



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

July 16, 2014

Mr. Gabriel Nah
Grants Management Specialist
Office of Acquisition and Grants Management
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Mailstop # 7700 Bethesda
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

RE: CONNECTICUT STATE INNOVATION MODEL TEST GRANT APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Nah,

I commend to you the State Innovation Model (SIM) Test Grant Application submitted by our Program Management Office within Connecticut's Office of the Healthcare Advocate. Connecticut has embraced the Affordable Care Act and I am proud of our record of success implementing the law. I am confident that our SIM initiative will be equally successful and improve access to higher quality and more equitable healthcare that results in better health outcomes at a reduced cost, improves the state's health and shifts us to a prevention oriented health system.

Our Model Test application reflects our commitment to innovation and, led by Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman, who also chairs my Health Reform Cabinet and the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange Board of Directors, is the product of cross-agency collaboration and broad stakeholder engagement with groups representing consumers, practitioners, employers, and payers, including:

- State Innovation Model Consumer Advisory Board
- The Mohegan Tribe
- American College of Physicians – CT Chapter
- Connecticut Academy of Family Physicians
- Connecticut Nursing Collaborative Action Coalition
- Connecticut League for Nursing
- Community Health Center Association of Connecticut
- Connecticut Hospital Association

- Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home
- Connecticut Business Group on Health
- Northeast Business Group on Health
- Connecticut Association of Health Plans

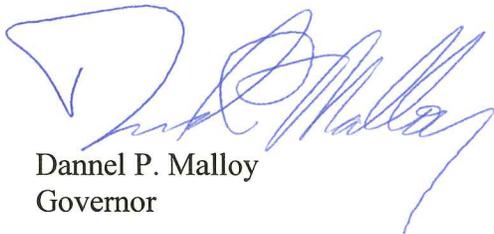
The SIM initiative will enable our state to address barriers to quality primary care and prevention services and improve our state's population health through novel approaches to community integration. It will empower consumers with the knowledge and tools to make informed health care decisions and remove financial barriers to preventive care and effective chronic illness management through value based insurance design.

Specifically, SIM Test funds will be used to implement an accountable care delivery model based on whole-person-centered and team-based coordinated care, with evidence-based informed decision making and integration of clinical and community resources. Our payment model is broadly aligned with the Medicare Shared Savings Program under which primary care providers are paid based on value, not volume. Our approach breaks new ground for Connecticut payers by integrating care experience and health equity measures into our payment reforms.

Our primary care transformation glide path program, targeted technical assistance, learning collaboratives, and innovation awards are critical components of this effort. We will make investments both in our primary care workforce to ensure that we have the capacity to meet our state's healthcare needs and in health information technology to expand data collection, analytics, and reporting capacity at the state, practice, and consumer levels.

Thank you for your consideration of Connecticut's SIM Model Test application and the opportunity to improve access to higher quality and more equitable healthcare that produces better health outcomes at a reduced cost. My team looks forward to working with CMMI on moving Connecticut's healthcare system forward. If you have any questions, the contact for this application is Dr. Mark Schaefer, PhD, Director of Healthcare Innovation.

Sincerely,



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor