Overview of Segmentation of High-Need, High-Cost Patient Population

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Melinda Abrams, MS Rose Kleiman Eric Schneider, MD Tanya Shah, MBA, MPH

Outline

- Why Segmentation is Important
- Framing: the bio-psycho social framework
- Methodology
- What we learned: results
- Limitations
- Where this leads us: potential use case

Rationale for Segmentation Strategy for High-Need, High-Cost Population

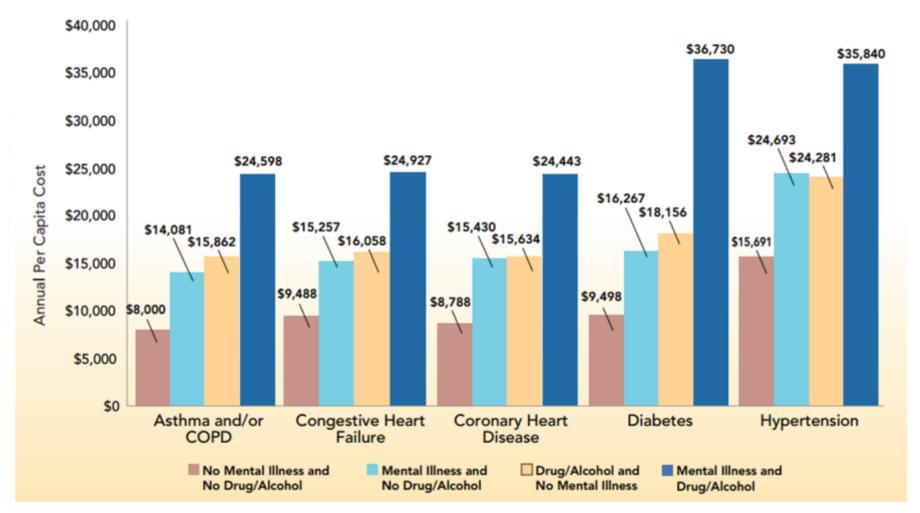
- The high-need, high-cost population is heterogeneous
- Identification of key subgroups helps to better understand unique needs and challenges of each segment
- Segmentation can help target and tailor care to high-need patients



Before We Begin . . . Recognize a "Bio-Psycho-Social" Framework to Health

- Many factors influence health status, including behavioral health, social service needs and environmental context (McGinnis et al. 2002, Freedman et al. 2011, Taylor et al. 2015)
- Ideally, need to apply a comprehensive framework to address concerns of high-need patients
- A bio-psycho-social framework recognizes and encourages the integration of medical, behavioral and social needs to better treat a unique patient

Behavioral health issues lead to greater healthcare costs in a Medicaid population



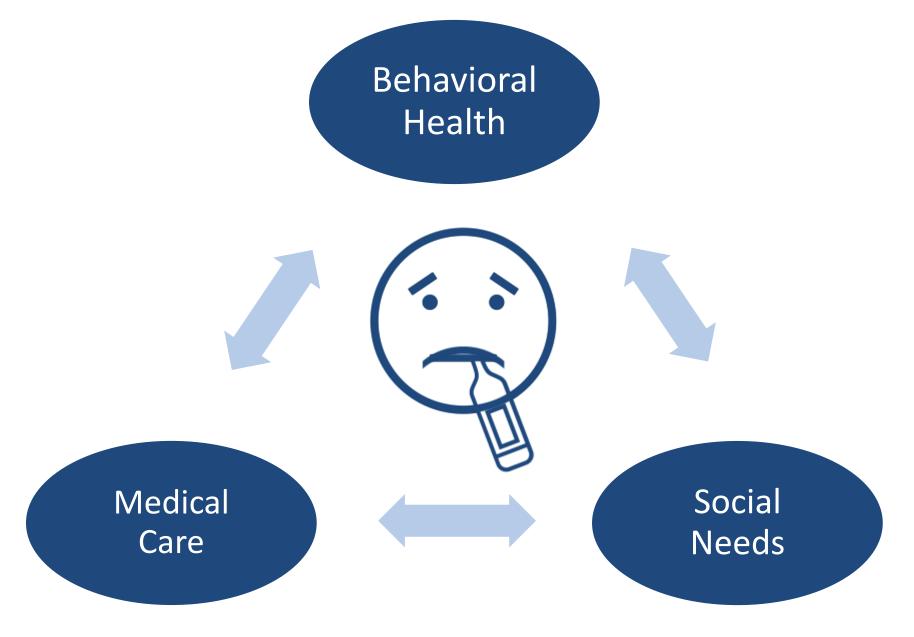
Source: C. Boyd et al. Clarifying Multimorbidity Patterns to Improve Targeting and Delivery of Clinical Services for Medicaid Populations.

Addressing behavioral and social needs improve outcomes, lowers expenditures

Formerly Homeless
People Had Lower
Overall Health Care
Expenditures After
Moving Into
Supportive Housing –
Wright et al, Health
Affairs 2015

Residents' Self-Reported Survey Outcomes Before And After Moving Into Supportive Housing

	Year before moving	First year after moving		
Outcome	in	in		
Use of health care services				
At least one hospitalization	65%	26%**		
Average number of hospitalizations ^a	2.5	0.6**		
At least one ED visit	62%	48%**		
Average number of ED visits ^a	2.8	1.9		
Had a designated primary care provider	73%	89%**		
Access to care and well-being				
Had unmet physical health needs	79%	48%**		
Had unmet mental health needs	45	17**		
Physical health was fair or poor	80	54**		
Mental health was fair or poor	80	63**		
Was "not too happy" in life	59	14**		



Why Does This Matter? Who Might Use it? How?

A typology can assist health system leaders, payers and policymakers to:

- understand population
- select programs or practices to meet the needs of the segments of the population
- identify and develop workforce
- identify and overcome payment and policy barriers



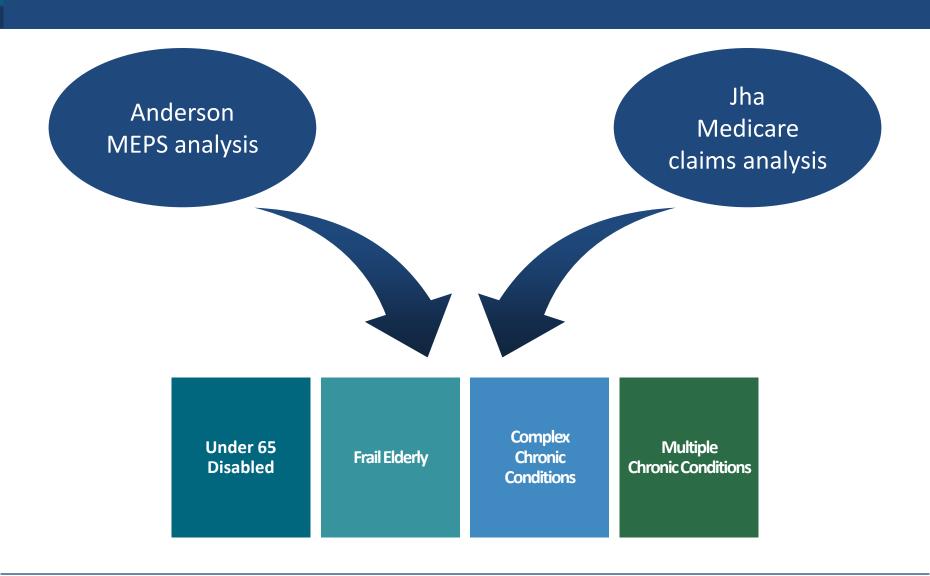
Methodology

- 1. Reviewed empirical analysis
- 2. Reviewed segmentation literature
- 3. Reviewed program-related information
 - Program evaluations, case studies, extensive Internet searches
- Conducted interviews with health system leaders, program leadership and payers
- Created matrix to show collected information by identified subgroup
 - If subgroup straddled multiple populations (e.g. homeless patient with complex medical problems) we separated into smallest, discrete unit possible

Methodology, continued

- We analyzed and clustered similar population subgroup units together
 - Systematically reviewed
 - Consulted clinicians and experts about literature and our process
- Created segmentation headings to reflect the cluster of subgroup 6. population units
- Presented with our external advisory group (leaders, stakeholders) to obtain feedback and refine headlines/categories

What We Learned From Empirical Analysis



What We Learned from the Segmentation Literature (n=10)

- Variation in quality and rigor
- Several approaches developed to assist with riskadjustment and payment
- Segments identified affirmed those derived from empirical analysis
- Additional segments identified:
 - Advanced illness
 - End-of-life
 - Children with complex conditions

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		6142 - Di	6142 - Diabetes and Asthma			\$8,822	0.08	\$11,039	0.12	\$23,045	0.2	
		6145 - Di	6145 - Diabetes and Other Chronic Disease Level 2			\$6,242	0.11	\$11,359	0.16	\$10,877	0.1	
		6144 - Di	6144 - Diabetes and Hypertension			\$5,919	0.03	\$10,612	0.12	\$13,938	0.1	
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Total

0.36 \$20,802

\$18,038

0.34 \$25,157

0.28

What We Learned from Program Literature (n=56) and Interviews (n=15)

- Utilization v. condition-based approach
- Additional segments emerged:
 - Behavioral health
 - Poverty and social determinants to health
- Important variables to consider when designing programs:
 - Amenability to change
 - Patients who are persistently high-cost



Four Segments:

- 1. No chronic conditions
- 2. 1+ chronic conditions
- 3. Advanced Illness
- 4. Extremely frail, near end-of-life

Combined clinicians' observations with EHR and utilization (claims) data

belinhealth

Four Segments:

- 1. High-need patients who make use of the health system
- 2. Very high-risk who are not actively engaged
- 3. Patients at low risk who nonetheless have high spending; and
- 4. Patients who are relatively healthy and have little interaction with the system

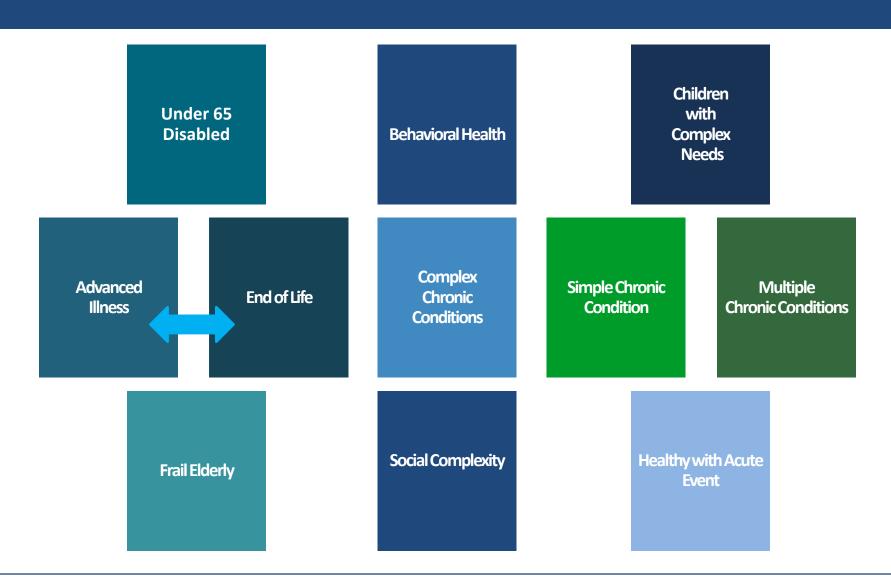
Data on Social Determinants:

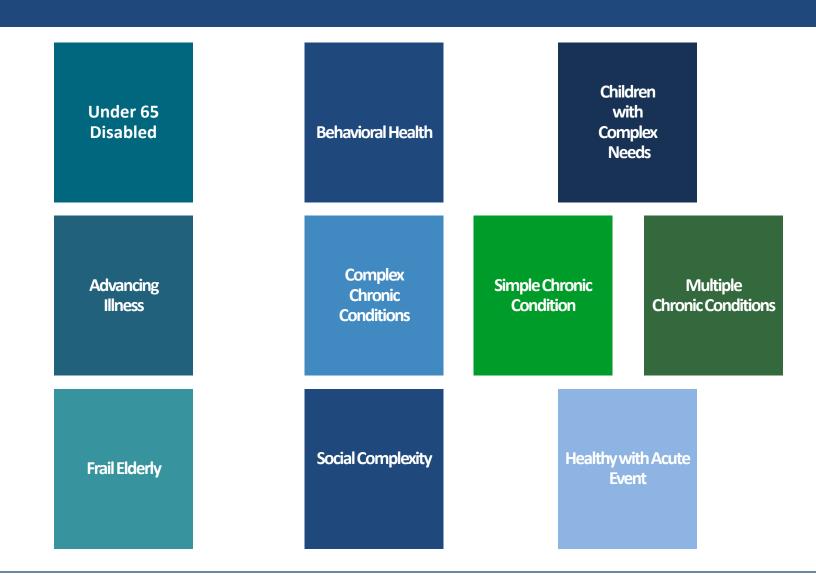
- zip code
- health insurance status
- bills in collection

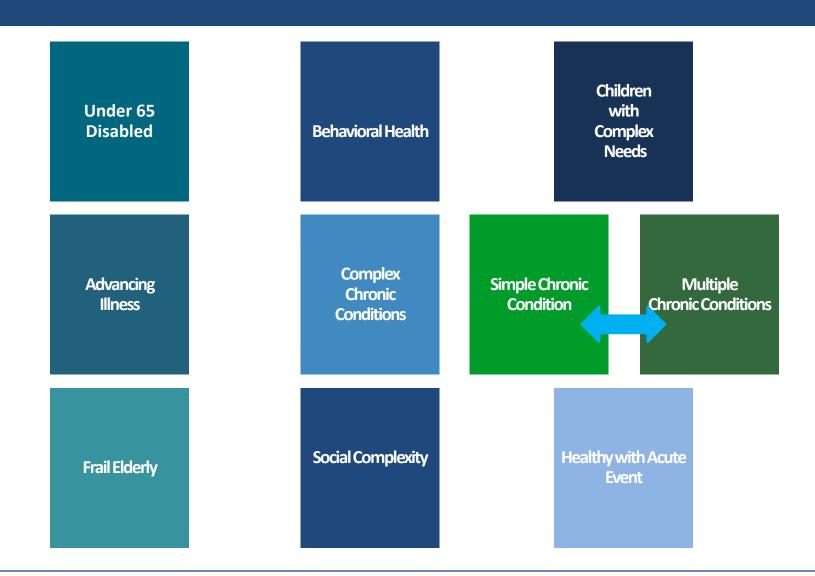
What We Heard from Our External Advisory Group

- Start with the bio-psycho-social framework
- Be cautious, but proceed. Only 1st iteration.
- Do not lump behavioral health and social service needs together. They cut across all segments
- Launch systematic analysis to hear from patients to refine and test whatever you come up with









Children **Under 65** with **Disabled** Complex **Behavioral Health Needs Complex** Multiple **Advancing** Chronic Chronic Conditions Illness **Conditions Social Complexity** Healthy with Acute **Frail Elderly Event**

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Under 65 Disabled

Advancing Illness

Frail Elderly

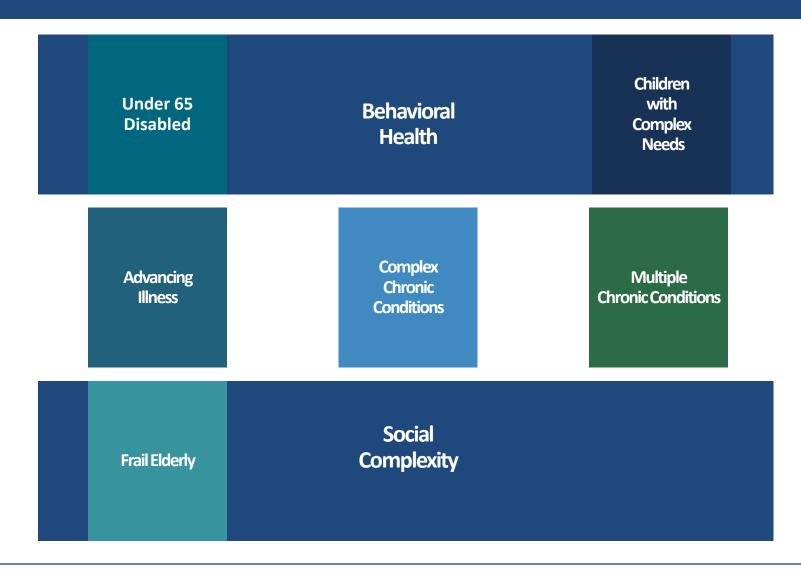
Behavioral Health

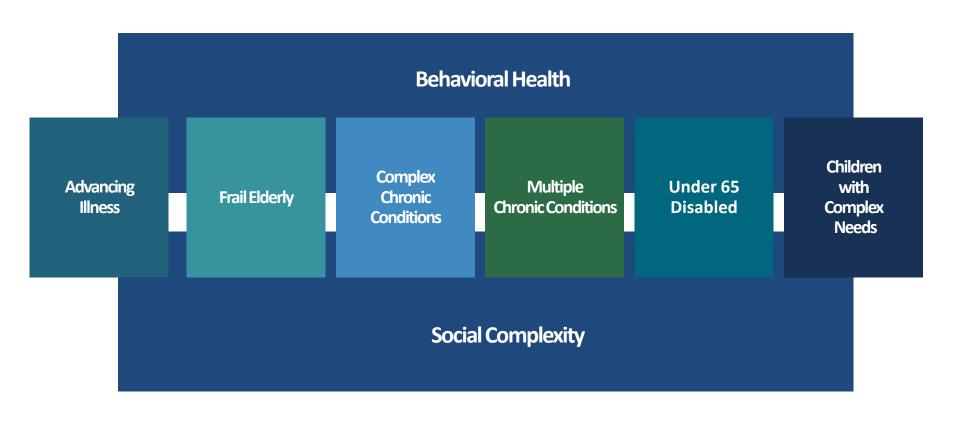
Complex Chronic Conditions

Social Complexity

Children with Complex Needs

Multiple Chronic Conditions





Limitations/Challenges

- There are multiple plausible segmentation strategies. Approach depends on audience and purpose
- Results not intended to be immediately relevant to directing clinical decisions at the front lines of care
- Limited data sources ideally, need information from patients, social service agencies and interoperable systems

Direction Takers



13%

- View physicians as the most credible source of information and look to them for direction and guidance
- Likely to go to the doctor at the first sign of a health concern
- Tend to ignore medical advice only when it's difficult to work recommendations into their routines.

Best approach:

The current one. They're looking for and are happy to follow doctors' orders

Balance Seekers



18%

- Dedicated to their health and wellness but don't pay as much attention as do Direction Takers when it comes to what doctors tell them
- They prefer to come to their own conclusions about what success looks like after seeking information on treatment via the internet as well as friends and family

Best approach:

Presenting them with options and choices, while stressing the consequences of each

Willful Endurers



27%

- Live for the here and now and put current pleasures over future health
- Resistant to changing habits
- Only visit the doctor when they absolutely must

Best approach:

As the toughest groups to work with, they need simple steps and immediate gratification

Priority Jugglers



18%

- So busy with other responsibilities, they invest less in health and wellness, but are proactive about the health of their loved ones
- Put off dealing with their own health issues until problems are too big to ignore or interfere with their responsibilities

Best approach:

Appealing to their sense of duty and responsibility by pointing out that others depend on their health

Self Achievers



24%

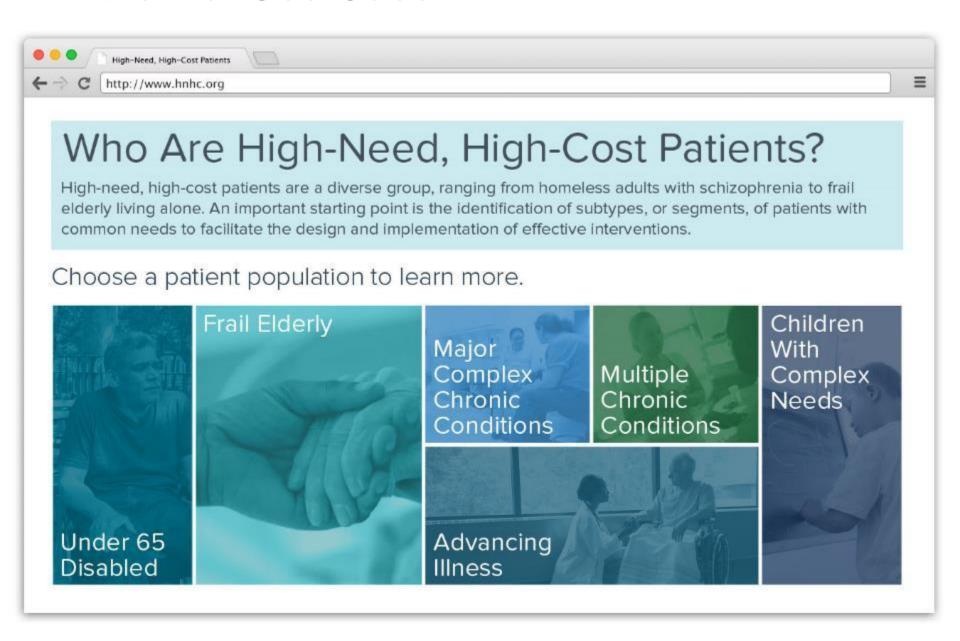
- The most proactive about health and wellness but more likely than Balance Seekers to prioritize doctors' advice
- Very task-oriented and will stay on top of health issues with medical check-ups and screenings
- Willing to tackle challenges if given measurable goals

Best approach:

Provide health education and tasks along with baseline measures and tracking tools to reinforce their progress

Source: c2b Solutions

A Potential Use Case



A Potential Use Case



Frail Elderly

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PROMISING PROGRAMS

ALL FRAIL ELDERLY

- ▶ Program A
- ▶ Program B
- ▶ Program C

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS

- ▶ Program A
- ▶ Program B
- ▶ Program C

SOCIAL COMPLEXITY

- ▶ Program A
- ▶ Program B
- ▶ Program C



Conclusion

- Segmentation is messy
- NAM needs to be clear about audience and purpose of segmentation
- This is just a one iteration not definitive
- Claims-based approach is limited. Need comprehensive data (recent NAM report)
- Medical care alone is not enough to improve outcomes and lower costs of care for high-need, high-cost patients