



Weekly Bulletin – November 9, 2022



WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Honored for Healthcare Strategy Innovation

On November 8th, the **National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions** awarded **Florida Alliance Employer Member, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS), the 2022 Employer/Purchaser Excellence Award** at its 2022 Annual Forum. This award was presented to MDCPS because of their demonstrated leadership and innovation in advancing overall health and healthcare value through their approach to benefit programs and design, employee engagement, and their support of our coalition's and the National Alliance's efforts. MDCPS was also recognized for its leadership in value-based purchasing and exceptional management throughout the COVID-19 pandemic in handling both the health and safety and mental health needs of its administrators, teachers, staff, and their families.

Congratulations Miami-Dade County Public Schools!



Accepting the 2022 Employer/Purchaser Excellence Award on behalf of Miami-Dade County Public Schools is Florida Alliance Board Chair Rosa Nova (from left, Margaret Rehayem, VP, National Alliance; Rosa Nova, Executive Benefits Director, Miami-Dade County Public Schools; Karen van Caulil, Florida Alliance President & CEO; Mike Thompson, President & CEO, National Alliance)

Read the full press release [here](#).

“Pulse of the Purchaser” Survey Findings Released

The soaring cost of health care is harming the ability of many employers to recruit and retain workers. According to Mike Thompson, President and CEO of the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions, the most recent “Pulse of the Purchaser” survey shows **“concerns about a recession and runaway inflation make it even more critical that employers are able to hire and keep top talent and getting unreasonable healthcare costs under control can have a far-reaching impact on wages and ability to compete.”**



In the National Alliance’s latest survey of more than 150 employers, 8 in 10 say healthcare costs affect their ability to remain competitive, while nearly three-fourths say these expenses crowd out wage increases.

Among other key findings:

- **Affordability:** Drug prices (93%), high-cost claims (87%), and hospital costs (79%) are the most significant cost drivers of employer-sponsored health benefits coverage for employees and their families.
- **Transparency:** Employers familiar with transparency tools are 6 to 10 times more likely to strongly disagree that hospital prices are reasonable and defensible, and 93% say hospital consolidation has not improved cost or quality of services.
- **Purchasing strategies:** Almost half of employers are using Centers of Excellence. Within the next one to three years, many employers are considering tiered networks (46%), site of care (43%), contracting and performance guarantees tied to Medicare pricing, and reference-based pricing (36%).

Read the full press release [here](#).

To read more analysis of the “Pulse of the Purchaser” survey:

- [Employers Juggle High Healthcare Spending, Hiring Challenges in 2022](#) (HealthPayerIntelligence, November 3, 2022)
- [82% of employers say healthcare affordability impacts workforce retention](#) (Becker’s Hospital Review, November 2, 2022)
- [High cost of health care is top concern as employers compete for workers, survey finds](#) (Benefits Pro, November 4, 2022)

Lung Cancer Awareness Month

The Florida Alliance would like to continue to bring attention to November as Lung Cancer Awareness Month. **Thank you to Florida Alliance Affiliate Member Genentech** for providing the following important information:



[Lung Cancer Screening is a Great First Step flashcard](#)

[Lung Cancer Screening Patient Guide](#)





EMPLOYER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND EMPLOYER LEARNING COLLABORATIVES (ELC)

REMINDER: Mental Health/Substance Use Employer Learning Collaborative (ELC) – November 15, 1:00PM – 2:30PM

Don't forget, Session #4 of the Mental Health/Substance Use (MH/SU) ELC is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 15 from 1PM to 2:30PM**. This meeting will look at innovative programs and tools for increasing awareness of MH/SU, the awareness of available treatment programs, and innovative approaches to treating MH/SU. We will demonstrate how employers and their employees can use the ATLAS (Addiction Treatment Locator, Assessment, and Standards) platform for Florida developed by Shatterproof to find high quality treatment.



We will also bring in solution providers/innovators in the MH/SU awareness and treatment space, including workplace awareness trainings and prescription digital therapeutics for addiction recovery to explain how their products work and discuss reimbursement/coverage approaches.



To review the slides, the meeting recordings, and other materials from all the sessions of the Mental Health/Substance Use ELC meetings, please visit our Mental Health/Substance Use ELC webpage <https://flhealthvalue.org/our-work/mental-health-substance-use-elc/>. This webpage also includes the resources that are referenced at each session.

Please contact karen@flhealthvalue.org if you did not receive the calendar invitation for the upcoming November 15 session on innovations in MH/SU or need one to be sent again.

Employer Member Benefit: Webinar - Expanding the Generosity of HSA-Eligible Health Plans



Paul Fronstin, PhD.

Join us on **December 5 at 2PM** to hear Paul Fronstin, Ph.D. Director of Health Benefits Research Program at the Employee Benefit Research Institute, present his research on HSA-eligible health plans. Paul has a demonstrated history of working in the employment-based health benefits industry with a strong research agenda which include trends in employment-based health benefits, employee benefits and public policy, health plan design, HSAs, workplace wellness programs, retiree health benefits, and public opinion about health benefits and health care.

Florida Alliance President and CEO Karen van Caulil, Ph.D. will be co-presenting with Dr. Fronstin at the Health Benefits Conference & Expo (HBCE) in Clearwater Beach on January 31 from 11:30AM – 12:30PM. The topic is a discussion about the premium impact of expanding pre-deductible coverage in HSA-eligible health plans. Karen and Paul look forward to your questions and comments during the December 5 webinar as they shape their final HBCE presentation.

If you did not receive the calendar invitation for this webinar, or need it to be sent again, please contact lisa@flhealthvalue.org.



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Redesigning Benefits, Value-Based Agreements with Better Cancer Care in Mind

The quest to deliver better cancer care—with better outcomes and patient experience—is not a one-size-fits-all journey, as seen in panels during the Community Oncology Alliance (COA) Payer Exchange Summit held on October 24-25 in Tyson's Corner, Virginia.

Karen van Caulil, Ph.D., Florida Alliance for Healthcare Value President and CEO, participated in the panel discussion, "New Strategies for Insurance Benefit Design: From the Simple to the Complex," which examined how employers can reduce the cost of cancer care—sometimes by thousands of dollars.

According to Dr. van Caulil, as the COVID-19 pandemic eases, there is "renewed interest" in cancer care among employers. Other trends include attention to mental health in cancer care and the search for high-value providers.



To read the full article from the American Journal of Managed Care, click [here](#).