



WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

FTC Interim Report - Pharmacy Benefit Managers: The Powerful Middlemen Inflating Drug Costs and Squeezing Main Street Pharmacies

On Tuesday, July 9, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) released an [interim report](#) examining the negative impact of pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) on the accessibility and affordability of prescription drugs.

Today, only three PBMs control nearly 80% of all prescriptions filled in the U.S., and pharmacies affiliated with the three largest PBMs now account for almost 70% of all specialty drug revenue. This vertical and horizontal PBM consolidation has resulted in increased costs to patients and the closure of independent pharmacies.

To view the FTC interim report, please click [HERE](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

**Pharmacy Benefit Managers:
The Powerful Middlemen
Inflating Drug Costs and
Squeezing Main Street Pharmacies**

Interim Staff Report
July 2024
U.S. Federal Trade Commission
Office of Policy Planning



**EMPLOYER MEMBER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, REPORTS,
RESOURCES, AND EMPLOYER LEARNING COLLABORATIVES (ELC)**

LAST CALL! Employer Member Benefit: Webinar – *How Urinary Incontinence Affects Wellbeing* – July 16, 12:00PM – 1:00PM ET

One in four women over age 18 are living with some form of urinary incontinence. Of the 25 million adults in America living with some form of urinary incontinence (UI), 75%-80% of them are women. It is time to normalize conversations about this common condition that can affect concentration, productivity, self-confidence, and psychological safety.

This webinar offers insights into simple workplace accommodations and highly successful non-surgical treatments for UI, enabling employers to level up their women’s healthcare strategies and wellness programs by offering helpful resources and guiding them to the care they need.

Meet the Panelists



Denise Giambalvo
(Moderator)
Washington Health
Alliance



Sarah Jenkins
National Association
for Continence



Peter Jeppson, MD
PCORI-Funded
Investigator, The
Women’s Center



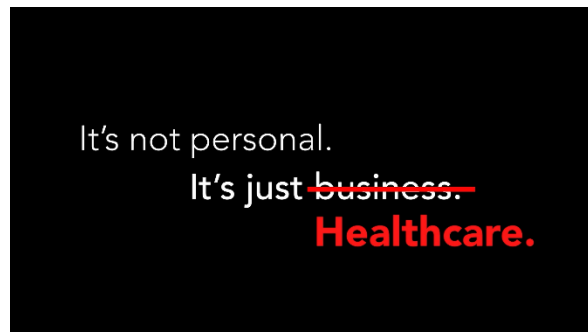
Kate McLean, MD
The Lactation
Network

Register [HERE](#) for this National Alliance-hosted webinar. Panelists welcome your women’s health success stories and benefits implementation questions!

Please reach out to Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org with any questions.

Save the Date! Florida Alliance All Employer Meeting – August 22, 2:00PM – 4:00PM ET

We hope you will join us on Thursday, August 22 at 2:00PM to view the new documentary, *It’s not personal. It’s just ~~business~~ Healthcare*. Our 2024 Annual Conference speakers, Christin Deacon, J.D., Principal Owner, VerSan Consulting, and Lester Morales, Founder and CEO, Next Impact, LLC are both featured in this important film. We are assembling a reactor panel to follow viewing of the documentary. Look for a calendar invitation coming soon!



Click on the image above to view the trailer.

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

Employer Member Benefit: Webinar – Biomarker Testing: What Employers and Insurers Need to Know – August 27, 1:00PM ET

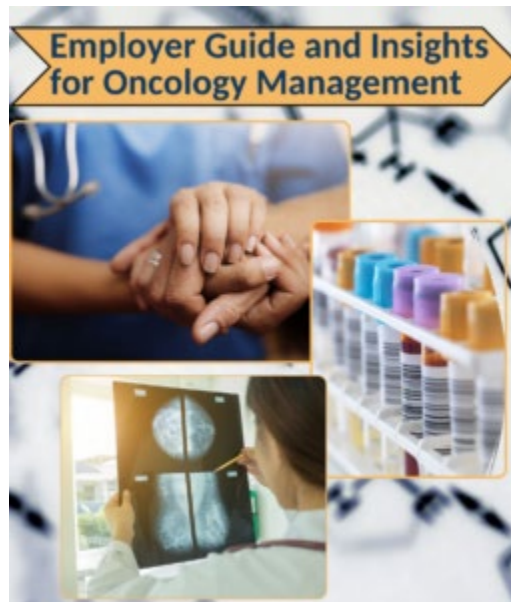
You are invited to join the National Cancer Treatment Alliance (NCTA) on Tuesday, August 27 at 1:00PM ET for an overview of biomarker testing, the benefits of providing it for employees, and solutions to common barriers when making these resources available. Thanks to modern biomarker testing, identifying risk factors and cancer variants is easier than ever. However, many employers are unaware or not apprised of its benefits and insurers may not fully understand the testing process.

During this webinar, NCTA’s Chief Medical officer Fred Schnell, MD, FACP, and Pontchartrain Cancer Center CIO Kathy Oubre, MS, will provide an overview of biomarker testing and its current capabilities, coverage guidelines from major payers, and how employers can integrate testing into their coverage plans.

Click [HERE](#) to register for this complimentary webinar.

Visit our new [Employer Guide and Insights for Oncology Management](#) for additional valuable information on biomarker testing.

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



HEALTH OBSERVANCES

July is Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

[National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month](#) is observed each July to bring awareness to the mental health issues faced by minority groups.



These groups face unique obstacles to care including lack of treatment options, stigma issues, and little or no health insurance. According to the [FDA](#), in 2020, fewer than one in every two African-American adults received care for mental health. In 2018, Asian-Americans were 60% less likely to receive mental health treatment than non-Hispanic Whites.

Use this month of awareness to educate, show compassion, and work toward a more inclusive and supportive environment for everyone’s mental wellbeing.

Understand the significance of minority mental health:

- Mental and behavioral disorders are among [the leading causes of disability](#) in the US, accounting for 13.6% of all years of life lost to disability and premature death.
- People from racial/ethnic minority groups are [less likely to receive mental health care](#). For example, in 2015, among adults with any mental illness, 48% of Whites received mental health services, compared with 31% of Blacks and Hispanics, and 22% of Asians.
- Ethnic and racial minorities bear a [disproportionately high burden](#) of disability resulting from mental disorders.
- Lesbian, gay, and bisexual adults (about 4.5% of the population) are more likely than straight adults to use substances, [experience mental health issues](#) including major depressive episodes, and experience serious thoughts of suicide.

August Health and Cultural Observances

National Immunization Awareness Month

National Immunization Awareness Month, celebrated every August, serves as a crucial reminder of the significance of vaccination across all age groups.

In the wake of the pandemic, a significant number of individuals have unfortunately fallen behind on their immunizations, with many still struggling to catch up. To address this pressing issue, the [CDC](#) offers a wealth of valuable resources including toolkits, engaging infographics, effective messaging strategies and assessments tools.



Fighting the Flu: Learn more about worksite immunization clinics! Visit ramphealth.com for a 2024/2025 Flu Report and a Flu Shot Clinic Guide.

Staying Safe in the Sun: Tips and Tools for Employees



Did you know there are three types of UV rays with varying amounts of energy? Click [HERE](#) to learn more about UV rays, skin cancer, and how to protect yourself. By leveraging these invaluable resources, you can streamline your communication strategies and enhance public awareness of the harmful impacts of excessive ultraviolet (UV) radiation.

Ending Overdose

August 31, 2024 is [International Overdose Awareness Day](#) which honors the memories of those we have lost and serves to unite in commitment to fostering support and recovery. Share [these opportunities](#) to get involved.



Embrace a holistic approach to elevate workforce wellbeing with back-to-basics strategies for nurturing whole person health:

- [Infographic with action steps for employers](#)
- [Infographic for employees](#) (English)
- [Infographic for employees](#) (Spanish)

A recent National Alliance webinar focused on removing disparities between physical and mental health benefits which requires continuous multi-stakeholder collaboration to drive actions and accountability to close gaps in care. Click [HERE](#) to view the webinar.

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