



BLOG POST | MARCH 2020

Healthcare Value Hub Celebrates 5 Years!

Five years ago – on March 27, 2015 – the Healthcare Value Hub opened its doors. The goal was ambitious – to support [consumer advocates](#) in adding value-related topics to their already-packed health policy agendas, and do so in a new way.

The [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) (RWJF) has a history of supporting advocates as part of its philanthropic mission. In 2015, consumer advocates across the country already had long track record of working on coverage issues at the state and federal levels and played a critical role in the passage and implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The RWJF’s vision was to support these advocates in improving the broader context in which people experience the healthcare system by lowering healthcare prices, improving affordability, and creating more equitable health outcomes.

The vision also included a new model of advocacy support: free assistance to all advocates—regardless of whether or not they were a current RWJF grantee—as well as other industry stakeholders who were trying to build a patient-centered healthcare system. Moreover, this work must be firmly rooted in the evidence with respect to what has worked and what hasn’t. The tagline we adopted is “We read HealthAffairs so you don’t have to!” (Sorry HealthAffairs!)

We’re immensely proud of all that we’ve accomplished since our 2015 launch. Among other things:

- We’ve worked with advocates in **37** states, many of which we’ve traveled to multiple times, and have provided multiple forms of technical assistance. (We HAVEN’T traveled to Hawaii and Alaska but are eagerly awaiting our invitation.)
- We’ve produced more than **150** products to support our mission, including:
 - **58** issues of our free e-newsletter [Research Roundup](#);
 - **46** free [webinars](#);
 - **40** [Research Briefs](#), summarizing the evidence around timely policy topics;
 - **16** Easy Explainers, short treatments suitable for a lay-person audience; and
 - Numerous [infographics](#) to illuminate key concepts.

Our evidence reviews have helped advance [policies that work](#) and discouraged the use of [strategies that are not evidence-based](#).

Additionally, we strive to answer big-picture questions, such as “How do we get to a high-value, patient-centered healthcare system?” and “What policies are needed to make healthcare more affordable?” It is well established that there is no silver bullet when it comes to making the healthcare system work better for the patients it serves. To cut through the complexity, we’ve organized individual strategies into [comprehensive roadmaps](#) tailored to specific goals that advocates and policymakers might have.

We've also armed advocates and others with tools to help galvanize action in their state. State-specific resources include:

- Our [Consumer Health Experience Health State Survey](#) (CHESS), a unique survey instrument that produces state-level estimates of consumers' experiences pertaining to a wide variety of healthcare topics. A total of 62 data briefs have been created using this survey.
- The [Healthcare Affordability State Policy Scorecard](#), a tool that identifies states' strengths and weaknesses with respect to affordability policies and outcomes.

We've done a lot of work over the past five years, and have had great fun while doing it! In addition to our other products, our [talented staff](#) (including our beloved, former research assistants) have created healthcare value game shows, [quizzes](#) and a [board game](#) to boot! These products and more can be found on the Healthcare Value Hub's [award winning website](#).

We are grateful to the RWJF for their innovative vision and continued support.

Here's to the next five years!



ABOUT ALTARUM'S HEALTHCARE VALUE HUB

With support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Healthcare Value Hub provides free, timely information about the policies and practices that address high healthcare costs and poor quality, bringing better value to consumers. The Hub is part of Altarum, a nonprofit organization with the mission of creating a better, more sustainable future for all Americans by applying research-based and field-tested solutions that transform our systems of health and healthcare.

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