Applied Evaluation in Office of Evaluation and Inspections

Office of Evaluation and Inspections
Office of Inspector General
Department of Health and Human Services
February 6, 2007
Discussion Points

• Role of OIG Evaluation in Federal Government
• Evaluation Approach
• Topic Areas Covered
• Impact of OIG Evaluations
What is the OIG and What does it do?
Mission of the OIG

To protect the integrity of Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) programs, as well as the health and welfare of the beneficiaries of those programs.
Legislative History

• Inspector General Act of 1978
  – Independent and objective IG
  – Unrestricted access to records and subpoena power
  – OIG reports to Congress and the Secretary
To improve HHS programs by conducting evaluations that provide timely, useful, and reliable information and advice to decision makers.
OEI Evaluation Approach
Utilization-Focused Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Approach</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Utilization-Focused Evaluation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• PURPOSE</td>
<td>• Recommendations for improvement (Impact)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• MEASUREMENT</td>
<td>• Appropriate, credible, useful</td>
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<tr>
<td>• DESIGN</td>
<td>• Situational responsiveness</td>
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<td>• RESEARCH STANCE</td>
<td>• Fairness and balance</td>
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<td>• SAMPLING</td>
<td>• Depends on needed info</td>
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<td>• ANALYSIS</td>
<td>• Focus on evidence needed by decision-makers</td>
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<td>• STATEMENTS</td>
<td>• Extrapolations</td>
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Mixed Model Studies

Combine the qualitative and quantitative approaches within all phases of the research process.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Approach</th>
<th>Mixed Model Approach</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pragmatic:</strong></td>
<td>Put research question first</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Deal with logistical constraints</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confidence in the accuracy of results</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confidence in the validity of results</td>
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Mixed Model Approach: Vectoring

- 77% use vector approach
- 54% mix survey research with other methods
- Typical methods – survey, database extraction, record review, group interview, focus group, observation, case study
OEI Core Competencies

• Seven core skill areas:
  • Research
  • Analysis
  • Program Knowledge
  • Communication
  • Leadership & Support
  • Organizational Procedures
  • Computer Skills
Evaluation Approach

CORE COMPETENCIES

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

OEI

OUTPUT

IMPACT

FEEDBACK

Analyst  Team Leader  Manager

Stakeholders
HHS Programs

- CMS
- 7 major public health agencies
  - AHRQ
  - CDC
  - FDA
  - HRSA
  - IHS
  - NIH
  - SAMHSA
- ACF and AOA
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<tr>
<th>Top Management Challenges</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Implementation of MMA</td>
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<td>• Accountability of Medicaid Funds</td>
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<td>• Integrity of Medicare Payments</td>
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<td>• Payment for Medicaid Prescription Drugs</td>
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<td>• Quality of Care in LTC Services</td>
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<td>• Grants Management</td>
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<td>• Ensuring the Integrity of Critical Support Systems and Infrastructure</td>
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<td>• Public Health Readiness</td>
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Recent Chicago Studies:

- Quality of Care in End-Stage Renal Facilities
- Under-enrollment in Head Start Programs
- Medicaid Payments made under Katrina Waivers
- Access to Rural Pharmacies in Part D
- Medicare Part B Payments for Nursing Home Residents
IMPACT
Categories of Impact

- Protect Consumers
- Improve Program Operations
- Save Taxpayers Money
- Enforce Laws
- Provide Guidance
Measuring Impact

- Legislative Change
- Regulatory Change
- Policy Change
- Practice Change
- Enforcement Action
- Industry Guidance and Monitoring
Impact of OEl Inspections
FYO6 Impact

• HHS program savings of nearly $38.2 billion
  – $35.8 billion in implemented recommendations
  – $789.4 million in audit receivables
  – $1.6 billion in investigative receivables
FYO6 Impact

• DRA changes to Medicaid drug pricing
• Strengthened Federal certification standards for nursing home emergency plans
• Improved State standards for frequency and content of case worker visits to foster children
Thank You…

Any Questions?

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