



WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

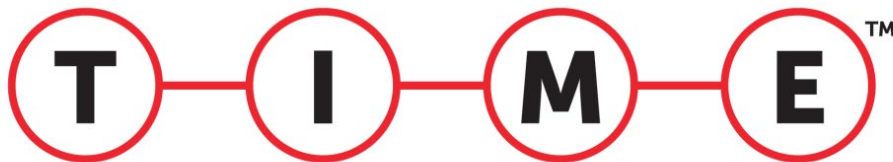
Sepsis Identified as a Major Factor Driving High-Cost Claims for Florida Alliance Employer Members

Our High-Cost Claims Workshop held on June 3 identified sepsis as a significant factor driving high-cost claims among our Employer Members. We learned from Workshop facilitator Dr. Christine Hale that some of the sepsis is brought into the hospital by a patient who already has an infection when they are admitted while some of the sepsis is hospital acquired. All workshop attendees agreed that the signs and symptoms of sepsis are not common knowledge, and more is needed to educate employees.

What is Sepsis?

Sepsis is a life-threatening emergency that happens when your body's response to an infection damages vital organs and often causes death. Like strokes or heart attacks, sepsis is a medical emergency that requires rapid diagnosis and treatment. It is important to look for a combination of warning signs of sepsis. Spotting these symptoms early could prevent the body from entering septic shock and could save a life.

When it comes to sepsis, remember
IT'S ABOUT TIME™. Watch for:



TEMPERATURE
higher or lower
than normal

INFECTION
may have signs
and symptoms of
an infection

MENTAL DECLINE
confused, sleepy,
difficult to rouse

EXTREMELY ILL
severe pain,
discomfort,
shortness of breath

If you experience a combination of these symptoms: seek urgent medical care, call 911, or go to the hospital with an advocate. Ask: "Could it be sepsis?"

September is Sepsis Awareness Month so now is the time to gather information and resources on this costly and potentially deadly condition. We encourage you to visit www.sepsis.org for information and resources you can use to educate your employees.

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

HPV Vaccination Implementation Guide for Employers



Our sister coalition, Pittsburgh Business Group on Health, has generously shared their guide on how to implement a vaccination campaign for human papillomavirus (HPV). The guide includes information on the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine, real-life stories, and educational materials.

Click [HERE](#) for the HPV Vaccination Implementation Guide for Employers. Visit our [Employer Guide and Insights for Oncology Management](#) more information on how HPV

vaccination prevents multiple cancers.

Please reach out to Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org if you have any questions.

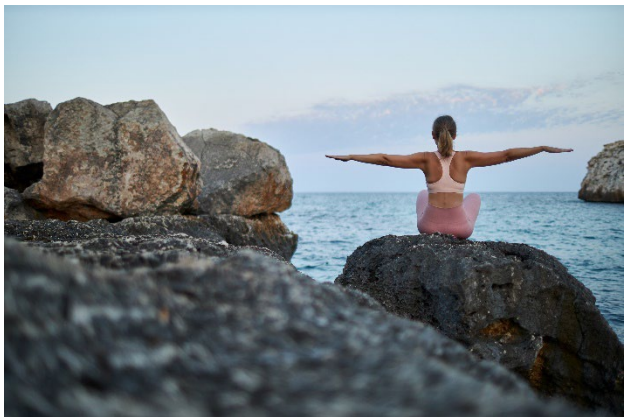


EMPLOYER MEMBER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, REPORTS, RESOURCES, AND EMPLOYER LEARNING COLLABORATIVES (ELC)

Employer Member Benefit: Resource – *Making Florida the National Leader for Mental Health and Well-Being*

In 2018, the Florida Chamber Foundation, part of the Florida Chamber of Commerce, released a report known as the *Florida 2030 Blueprint*, which outlines 39 goals within its Six Pillars Strategic Framework to grow Florida to a top 10 global economy by 2030.

A key pillar of the *Florida 2030 Blueprint* is to Champion Florida’s Quality of Life and a central goal within this pillar is for Florida to be a top five state for overall well-being. As such, the Florida Chamber and the Florida Chamber Foundation researchers are developing targeted strategies for improving mental health and reducing substance abuse with emphasis on opioid use disorders. This statewide report contains 25 actionable recommendations to make Florida the nation’s leader in mental health care and outcomes, a key component to meeting the overall well-being goal.



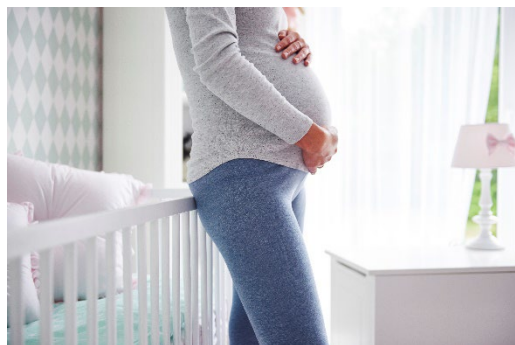
One of the Employer-Facing Recommendations aimed at making a direct impact on improving the behavioral health of employees and their families is to partner with and leverage the work of existing national efforts, such as the Path Forward for Mental Health and Substance Use, for which the Florida Alliance is the Regional Employer-Stakeholder Engagement Team. As you probably know, the Path Forward initiative leverages the purchasing power of employers to radically improve mental health service delivery across the entire healthcare ecosystem.

Click [HERE](#) to read the full report which includes 25 strategies to unite leaders for action and outcomes:

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

Employer Member Benefit: Resource – *Maternity Care Common Purchasing Agreement*

The U.S. is facing a crisis in maternity care outcomes, and women today are more likely to die from complications of childbirth than the previous generation. Moreover, pregnancy-related mortality rates are more than four times higher for native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander women and three times higher



for Black women. Lack of access to maternity care is exacerbating this crisis, with 36% of U.S. counties identified as maternity deserts (a region with limited maternity care services and/or providers) and a new report shows more than half of U.S. rural hospitals no longer offer birthing services.

The unacceptably poor quality, coordination, and equity of care are particularly impactful for employers. Because employer-sponsored insurance funds over half of all births annually in the U.S., the actions employers take to address maternity care can help improve maternal and newborn outcomes for all populations, regardless of income, education, or employment status.

The Purchaser Business Group on Health (PBGH) recently released its [Maternity Care Common Purchasing Agreement](#) which aims to help employers promote and implement both evidence-based and innovative practices to address the maternity care and birth equity crisis.

For questions, contact Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org

Employer Member Benefit: Webinar – *Concrete Steps Employers Can Take with the New ERISA Rules – August 1, 1:30PM ET*

The Leapfrog Group is offering this complimentary webinar and will dive into the seismic changes brought by the Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA) of 2021 and its impact on employer-sponsored health benefits. Health Rosetta will present new, complementary resources to help employers comply with the CAA and maximize the benefits for their health plan investments. Speakers will discuss recent congressional activity on ERISA and other critical policy actions that affect employer-sponsored health coverage.



To register, click [HERE](#).

Please direct any questions related to Leapfrog to Ashley Tait-Dinger at Ashley@flhealthvalue.org

Florida Alliance All Employer Meeting – August 22, 2:00PM – 4:00PM ET

Calendar invitations have been sent out for Thursday, August 22 at 2:00PM to view the new documentary, *It's not personal. It's just ~~business~~ Healthcare*. The invitations will be updated with Webex details closer to the event.

This important film features two of our 2024 Annual Conference speakers, Christin Deacon, J.D., Principal Owner, VerSan Consulting, and Lester Morales, Founder and CEO, Next Impact, LLC. **Rosa Novo, Florida Alliance Board Chair and Administrative Benefits Director of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and Stephanie Koch, Florida Alliance Vice Chair and Director of Human Resources at Hendry Marine Repair** will participate in the reactor panel following the showing of the documentary.



Click on the image above to view the trailer.

We encourage you to invite your C-Suite leadership to join us on August 22. Feel free to forward your calendar invitation.

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.

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