

SCTA Advisory Council Meeting

Thursday, May 19th, 2022, 1-3PM – Microsoft Teams

Amelia Gainey, Jeff Gerac, Christian Steen (Prisma), Jimmy McElligott, Ryan Krus, Sonya Ebeling, & Ragan Richardson (MUSC/SCTA), Kate Miccichi, (McLeod), Kathy Schwarting (PCC), Ryan Burnaugh (KMSO), Elizabeth Harmon (SCHA), Sam Head (SC DHHS), Rick Foster, Jessica Carter (Members-at-Large)

Agenda:

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Wins

- a. The SCTA Advisory Council welcomed two new attendees, Dr. Jeff Gerac and Dr. Christian Steen from Prisma Health.
- b. SCTA partners shared highlights from the CY22Q1 SCTA Report on behalf of their organizations.
- c. Palmetto Care Connections (PCC) announced its [save-the-date](#) for the 10th Annual Telehealth Summit of SC in-person in Charleston, SC November 9-10th, 2022! More information to come as plans are finalized.

2. SCTA Procedural and Operational Items

- a. **Telehealth Awareness Week planning has begun early**
 - Mark your calendars for National Telehealth Awareness Week (TAW) 2022, scheduled from September 18-24, 2022, in alignment with the [American Telehealth Association](#).
 - The SCTA will coordinate South Carolina's Telehealth Awareness Weeks events to include opportunities for partners to engage in various virtual and in-person events.
 - Event ideas mentioned during our meeting: telehealth demonstrations, inviting legislators to discuss/see telehealth in action, community-focused events, school-based telehealth events.
 - The SCTA team is in the process of organizing events and will be in communication with more details on how your organization can be involved. In the meantime, please continue to keep TAW in mind, and do not hesitate to reach out if you would like to brainstorm ideas.
- b. **Workgroup Revamp Brainstorm**
 - The SCTA team is thinking through ways to align SCTA facilitated workgroups with our most recent statewide strategic plan format.
 - Over the past month, Sonya and Ragan have been meeting with SCTA clinical partners to brainstorm ideas for this new workgroup structure.
 - We would love to hear any feedback about this structure as we flush out planning this summer. Feel free to share your ideas via email to Ragan at ragan@sctelehealth.org.
 - Continued conversation around workgroup revamp will continue into our next Advisory Council meeting.

c. Please review CY22Q1 report by EOB 5/26 date

- Thank you all for sending your SCTA CY22Q1 Report updates on behalf of your organization!
- A final draft of the report was sent to this group via email, please review if you have not already by EOB Thursday, 5/26. If you would like to provide feedback or suggestion, please email Ragan ragan@sctehealth.org.
- A friendly reminder for those who have provided quantitative data in the past - next quarter (CY22Q2) you will be asked to provide your mid-year quantitative telehealth data via the RedCap survey Excel template in addition to your regular qualitative updates.

3. SCTA Statewide Strategy

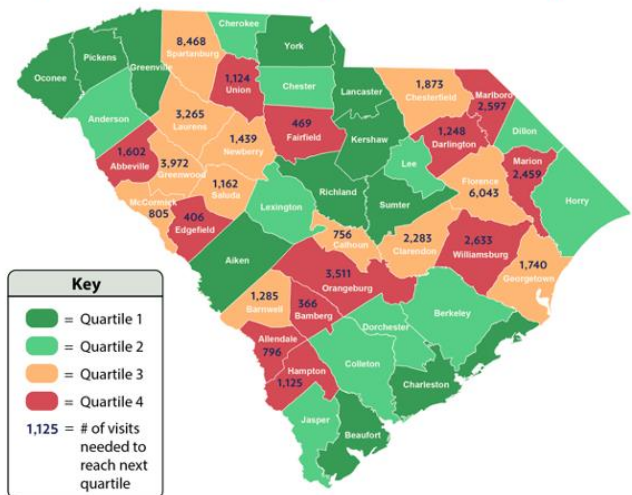
a. 2022 finalized milestones

- Sonya emailed this group an updated version of the SCTA 2022 finalized milestones, outlining the continuation of the great telehealth work around the state from our SCTA partners.
- Please review if you have not already by EOB Thursday, 5/26. If you would like to provide feedback or suggestions, please email Sonya sonya@sctehealth.org.

b. Strategy mapping and next steps

- **Service Extension** – “Specialty Utilization among Medicare Population in SC”
 - Previously presented at last quarter’s Advisory Council meeting, MUSC’s Center of Excellence drafted a heat map to show the amount of specialty care by zipcode in SC using a five percent sample of SC Medicare data. Surgical services, as well as mental health services, were removed from this sample.
 - The draft map below displays counties where specialty care access may be limited, and with more investigation can help SCTA partners strategically target where to deploy telehealth programs to increase access.

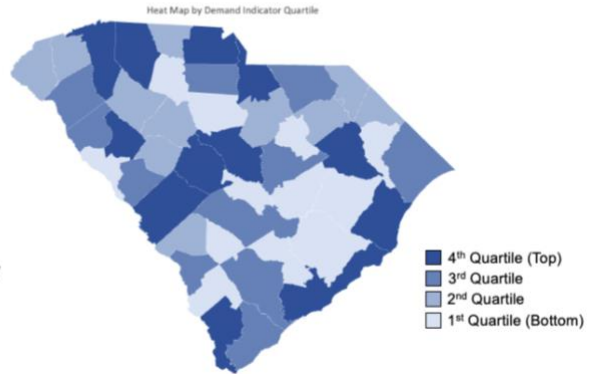
Service Extension:
Specialty Utilization among Medicare Population in SC



- **Hospital Support** – Inpatient Neuro “In County Service Indicator”

Hospital Support: Inpatient Neuro “In-County Service Indicator”

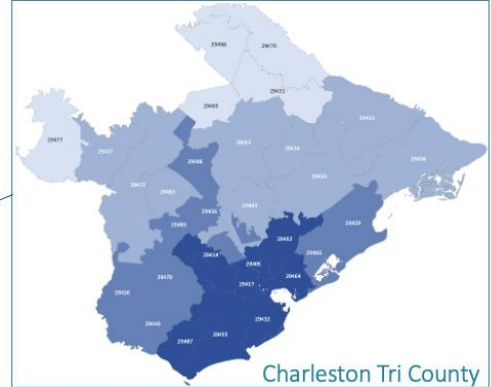
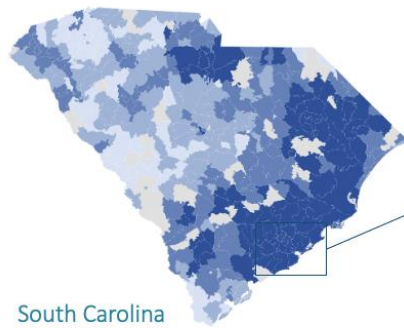
- 2 years of Medicare data documenting inpatient neuro admissions by patient county (demand) per capita
- County hospital admissions per capita (supply)
- County demand – county supply = in-county service indicator



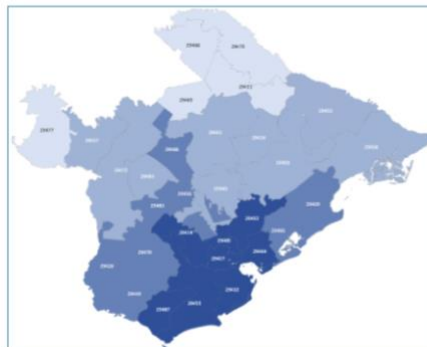
- **Convenient Care** – Heat Map of 2020 MUSC VUC Visits per capita by Zip Code
 - The first graphic below zooms in on the Tri-County area, showcasing virtual urgent care (VUC) utilization per capita by zipcode (darker shade = higher utilization).
 - The second graphic compares Tri-County VUC utilization (left), to the Tri-County social vulnerability (right). This indicates that the more socially vulnerable areas are not necessarily utilizing VUC as much as the less socially vulnerable zip codes.

Convenient Care:

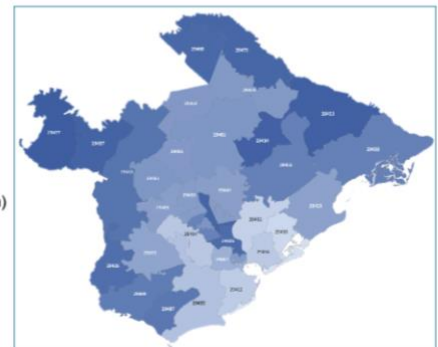
2020 MUSC Virtual Urgent Care Visits Per Capita by Zip Code



Tri-County Virtual Urgent Care Visits



Tri-County Social Vulnerability



- 4th Quartile (Top)
- 3rd Quartile
- 2nd Quartile
- 1st Quartile (Bottom)

c. **CY2023 strategy planning – next steps**

- The goal for the next Advisory Council meeting in August is to have maps prepared to share for the two remaining strategies – Primary Care Support & Healthy Equity.
- These maps are a “proof of concept”, and along with the Primary Care Support and Health Equity maps, will serve as a guide for SCTA partners as they develop goals and milestones for CY2023 strategy planning.

4. Legislative and Advocacy Recap/Update

a. **Recap 2021-2022 efforts**

- Representative Herbkersman introduced [SC House Bill 5161](#):
 - Introduced 3/29/22 – did not make it out of committee (committee was adjourned)
 - Key components of the bill included:
 - Defining key telehealth terms in statute
 - Removing originating site restrictions
 - Removing outdated language prescribing practices via telehealth
 - Although this did not make it out of committee, it acted as leverage for conversation with payers to come to a long-term solution moving forward.
- Senator Shealy introduced [SC Senate Bill 1179](#):
 - “Allows for licensed social workers, professional counselors, marriage and family therapists, addiction counselors, and psycho-educational specialists to provide services using behavioral telehealth.”
 - Signed by Governor on 5/13/22
- i. A [Medicaid bulletin](#) was published on 4/29, outlining updates on telehealth flexibilities issues during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE). Updates include:
 1. Flexibilities that are being made permanent
 2. Flexibilities that will be extended for further evaluation for one more year after the expirations of the current federal PHE
 3. Flexibilities that will expire at the end of the current federal PHE

b. **Focus for coming months**

- The SCTA will continue its efforts to advance telehealth in SC, via conversations and engagement with SC payers through the summer and fall to inform legislative action next session.

5. Next SCTA Advisory Council Meeting

- a. **Thursday, August 18th, 2022 from 1-3PM – Location TBD**