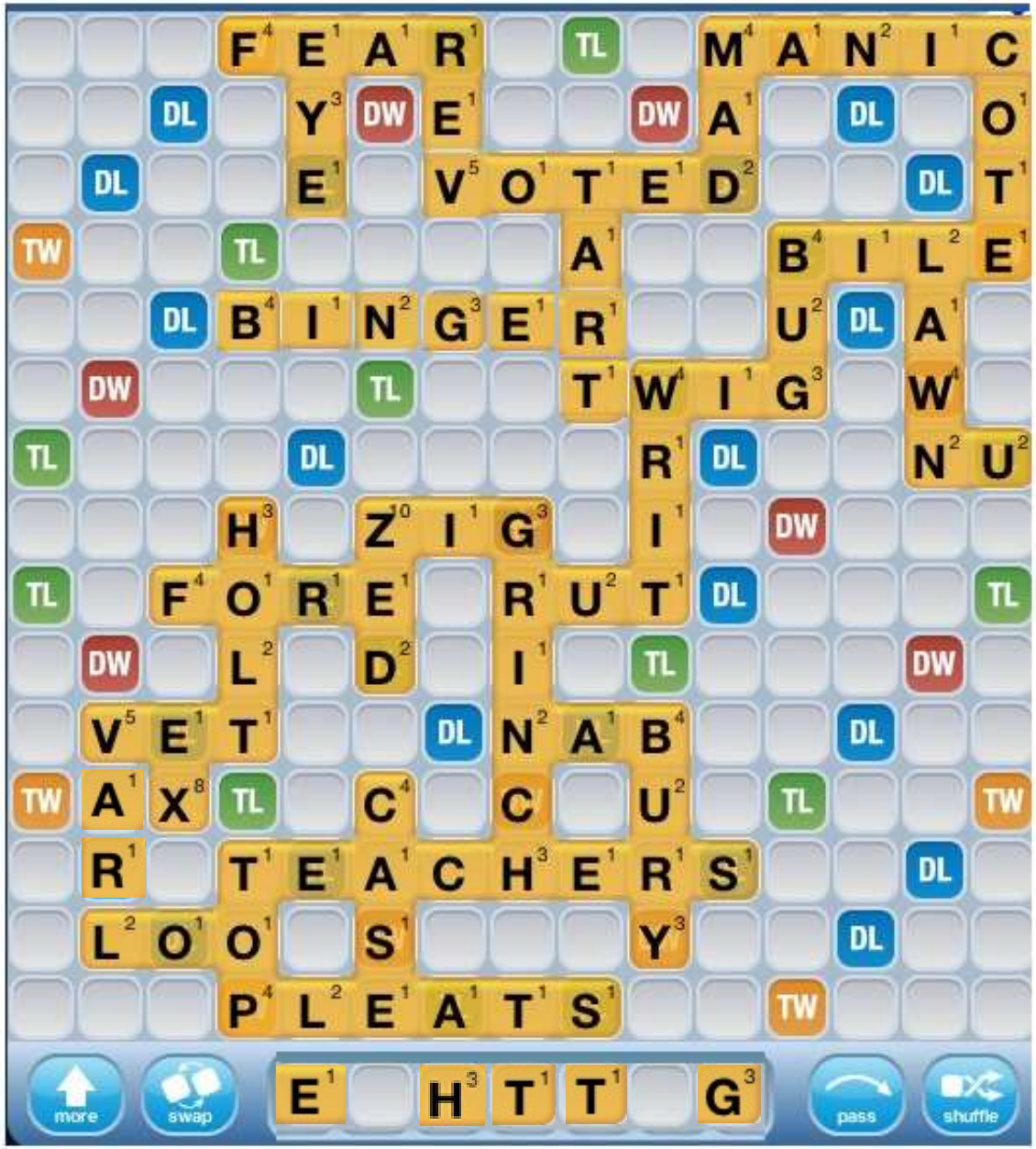
A Brief Tour of Massachusetts

...from Medicaid to Meaningful Use

June 11, 2012

Thomas Land, PhD
Director, Office of Statistics and Evaluation
Bureau of Community Health and Prevention
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Senior Scientist, Multi-State Collaborative for Health Systems Change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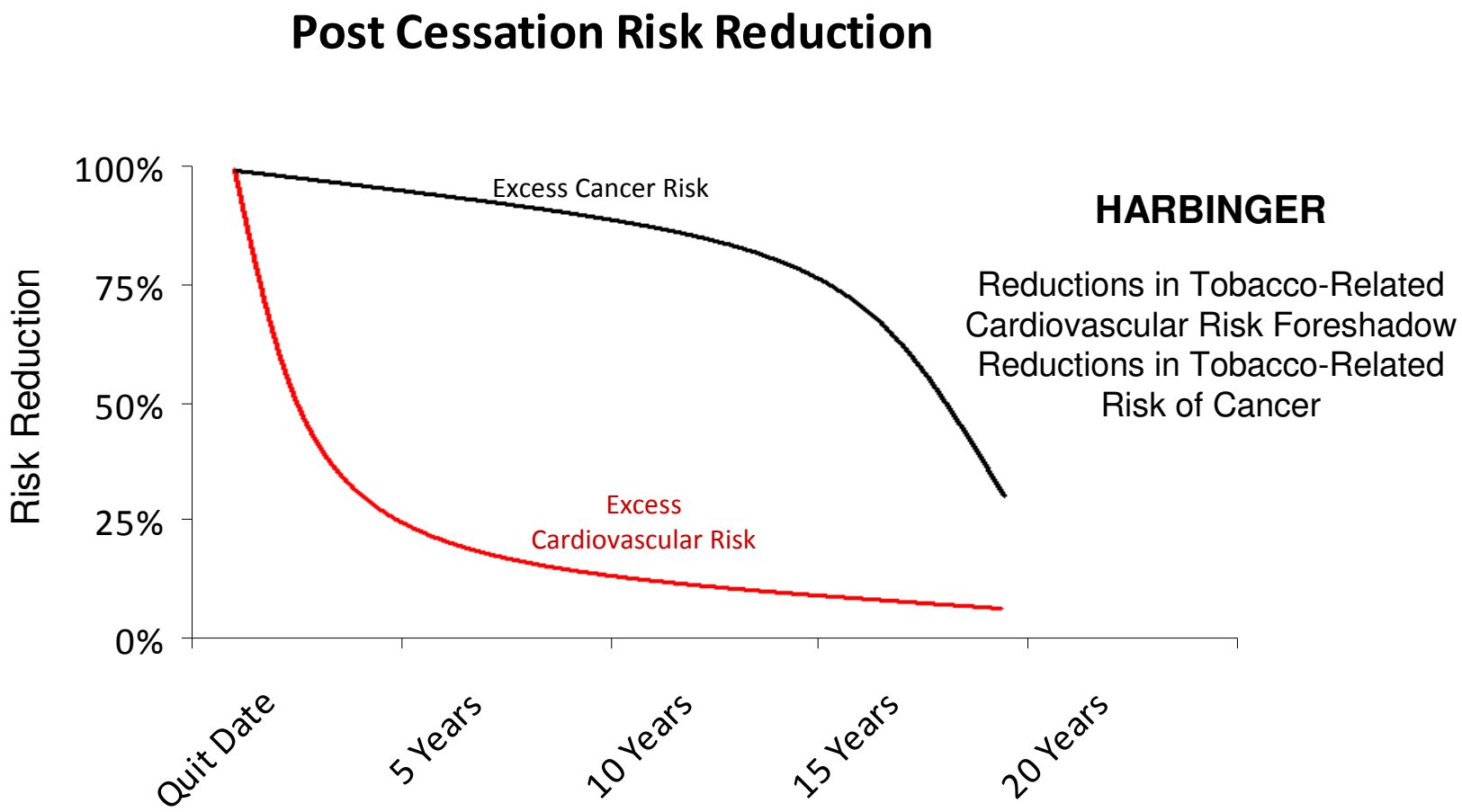
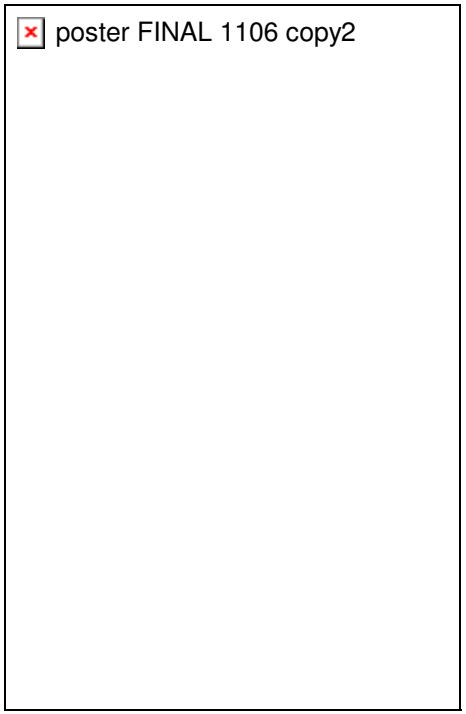
It's All About the Curve



A Brief Tour of Massachusetts

- Mass Health Benefit
  - Design
  - Promotion
  - Utilization and Prevalence
  - Health Outcomes
- Other Initiatives (briefly)
  - All Payer Claims Database
  - PopMedNet
  - Community Transformation Grants
  - Meaningful Use
- Lessons Learned



Legislative Mandate

- Smoking Cessation Benefit included in Massachusetts Health Reform legislation, April 2006

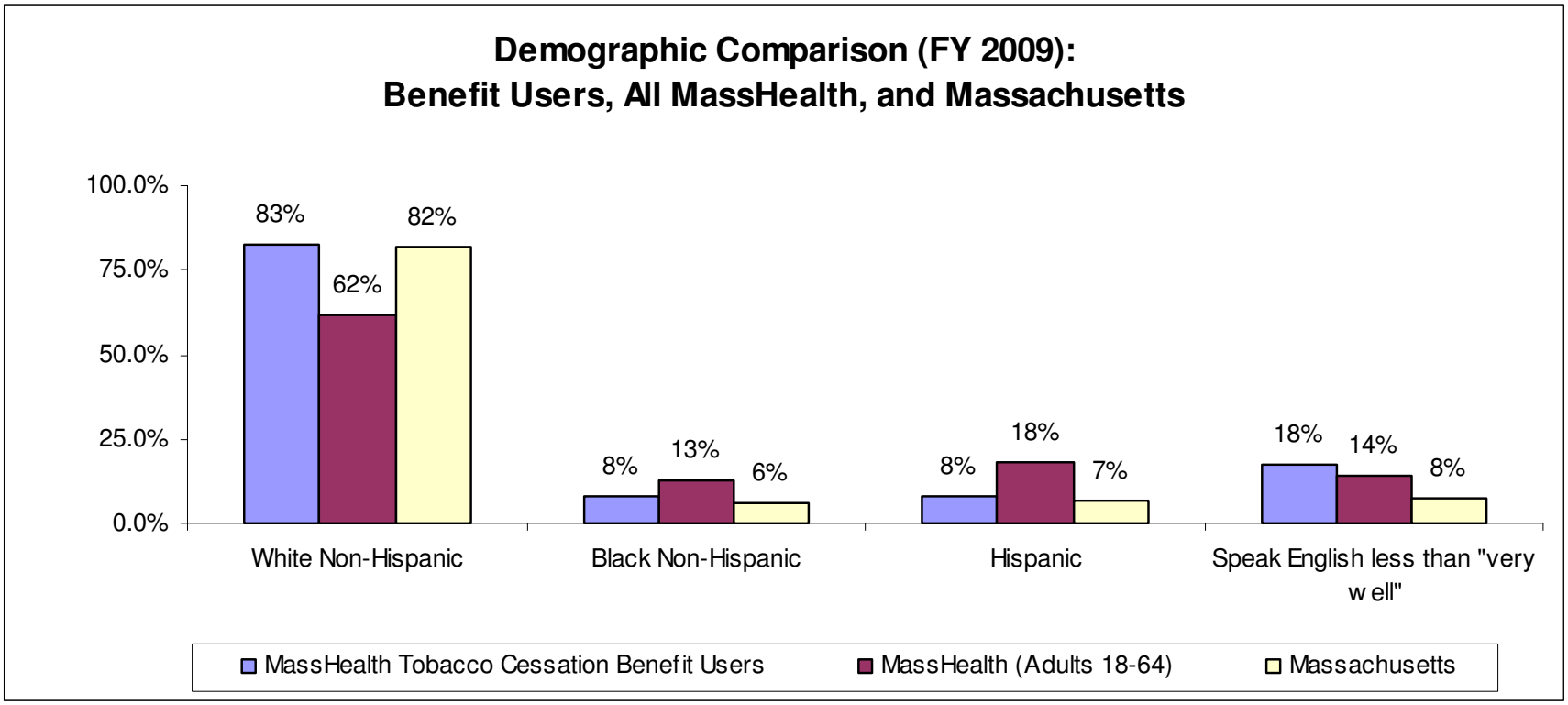
- Legislation mandated:
  - Two-year smoking cessation pilot
  - $7 million per year for Medicaid
  - Report to Legislature each year reviewing benefit utilization, clinical outcomes (quit rates), and cost savings

MassHealth Benefit Design

- Two treatment/quit attempts per year
- 16 counseling sessions per year, any combination of individual or group
  - 45-minute intake/assessment sessions
  - 30-minute individual counseling session
  - 60-minute group session
- All FDA-approved medications and any combination
- 90-day supply per treatment attempt; two treatments per 12 month cycle
- More supply with MD prior authorization
- Prior authorization for Zyban and for nasal spray, inhaler

MassHealth

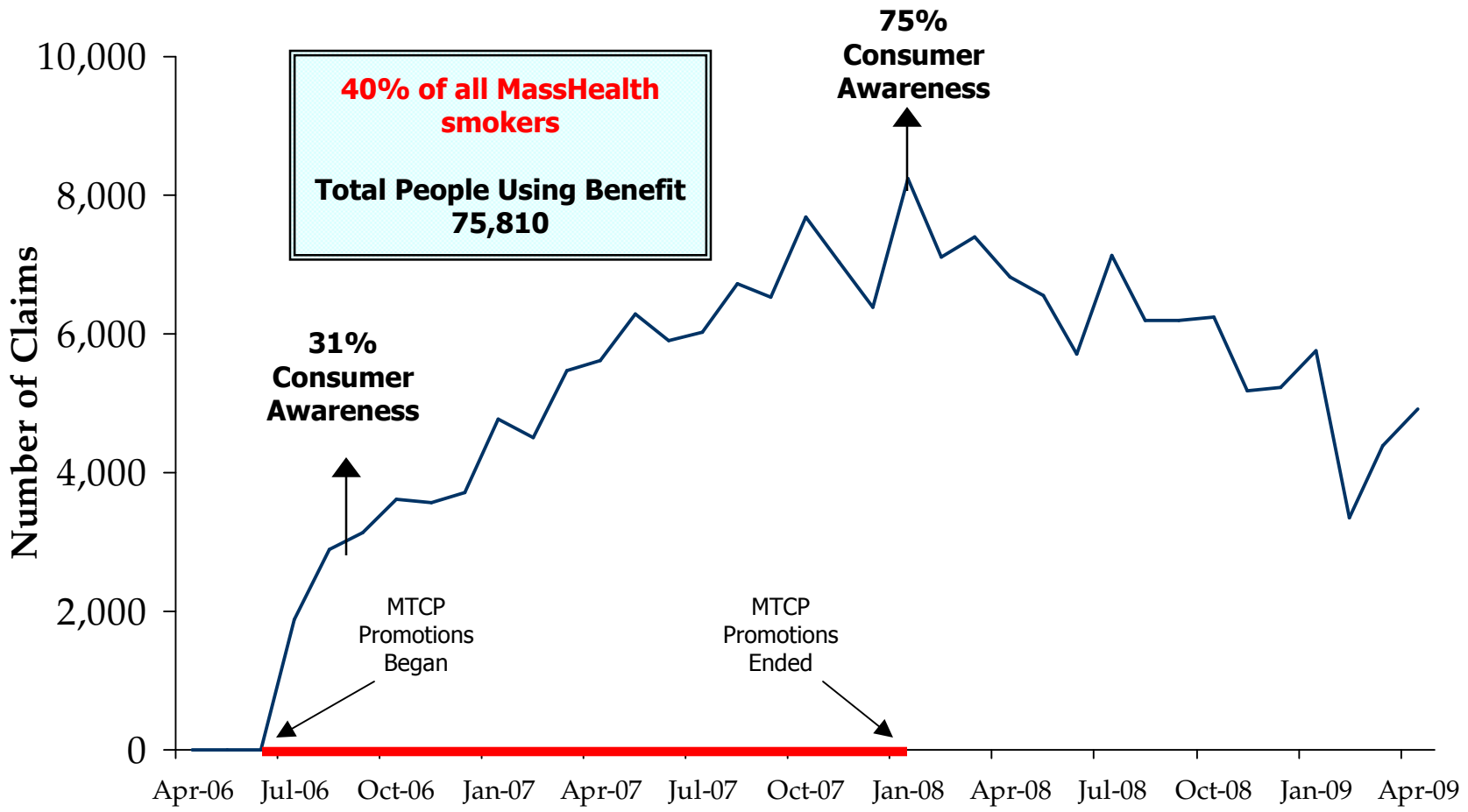
Demographic Comparison



Source: MassHealth eligibility data FY 2009 and US Census (2005-2009 ACS estimates)

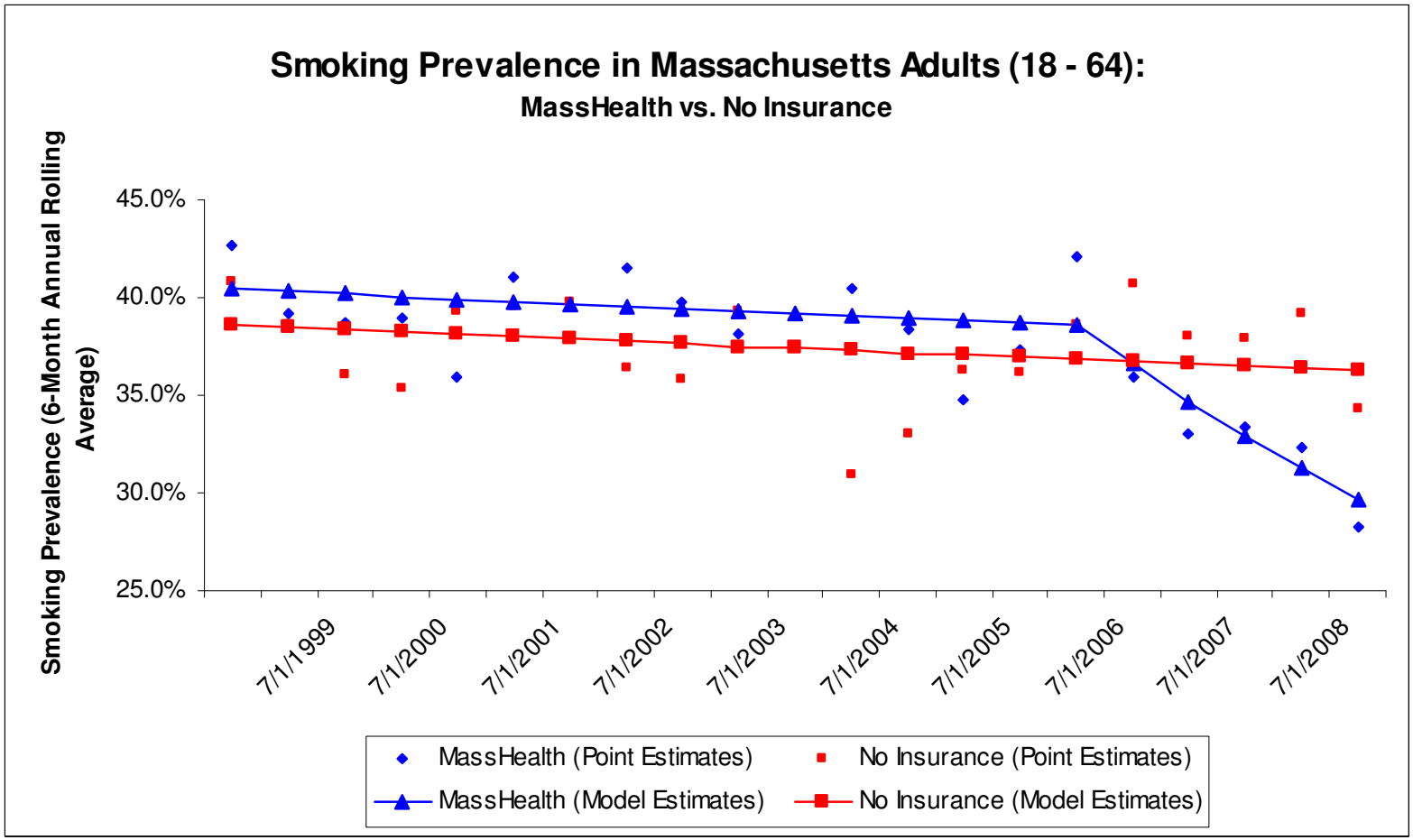
MassHealth Benefit Utilization

7/2006 – 4/2009



Announcement to 20,000 providers 6/06. Announcement to all MassHealth subscribers 6/06. Additional outreach to health centers, hospitals, community agencies, and providers beginning 8/06. Articles placed in over 15 professional and MCO newsletters beginning 9/06. MTCP radio and transit campaign 12/06 – 5/07. MassHealth wellness brochures 7/07. MTCP cessation television campaign 11/07 – 1/08. Consumer awareness surveyed by MTCP in 10/06 and by University of Massachusetts in 1/08.

Declines in Smoking Prevalence



Citation: Land T, Warner D, Paskowsky M, Cammaerts A, Wetherell L, et al. (2010) Medicaid Coverage for Tobacco Dependence Treatments in Massachusetts and Associated Decreases in Smoking Prevalence. PLoS ONE 5(3): e9770. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0009770

Cardiovascular Claims Decrease

- 46% decrease in probability of hospitalization for acute myocardial infarction
- 49% decrease in probability of hospitalization for acute coronary heart disease
- Controlled for demographics, prior health risks, seasonality, statewide influenza rates, and the implementation date of the Massachusetts Smoke-Free Workplace Law

Citation: Land T, Rigotti NA, Levy DE, Paskowsky M, Warner D, et al. (2010) A Longitudinal Study of Medicaid Coverage for Tobacco Dependence Treatments in Massachusetts and Associated Decreases in Hospitalizations for Cardiovascular Disease. PLoS Med 7(12): e1000375. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1000375

Cost Savings Estimate

- Fewer hospitalizations for:
  - heart attacks ($26,044 per event)
  - atherosclerosis ($12,760 per event)
  - non-specific chest pain ($7,367 per event)

- Total Expenditures: $20,178,210 (FY07-09)

- Return on Investment: $2.12 for every $1 spent

Citation: Richard P, West K, Ku L (2012) The Return on Investment of a Medicaid Tobacco Cessation Program in Massachusetts. PLoS ONE 7(1): e29665. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0029665

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New Initiatives

- All Payer Claims Database (APCD)
  - Part of Massachusetts Health Reform
  - First live queries July 2012
- PopMedNet
  - Atrius Health and Community Health Centers
  - First live queries October 2012
- Community Transformation Grants
  - QI based on Million Hearts Measures
  - Electronic linkage to Community Resources
- Meaningful Use
  - Tobacco Use
  - Obesity
  - Blood Pressure
  - Cholesterol

Atrius Health

- What is Atrius Health
  - Multi-site primary care network with 500K+ patients
  - Located in suburban Boston
  - Original partner PopMedNet
  - Analysis based on evaluation 2.6 million clinical encounters

- Definition of “systems change” patterned after meaningful use measures for tobacco use

- Impact:
  - Reductions in self-reported smoking behavior
  - Reductions in the number of smoking related office visits

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