

Criteria for Recommendations for the Final Report:

The detailed recommendations for the final report must meet certain broad areas of criteria which are agreed upon by Commission members.

These criteria for recommendations lay the broad conceptual framework for choosing specific and detailed recommendations for Medicaid reform.

1) All recommendations must have a major impact on the Medicaid program

The Commission's recommendations must have a major impact on the Medicaid program. To meet this criterion, the recommendations must affect the program on a national basis, and address a major programmatic aspect of the Medicaid program.

2) All recommendations must address the long-term sustainability of the Medicaid program

Not only must the recommendations have a major impact, they must improve the long-term sustainability of the program.

3) The recommendations must not increase aggregate Medicaid costs

The Commission's recommendations must comport with the context of fiscal constraints of state and federal budgets.

4) The recommendations must not increase the number of uninsured

The Commission's recommendations cannot erode the likelihood that individuals will secure insurance within the context of the health care system.

5) All long-term care recommendations should honor Secretary Leavitt's direction

Recommendations regarding long-term care should consider the impact of changing national demographics and strive to encourage: responsibility in financial planning; individuals finding alternatives and strengthened private arrangements; expanded choices and enhanced access to health care services in home and community based settings.