures, hearing aids, glasses/contacts)
 - Minor income-based cost sharing for ER and potentially prescription drugs
 - Recommended pulling out both SDOH and prescription drugs for more study
- March 25th Task Force meeting: TF heard revised Benefits proposal
 - Decided not to take a vote after members expressed concerns over proposal
 - Chair Goldberg directed EBA (plus additional members) to revise recommendations based on TF feedback and bring it back to April TF meeting

Benefits Feedback from TF (March)

Ground benefits in evidence-based processes

Incorporate medical necessity

Consider mechanisms for utilization management controls

Revisit premiums on high-income families in order to decrease the burden on low-income families

Consider a single prescription drug formulary for the state

Revisit behavioral health



April 12th EBA Meeting

- EBA TAG + Dr. Metz, Chuck, Dr. Santa & Cherryl
 - Discussion of Key Values & Considerations (Glendora)
 - Presentations from Jeanene Smith (HMA) to support TAG discussion on 4 issues:
 1. Incorporating evidence-based recommendations into Plan benefit design
 2. Whether premiums should be added for higher income Oregonians
 3. Whether to impose limitations on specific benefit categories
 4. Whether a single formulary should be used for Plan Rx benefit
 - Robust discussion led to recommendations & considerations
-

Recommendation 1

PEBB should remain the basis
for a Plan benefits package

Rec. 1 Considerations

Idea of using Oregon Benchmark plan was discussed & rejected for not aligning with TF Values & Goals

PEBB covers categories that are not part of ACA or OHP (Complementary care, adult dental/vision, infertility)

OHP offers most flexible mental health coverage (provider type, modality, place of service) & these elements should be incorporated into MH benefit

Recommendation 2

Benefit coverage details should be guided (where possible) by evidence-based bodies; commit to identifying evidence that is inclusive of diverse populations.

Rec. 2 Considerations

Moves Plan away from “no limits” into one that aligns with best-available evidence

Some TAG members expressed concern that certain services, and populations, are not well-represented in medical literature. Desire to ensure that evidence “wrap” is not applied rigidly.

Recommendation 3

The Plan should not impose premiums, copays, deductibles or any other cost-sharing on members.

Rec. 3 Considerations

Higher income individuals should contribute more to the Plan; this should happen in financing (taxes) rather than cost sharing

Peer-reviewed literature is largely unsupportive of the idea that co-pays lead to less costly utilization or improved outcomes

Premiums and copays could likely not provide significant revenue to offset costs while remaining affordable

Non-members will be billed for services.

Recommendation 4

The Plan should adopt a single state formulary for its prescription drug benefit.

Rec. 4 Considerations

Allows Plan to operate under a single drug list based on evidence (e.g., Practitioner Managed Preferred Drug List)

Single payer should also work on purchasing arrangements to reduce cost of prescription drugs

Need to ensure access to certain specialty drugs which are traditionally excluded from many formularies

Formulary development may benefit from community input.

Meetings in May

Task Force — May 27, 2021

- Topic: Review of TAG proposals and CAC panel

Consumer Advisory Committee – May 17 (4-6pm)

Advisory Groups

- Finance and Revenue TAG – TBD
- Governance TAG – May 11, May 25
- Intermediate Strategies Workgroup– April 30, May 13

Access meeting materials and follow the CAC and TAGs at:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/HP/Pages/Task-Force-Universal-Health-Care.aspx>

Accessing Virtual Meetings

How to join—all meetings of the **Consumer Advisory Committee** and the **Technical Advisory Groups** can be accessed via Zoom:

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Conference Call Phone Number: (669) 254-5252

Meeting ID: 161 411 7859 | Password: 787886

How to provide public comment—anyone may provide written or oral public comment to the Consumer Advisory Committee or a Technical Advisory Group

- Please email written comments to jtfuhc.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov
- Provide oral comment by computer or phone by calling the number above or joining the virtual meeting via Zoom (click on [link](#)).

See public comment handout available online - [Handout](#)