

Vital Directions for Health & Health Care: A Checklist for Policy Makers



Pay for value—*deliver better health and better results for all*

- Tie payments and incentives to value and outcomes
- Help clinicians develop the core competencies they need to succeed
- Advance care and payment models that integrate medical and non-medical services



Empower people—*democratize action for health*

- Link care with personal context
- Ensure health care information is available, understandable, and useful for all
- Promote effective telehealth tools and clinician links to patients and families
- Guarantee patients access, ownership, and protection of their health data



Activate communities—*collaborate locally to mobilize resources for health*

- Invest in local leadership and capacity to drive community health collaboration and initiatives
- Strengthen community-based assessment and strategies targeting high-need individuals
- Build strong state-based capacity to guide, assist, and coordinate local health efforts



Connect care—*implement seamless digital interfaces for the best care*

- Ensure clinical data accessibility and use through infrastructure and regulatory changes
- Enforce principles and standards for end-to-end (system/clinician/individual) interoperability
- Implement data and IT strategies that promote a continuously learning health system



Measure what matters most—*use consistent core metrics*

- Focus reliably and consistently on the factors most important to better health and care
- Create the national capacity to identify, standardize, implement, and revise core measures
- Invest in the science of performance measurement



Modernize skills—*train 21st-century health care & science workforces*

- Reform health workforce training to emphasize teams, innovation, and continuous improvement
- Create new education and training pathways to maintain a robust science workforce



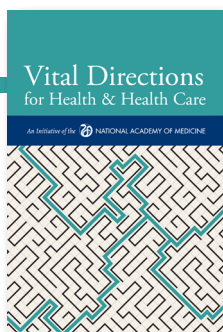
Accelerate real-world evidence—*integrate clinical care data for progress*

- Draw on real-world clinical data to accelerate knowledge & improve care, outcomes, & innovation
- Foster a culture of data sharing by strengthening incentives and standards
- Partner with patients and families to invest them in evidence generation and data sharing



Advance science—*forgo innovation-ready research and partnerships*

- Promote practices and policies for scientific innovation and collaboration
- Support an adaptive and patient-engaged regulatory framework
- Foster cross-disciplinary and public-private partnerships for continuous learning



For the complete Vital Directions collection and related resources, visit [NAM.edu/VitalDirections](https://nam.edu/VitalDirections)



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