

KMMC priority topics

2019 - 2022

Completed Topics: Research Questions
Network adequacy. What is the network adequacy in KanCare, relative to a benchmark (e.g., contract standard)? If network adequacy is below the benchmark, why?
Care coordination. Are care coordination services (i.e., any services to help coordinate care; not limited to MCO-defined services) available for consumers who need it? Are care coordination services effective for those who have received them?
Pregnancy outcomes. How does KanCare impact pregnancy outcomes?
Social determinants of health. What KanCare social determinants data do we have? What do the KanCare data tell us about the social determinants of health, and their impact on enrollees?
Behavioral health. Are KanCare consumers able to access appropriate behavioral health services when needed?
Quality assurance. Are quality assurance measures in place to ensure that individuals receive the level of services they need?
Telehealth. Are KanCare members able to access telehealth services, including tele-behavioral health services? How does use of telehealth services differ by region and service?

Other Topic: Research Questions
Access. Where are KanCare services provided, and to which consumers? What are the outcomes associated with individuals who cannot access care?
Setting of choice. Does KanCare improve enrollees' ability to live independently in the community setting of their choice?
Communication. How effectively does KanCare communicate with members? Are members satisfied with the degree to which they understand and can make decisions about their services?
Wait lists. What impact on outcomes are associated with wait lists and high vacancy rates?
Disparities. Does KanCare reduce disparities related to health outcomes? (e.g., geography, race/ethnicity, disability type)
Cost of Care. How are funding/costs associated with KanCare distributed? Does the total cost of care for members vary based on location of service and how the services are accessed? For high-cost drivers, is KanCare making a difference?
Eligibility. What are the barriers to having an application processed in a timely manner? How many annual renewals are processed with no changes from year to year? How do standards for eligibility affect health outcomes?
Levels of care. Have levels of care for individuals in nursing facilities changed pre-KanCare compared to post-KanCare?
Enrollee Treatment. Are KanCare enrollees satisfied with the way they are treated?
Employment. What impact does KanCare have on employment?
Utilization. How is utilization measured, and how can it be stratified?

Additional questions from SWG survey and 2021 discussion
Based on national disability/capita metrics, is KanCare reaching an acceptable number of Kansans?
Caregivers: Understanding how Kansas accounts for caregivers and the level of support they provide is important, as caregiving responsibilities can keep some individuals from pursuing other employment. Understanding the cost benefit provided by caregivers will be important, even if they are not paid directly by

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the state for the care they provide. Further, looking at the benefit provided by caregivers would encourage the state to take a broader look at families overall, and not just the individual Medicaid member.

Waiting lists: More information is needed to understand the needs of those who are currently on waiting lists for waivers. This could include looking at how long the list is, as well as the immediate needs of those who are on wait lists. Additionally, understanding best practices and how other states have addressed their wait lists and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) services could be important.

Regional differences: Understanding differences by region is important for almost all topics the KMMC touches. This could include regional differences in workforce needs, or regional differences in race/ethnicity, which can have implications for care. Consumer experiences will also likely differ by region, which has become apparent in the prior consumer engagement work the KMMC has done. Further, while multiple parts of the state are currently experiencing access to care issues, the reasons for access issues differ by region.

Enrollment: The length of time it takes to process applications once submitted, including the time between initial application and enrollment, is important to track