



PRESS RELEASE

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OHIC Awarded Cycle IV Rate Review Funding

Cranston, Rhode Island, October 9, 2014- The Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC) is one of 21 states that have been awarded a \$1.1 million “*Grant to States to Support Health Insurance Rate Review and Increase Transparency in the Pricing of Medical Services, Cycle IV*” from the Center for Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight (CCIIO). This funding opportunity will allow OHIC to continue to enhance and institutionalize Rhode Island’s rate review program, as well as coordinate and streamline efforts to improve price transparency, and increase its ability to analyze vital information about the health care system.

Specific projects OHIC will execute are effective rate monitoring and market conduct review programs; standardization of issuer price transparency requirements; coordination of rate review with form review; increased form transparency and consumer support; and expansion of the All Payer Claims Database (APCD) analytic and reporting activities.

“Rate Review Cycle IV Grant funding will provide needed support as OHIC works to enhance the effectiveness of our rate review process, as well as increase our capacity to collect, analyze, and report relevant data,” said Health Insurance Commissioner, Dr. Kathleen Hittner.

Over five years, the CCIIO Rate Review Grant program has made \$250 million available to States to transform the review process for health insurance premium increases. With this latest \$1.1 million award, Rhode Island has been awarded a total of \$8.6 million from the CCIIO Rate Review Grants.

Further information on the CCIIO Rate Review Grant Program is available at http://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Resources/Fact-Sheets-and-FAQs/rate_review_fact_sheet.html.

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About the State of Rhode Island Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner

The State of Rhode Island Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC) was established by legislation in 2004 to broaden the accountability of health insurers operating in the Rhode Island. Under this legislation, OHIC is dedicated to:

1. Protecting consumers
2. Guarding the solvency of health insurers
3. Encouraging the fair treatment of health care providers
4. Improving the health care system as a whole

OHIC sets and enforces standards for health insurers in each of these four areas.