

Immunization Mtg 3/20 9:30 a.m.

National Infant Imm. Week - 4/22

36 states - delivery system in place

Alaska doesn't participate

Of remaining 13, 6 are developing own ^{delivery system} ~~vaccine~~:

- only 4, no private physicians can get the free vaccine

- Cal, La, Neb, Pa

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1/2 of all children in the remaining states

States want to keep this program

Bumpers did not want to take away option for states to be

Doesn't make sense to start delivery until have all 4 drug cos in place

Delivery system - putting out RFP for commercial ^{distributors} co. →
~~then~~ so 1 co & delivering to all docs - - rather than 4.

We are paying all delivery costs. - - states may want to sign on to that new K

HRC: ^{will} States say this is better, more efficient than what we had before? Who will be there?

What we have going for us is that this is an entitlement as discretionary funding squeezes ^{convince Bumpers that can use for inf.}

• Judd Gregg - VFC not one of the ent. cuts proposed

Smith-Kline - supportive, except must be allowed to buy from

Merck - mixed signals - Tom Downey

Lederle - mixed signals - Ann Wexler

Cannought - repeal advocates

↳ concern is stabilization of cap - limit on public purchase

Block grant for Medicaid - - but what about imp. of entitlement

Problem: ASTHO not convinced we will lose program if don't reach agreement on cap.

GAO Report - - late April, early May

- provider enrollment lagging
- accountability

→ DS wants to have press conf. → re too

much paper

HRC:
Think about
economics
of cap

[4Mos still cutting own deals with manufacturers - -
supportive of program - - manuf. don't like it
bec. 4Mos also getting a good price.

- evaluation plan inadequate
 - but can't be done
- cost is not a barrier

Oral Polio - annual limit of 10.8; monthly maximum of 1 million

• if they don't agree to sell more, what to do?

If discussions are more positive, they may want to sell us more.

10.8 → 16

Wagner:

Need a bigger private market. Willing to ~~have~~ live with lower price.

HRC: Bumpers, Wyden

Trying to save entitlement, gives us leverage on the infrastructure issue.

Deal w/ Carter Center health people

- Rosalynn Carter & Betty Bumpers

→ Does legislation allow use of VFC entitlement funds for other things?

→ We need understandable landmarks attributable to VFC?

→ Look at state profile -

ASTHO State ments

Needed for immunization efforts:

- o Meeting with Klepner, Corr, maybe Thurm
- o Do memo of some sort for Panetta to either send to HHS or use as basis for meeting

Mount Defense/gather info:

1. Testimonials from Governors: who did Engler letter?
2. Who are Congressional supporters? Associations? (do list)
3. Numbers: kids immunized, etc. (WH to think of more here) Govs do it; why can't we?
4. Foreign manufacturers: ask UNICEF
5. Foreign sales by domestic manufacturers
6. List of bad upcoming events w/timing & our response: Delivery, GAO, polio; will there be a Bumpers oversight hearing
7. CR/HRC message re states differ and VFC may not meet need equally in all states (Ark.) -- how to develop this
8. More evidence on why VFC fills a need (i.e., reduce referrals to clinics)
9. Physician participation: is it really low? do we care if these are the only docs who would ever see these kids anyway?
10. Does fact that new vaccines coming to market (varicella) have no set CDC price argue that manufacturers will slowly come out from under these prices anyway? Is varicella the only one coming on line? Are we just talking childhood vaccines, or also adult?
11. What % insurers cover child immunization? (Merck said 40%.) Is it going up or down? How many states have laws requiring insurers to cover it? (Arkansas passed one -- recently?)
12. Do cost of repeal to states (i.e., having to again pay state share of Medicaid for vaccine -- any other benefit?)
13. How will Nat'l Immuniz Week (4/22) characterize VFC?
14. When is April Nat'l Vaccine Advisory Committee meeting, and will there be headlines from that? (according to AP story, outside consultants to say if manufacturers' profits/research will be hurt by VFC volume increase) Who is on this group?

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15. Are 3 new vaccines about to be added? What are they and how will prices be determined? (AP story)
16. Are we really looking at cutting vaccine excise tax to fund VFC cost increases? (Do we need to pull OMB into this?)

Legislative strategy:

1. Who talks to AASTHO? Are they really important?
Relationship to NGA? Which states really wants to convert to universal purchase? (Nunn, Hollings, Domenici: do they still want to?) Talk to Carl Volpe

(List of states UP before VFC; list of those that have converted during VFC; list of those allegedly considering)
2. Who will defend program on Hill? Chafee? leadership? who talks to them?
3. List of who will attack program and why: Bumpers, Kasich, Hobson, Porter, who else?
4. LP to Bumpers/Betty for a reading on his motivation/plans
5. Also idea of CDC to Carter Center to Mrs. Carter to Ms. B
5. How to reach out/gather intelligence from 4 manufacturers? Who should do it? Multi-pronged? (Rasco, Klepner, who else? Is it OK for us to talk to Downey/Wexler?) (HRC point that we should get defense in place before making offers) Is there anyone to talk to at Connaught?

What is status of SK proposal?

6. Why isn't there at least some volume uptick in store? Do we really expect that VFC is just an direct loss to manufacturers?

(Get list of retail vs. CDC contract price for each)
7. Is there an issue with the adequacy of the administration fee?
8. What are manufacturers trying to sell to states?
9. Sara conversation: if block grant, how to fence off uninsured: through a cap, or conditions of participation of bg: states obligated to ensure enough vaccine for uninsured and some MOE for states

(What was Sara's 8% of VFC kids are FQHC/RHC: lose these? How does this benefit us? Also Chafee & fiduciary standards?)

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10. Develop capped entitlement option
11. Develop freeze "state option" option
12. Develop sliding scale price option
13. Any flexibility for Arkansas-type states that are content with public health system (Does this already exist since Alaska doesn't participate?)

Fix program:

1. Do timeline on delivery contract; which states will be outstanding
2. WH to learn details of 3 pilots & why can't be expanded; also understand in more detail defects of Sara R. proposal for an initial screen on volume
What is evidence that over-ordering hasn't happened?
3. Status of Lederle talks on OPV; what is cost of paying retail price? Congressional approval needed?

←
Aren't
we out of
compliance?
Risk sum.