



# North Carolina Institute of Medicine: Task Force Overview

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NC IOM Task Force on  
Prevention  
April 15, 2008

# Overview

- **Background on the North Carolina Institute of Medicine**
- **Task Force Process**
- **Charge to the Task Force**

# NC Institute of Medicine

- Quasi-state agency chartered in 1983 by the NC General Assembly to:
  - ❑ Be concerned with the health of the people of North Carolina
  - ❑ Monitor and study health matters
  - ❑ Respond authoritatively when found advisable
  - ❑ Respond to requests from outside sources for analysis and advice when this will aid in forming a basis for health policy decisions

*NCGS §90-470*

# NC IOM Membership

- Members appointed by the Governor for 5-year terms
  - Includes representatives from government; the health professions; business and industry; the hospital, nursing facility, and insurance industries; the voluntary sector; faith communities; and the public at large
- Governed by 27 member board
  - Includes representatives from the health professions; academic health centers; NC AHEC Program; NC Hospital Association; NC Medical Society; NC Health Care Facilities Association; BCBSNC; NC Department of Health and Human Services; and other community and business organizations

# NC IOM Studies

- NC IOM studies issues at the request of:
  - North Carolina General Assembly
  - North Carolina State Agencies
  - Health professional organizations
  - NC IOM Board
- Often work in partnership with other organizations to study health issues

# Task Force Process

- Typically, NC IOM creates broad-based task forces to study health issues facing the state
  - ❑ Task Forces generally comprised of between 30-60 people
  - ❑ Task Forces are guided by co-chairs who run the meetings
  - ❑ Task Force members typically include representatives of state and local policy makers and agency officials, health professionals, insurers, business and community leaders, consumers and other interested individuals
  - ❑ Meetings are open to the public

# Task Force Process

- Task Force work guided by a smaller steering committee
  - People with expertise or knowledge of the issue
  - Help shape the agenda and identify potential speakers
- Presentations
  - May include research summaries and/or statistics, descriptions of programs, challenges or barriers to best practices, national developments
  - Presenters may include task force members, researchers, national or state leaders, state health care professionals, consumers, or NC IOM staff

# Task Force Process

- NC IOM staff
  - NC IOM staff will prepare agendas, invite speakers, gather information, and identify evidence-based studies (when available) to inform the Task Force's work
  - Staff write first draft of the report
- Task Forces generally run from 9-18 months
  - Approximately first two-thirds of meetings are for fact-finding, to identify the problem and identify potential solutions
  - Last third of meetings are to discuss and refine recommendations, review draft copies of the report
  - ***Task Force and Steering Committee members are encouraged to comment on written materials and recommendations throughout the process***

# Task Force Process

- Task Force report
  - Report is circulated several times before being finalized
  - Task Force members may be asked to prioritize recommendations
  - Task Force members will take final vote on the recommendations and report
- NC IOM Board of Directors
  - Board members review the report before finalized
- Reports distributed widely

# Recent NC IOM Studies

- Some recent studies include:
  - Chronic Kidney Disease (2008)
  - Health Literacy (2007)
  - Ethical Issues in Pandemic Influenza Planning (2007)
  - Examining trends in Primary Care and Specialty Supply (2007)
  - Covering the Uninsured (2006)
  - Healthcare Safety Net (2005)

# NC Medical Journal

- NC IOM also publishes the *NC Medical Journal*
  - Each issue contains a special focus area with articles and commentaries discussing specific health issues
  - Typically, one issue of the *NC Medical Journal* will focus on a Task Force's work
    - Issue brief describes the Task Force's work and recommendations
    - *NC Medical Journal* circulated to more than 30,000 people across the state

# NC IOM Task Force on Prevention

- Supported by NC's leading health foundations
  - ❑ Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation
  - ❑ Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust
  - ❑ NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund
  - ❑ The Duke Endowment

# Charge to NC IOM Task Force on Prevention

To develop a NC Prevention Action Plan to guide the Division of Public Health and community organizations in prioritizing their prevention efforts to improve overall population health.

# Charge to NC IOM Task Force on Prevention

- Comprehensively examine the preventable, underlying causes of the 10 leading causes of mortality and morbidity in the state
- Examine health disparities

# Charge to NC IOM Task Force on Prevention

- Prioritize prevention strategies to improve population health using evidence-based or promising interventions
- Develop a comprehensive approach to prevention that includes strategies to address the four factors impacting health outcomes (personal behaviors, clinical care, community/environment, public and health policy)<sup>1</sup>

1. *America's Health Rankings: A Call to Action for People and Their Communities*, 2006

# NC Prevention Action Plan

- NC IOM and DPH will host a statewide summit to release the Prevention Plan (2009)
- NC IOM typically reviews the progress on Task Force recommendations approximately 18-24 months after the release of a report

# For More Information

- Websites: [www.nciom.org](http://www.nciom.org)  
[www.ncmedicaljournal.com](http://www.ncmedicaljournal.com)
  
- Key contacts:
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