



Weekly Bulletin – October 20, 2023



What's New This Week?

Mental Health Innovation Summit – Wednesday, November 8 - Thursday, November 9, 2023



*Robert "Navy Bob"
Ronscka*

The Florida Alliance is able to offer a unique opportunity to our Employer Members. **Thanks to a newly forged partnership between the Florida Alliance and the Florida Chamber of Commerce, we have received 20 guest passes to their Mental Health Innovation Summit** from their Senior VP, Robert Ronscka. These passes will be given out on a first-come, first-served basis. "Navy Bob" is leading the Chamber's effort to work with key stakeholders, like the Florida Alliance, to improve mental health services in Florida.

Through a comprehensive statewide assessment, the participating organizations will identify immediate opportunities for rapid improvements and craft long-term strategies for substantial, lasting change over the next five years, all with the aim of enhancing access to care and amplifying the effectiveness of mental health services.

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 | 3:00PM – 7:30PM

Welcome Reception begins at 5:30PM on Wednesday

Thursday, November 9, 2023 | 8:00AM – 4:00PM

GuideWell Innovation Center
6555 Sanger Road
Orlando, FL 32827

Please contact Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org for more information and/or if you are interested in attending.



Employer Member Educational Programs, Reports, Resources, And Employer Learning Collaboratives (ELC)

Oncology Employer Learning Collaborative Session 2 – Follow Up



We hope you were able to attend Tuesday’s Oncology Employer Learning Collaborative. We had a really great discussion about navigation, care management, psychosocial support, survivorship, and return-to-work strategies. Thanks to Lea Ann Biafora who shared MarineMax’s approach to all these necessary components of care for oncology patients.

Thank you to our sponsors, Genentech, Pfizer, and Merck for supporting this initiative.

ACTION ITEM: If you attended the first session, please respond to the post-session survey. Click [HERE](#). If you attended the second session, please respond to the post-session survey. Click [HERE](#). Thank you!

If you were unable to attend and want to see the slides or view the recording or are looking for the resources mentioned during the webinar, please visit our Oncology Learning Collaborative webpage by clicking [HERE](#). We will continue to add information to this webpage.

The third webinar in the series is scheduled for Friday, November 17 at 2:00PM – 3:30PM ET. This session will cover diagnosis, precision medicine/biomarker testing and treatment.

November’s session will be hosted by the Midwest Business Group on Health (MBGH). You should have already received a “Save the Date” calendar hold. We will update with more information as soon as it becomes available.

If you did not receive a “Save the Date” to your calendar or need it to be re-sent, please contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org.

REMINDER: Employer Member Benefit: WEBINAR – Biomarker Testing – Tuesday, October 31, 1:00PM – 2:00PM

Biomarker testing is a necessary tool in advancing precision cancer treatment. According to a new survey released by *CancerCare*, a leading national cancer support organization, biomarker testing helped physicians tailor therapy for nearly all the respondent patients (93%) whose cancers were tested over the past three years. 20% of the patients surveyed were able to avoid unnecessary chemotherapy and/or radiation and 10% became eligible for a clinical trial.



Some health plans limit cancer patients' access to recommended biomarker testing or impose burdensome prior authorization protocols which can delay or prevent patient access to optimal treatments.

Join us on October 31 to learn more about biomarker testing and the guidelines for its use.

Thank you to Affiliate Member Johnson & Johnson for sponsoring this educational opportunity.

If you did not receive a calendar invitation or need it to be re-sent, please contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org

REMINDER: Employer Member Benefit: WEBINAR – Going Deep on Mental Health Parity – Tuesday, October 31, 3:00-4:00PM (ET)

The final guidance on Mental Health Parity should be available soon. The public comment period closed this week. These experts have been tracking the guidance and regulations that employers must comply with.

Meet the Panelists

 <p>Margaret Faso HR Policy Association, American Health Policy Institute</p>	 <p>Michael Thompson National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions</p>
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We hope you will attend this important webinar. To register for the free webinar, click [HERE](#). For more information, email Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org

REMINDER: Employer Member Benefit: WEBINAR – Cell and Gene Therapies – Tuesday, November 21, 11:00AM – 12NOON

Cell therapy aims to treat diseases by restoring or altering certain sets of cells or by using cells to carry a therapy through the body. With cell therapy, cells are cultivated or modified outside the body before being injected into the patient. The cells may originate from the patient or a donor. Gene therapy aims to treat diseases by replacing, inactivating, or introducing genes into cells – either inside the body or outside the body. Some therapies are considered both cell and gene therapies. These therapies work by altering genes in specific types of cells and inserting them into the body.



Join us to learn about these exciting new technologies and how to pay for them!

Thank you to Affiliate Member Johnson & Johnson for sponsoring this educational opportunity, as well.

If you did not receive a calendar invitation or need it to be re-sent, please contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org

ACTION ITEM: Midwest Business Group on Health Annual Benefits Trends Survey

MBGH has opened their annual benchmarking survey to other business coalitions and their employer members to participate. MBGH members consistently say they make sure to complete this survey each year because it provides insight into what their peers are doing and helps them prepare for the future. This year, we hope to get as many Florida Alliance Employer Members to complete the survey, too.

This comprehensive survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. To show their appreciation for your time, they are offering a **\$50 Amazon gift card to employers** who complete the entire survey (one per organization) as well as complete de-identified results.



If it is completed by 5 or more employer member organizations from the Florida Alliance, MBGH will send us the full results!

If you would like to complete this survey, please contact Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org



HEALTH OBSERVANCES

Get a Jump on December Health Observances

December includes opportunities to easily share information about:

- The importance of respiratory virus vaccinations.
- Uniting people in the fight against HIV/AIDS.
- Disability inclusion.



Click on the images to learn more.



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Insurers Must Now Count Copay Assistance After HHS “Copay Accumulator” Rule Struck Down

A September [U.S. District Court decision](#) invalidated a Trump-era administrative rule that allowed health



insurers to exclude drug manufacturers' copay assistance from a patient's out-of-pocket costs. The rule disproportionately affected patients with chronic diseases and expensive drugs, leading to higher out-of-pocket expenses.

Patient advocacy groups and affected patients took the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to court, arguing that "[copay accumulator](#)" policies allowed insurers to profit from copay assistance without reducing patients' financial burdens. The ruling now prevents insurers from implementing copay accumulators for drugs without generic equivalents, potentially reducing costs for patients.

Please contact Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org if you have any questions.