

# Top Ten Threats to Medicaid Directors' Mental Health

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# A Trinity of Headaches

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- “Tribal” Issues
- The Promise of The ACA and the Reality of State Budgets
- Red Tape, Bureaucratic Silos and Red Herrings

# Number Ten – Unnecessary Distractions

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- CMS letter to WA
- County-based Regional Support Networks (RSNs) approved by feds in 1993 and renewed 8 times
- Fix = No at-risk contracts or re-procure
  - No risk removes incentive for managed care approach
  - Huge (p)olitical battle at the state level
  - Focus should be on better integration not procurement process

# Number Nine – IMD Exclusion

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- Pilots are a good start but need to be more robust
- Current incentives are to create inefficient 16-bed units to get around rules
- Real problem is the loss of psych beds in community hospitals

# Number Eight – Evidence-Based

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- If only there were more of it
- Little coordination between CMS and SAMHSA
- No codes

# Number Seven – Fraud Waste and Abuse

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- New payment methods will be necessary...and will confound auditors used to traditional FFS
- Day habilitation, Transportation, Managed Care
- New Mexico

# Number Six – Cost Savings

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- What's the baseline?
- How to track a volatile population?
- In state budgeting ROI is calculated within two years

# Number Five – Silos, Tribes and Money Follows the Provider

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- Three states, Eight different agencies
- Culture clash
  - Bean counters versus advocates
  - Medical model versus Recovery model
- The status quo is unacceptable until you recommend changing it (savings are only embraced in the abstract)



# Number Four – Managed Care Integration

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- To Carve-out or not to carve out?
- How will traditional MCOs get the experience they need?
- How will states know success when they see it?

# Number Three - Parity

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- States can argue they have established it
- Beneficiaries will say all they got was a “hunting license”
- Access to providers will be crucial but who will judge the adequacy?

# Number Two - Drugs

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- OBRA 90
- Too many cooks/kitchens
- Compliance

# DRUM ROLL, PLEASE

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# Number One – Housing, Housing, Housing

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- It's the biggest determinant
  - Compliance with medication
  - Employment
  - Reduced inpatient and emergency room use
- State hospitals used to do it well
- Medicaid can't pay for it

# Words to Live By

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- Chaos is a friend of mine  
- Bob Dylan

# Questions? (Thank you)

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