Sustainable Funding

Ideally, a plan for sustainable funding was considered during the Exploration Phase and finalized during the Preparation and Implementation Phases. The *Determining the Funding Stream* (Appendix F5) and *Reviewing the Billing/Financial Process* (Appendix G2) resources addressed the basic issues related to funding and should be reviewed at this time, or completed, if they have not been, with an eye towards sustainment.

The key funding issues for the Sustainment Phase are as follows:

1. Funding Stream

    a.   Are the funds currently being used to provide the program time limited?

        i.   If Yes, revisit the *Funding Stream Inventory Worksheet* (Appendix F6) form with a focus on how to deliver services after the current funding ends.

2. Documentation and Billing

    a. Is the current billing system sustainable? Incorporated into and funded as part of larger data collection system, or a stand-alone system that will need maintenance over time?

        i.   If stand-alone, what is the plan to fund future maintenance, including training?

    b. Are a sufficient percentage of bills being approved to meet actual costs? Examine the claims denial rate and the denial reasons to determine if the approval rate and thus income can be increased.

    c. Is the payment rate sufficient to meet the program's needs in the long term? It may be necessary to periodically re-examine the appropriateness of the current reimbursement rate for services and whether it covers all service delivered.