



Weekly Bulletin – January 10, 2025

This Weekly Bulletin is a benefit of your organization’s Employer Membership in the Florida Alliance and is meant to ONLY be shared within Employer Member organizations unless approval has been given by the Florida Alliance CEO.

ACTION ITEM

Direct Contracting Survey Responses Still Needed! Healthcare System Revenues Projected to Increase in 2025

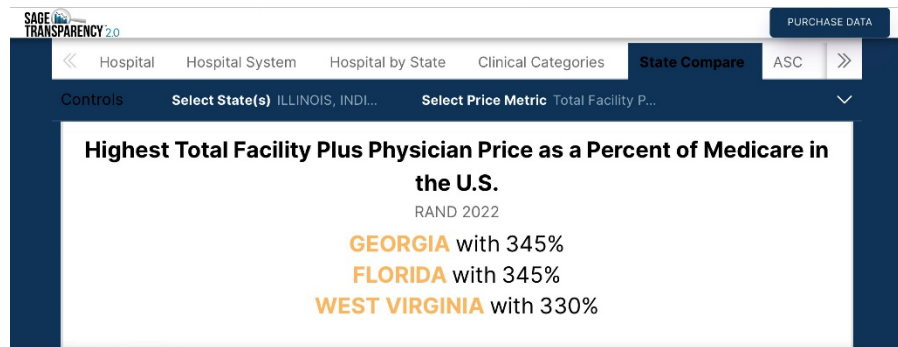


Deloitte recently conducted a survey of 80 C-suite healthcare system executives identifying top trends expected to impact their strategies for 2025. 59% of the hospital CEOs who responded to the survey expect their hospital to have a positive industry outlook in 2025. 69% of the respondents are expecting an increase in operating revenue, and 71% are expecting increased operating profitability!

Click [HERE](#) to read the Deloitte article.

With Florida already ranked the #1 most expensive state for employers purchasing hospital services (tied with Georgia) as per the RAND Hospital Price Transparency Study, we are acutely aware that the hospital industry looks to the commercial population to make a profit.

Click [HERE](#) to see the RAND 5.0 study.



The Florida Alliance has been presented with an opportunity to facilitate direct arrangements with providers that would drive value for employers. Please respond to the direct contracting survey linked below. Your responses will help us to design our approach so that it meets your needs.

Thank you to our members who have already responded to this survey which was opened last month.

Click [HERE](#) to take the survey if you have not done so already.

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



VALUE-BASED PURCHASING OF HEALTHCARE COURSE

Value-Based Purchasing of Healthcare Course – Last day to register!!

The Value-Based Purchasing of Healthcare course is designed for benefits professionals to introduce them to the principles and methods of advancing the value of the health benefits spend. The program encourages participants to think and act differently and culminates in each participant developing their own customized action plan for applying knowledge gained in the course to their current place of employment.



What is covered in the curriculum?

- Introducing the need for and tools of value-based purchasing
- Driving value through transparency and primary care
- Payment reform and methods of promoting efficiency
- Strategies for advancing population health
- Managing pharmacy benefits and PBM contracts
- Advanced topics in medical and pharmaceutical benefits management
- Spotlight on key tools and resources available to employers

There are SHRM credits available for those who take the course. The course is an 8-week virtual, asynchronous course commencing on Monday, January 13, 2025.

To view the flyer click [HERE](#) and click [HERE](#) to register for the course.

Please contact 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: Mental Health Parity Compliance Employer Toolkit (Webinar) – Wednesday, January 29, 2:00PM – 3:00PM ET



The Florida Alliance will be hosting a webinar to review and disseminate the final Mental Health Parity Compliance Employer Toolkit that was developed in partnership with the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions and the Bowman Family Foundation. This webinar will be held on Wednesday, January 29.

President and CEO Karen van Caulil along with Dr. Henry Harbin and Beth Ann Middlebrook, J.D. will be explaining the Mental Health Parity Compliance Employer Toolkit which will greatly assist employers with how to work with their TPAs (and carve out mental health providers, if applicable) on ensuring appropriate analysis of their mental health data as it compares to their physical health data.

You should have already received the invitation for the January 29 webinar from info@flhealthvalue.org. If you have not yet received the invitation, please contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org.

Click [HERE](#) to access the webinar recordings and slides from the first two Mental Health Parity Compliance sessions held in October and December 2024. You can also view the Department of Labor’s Self-Compliance Tool for Mental Health Parity that was discussed in the December webinar on this link.

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

ICER: Assessment of Barriers to Fair Access – Final Report



On Thursday, December 19, 2024, ICER released the **Assessment of Barriers to Fair Access Final Report**. ICER has partnered with IQVIA, a healthcare data and analytics provider, to help gain insight into national level cost sharing and prior authorization metrics from real-world data claims. This partnership has allowed ICER to evaluate measures illustrating consumer accessibility for a subset of 11 drugs that have been in scope for the past two years in the

commercial line of business.

ICER has assessed how well major carriers’ coverage policies for prescription drugs align with a set of fair access standards. ICER has defined concordance as the alignment of the coverage policy in four areas: (1) cost sharing to patients; (2) clinical eligibility; (3) step therapy policies; and (4) provider qualification restrictions.

Criteria Assessed

Fair Access Criterion	Drug-Formulary Combinations with Relevant Policies Available out of Applicable Policies, n/N (%)	Concordant Policies, n/N (%)
Cost sharing	31/33 (94%)	25/31 (81%)
Clinical eligibility	97/97 (100%)	93/97 (96%)
Step therapy	97/97 (100%)	97/97 (100%)
Prescriber restrictions	97/97 (100%)	97/97 (100%)

To read the full report click [HERE](#).

Please contact Ashley Tait-Dinger at ashley@flhealthvalue.org if you have any questions.

Navigating a Changing Landscape: A Collaborative HPV Summit – Friday, March 7, 9:00AM – 2:00PM ET

Florida Alliance Affiliate Member Merck is hosting “Navigating a Changing Landscape: A Collaborative HPV Summit” on March 7. This event is being held in person and virtually and will discuss important topics:

- Discuss current state and trends of HPV-related cancers and prevention in Florida
- Review and discuss a draft of the newly developed Florida Cervical Cancer Elimination Strategy
- Outline current evidence-based interventions for HPV prevention in Florida
- Describe the landscape and opportunities for HPV self-sampling in Florida



To register for this event click [HERE](#).

As a reminder, the Florida Alliance’s Employer Guide and Insights for Oncology Management addressed how the HPV vaccine can prevent numerous cancers. Click [HERE](#) to reach the microsite where the Employer Guide is located.

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

SAVE THE DATE! Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors – Tuesday, March 4, 2:00PM – 3:30PM ET

The Florida Alliance for Healthcare Value’s Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors is a free event open to all our members and offers the opportunity to learn about the important work the Florida Alliance is undertaking to improve the quality and value of health care in Florida, including new opportunities to engage in our research and educational activities.



The keynote speaker will be announced soon. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Please contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org if you have any questions.

SAVE THE DATE! Annual Conference – Thursday, May 1 at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando

We are looking forward to our Annual Conference to be held once again at the beautiful Rosen Centre Hotel, located in Orlando.



Thank you to Rosen Hotels & Resorts for their generous support of the Florida Alliance in making this venue possible for us.

Speakers and other details are being finalized and you will receive a “Save the Date” calendar invitation. Registration will open soon!

Please contact Lisa Hain at lisa@flhealthvalue.org if you have any questions.

 **MEMBER BENCHMARKING REQUEST**

Employer Member Question – Steerage to High-Quality Healthcare Providers

An Employer/Healthcare Purchaser Member of the Florida Alliance has asked us to collect a response to the following question:

- **Do you work with a carrier that has allowed you to modify your plan design to steer your members to high-quality healthcare providers based on cost and quality? Which carrier is it?**



If the answer is “yes,” please respond directly to Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org.

Do you have a question you would like to ask of our Employer Members? Please let Karen know if so, and we will include it in a future Bulletin.



HEALTH POLICY

Employer Member Benefit: Health Policy in Transit Policy Brief - End-of-Year Funding Bill and Next Steps

In December, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution and sent it to President Biden for signature. The legislation extended federal government funding through March 14, 2025. However, it does not contain many of the health policy reforms that were included in earlier versions of the bill.



The National Alliance along with key partners including the Florida Alliance will be working on getting the transformative PBM accountability provisions included in the next funding bill.

The recently released *Health Policy in Transit (HPIT)* brief explains the path forward for the National Alliance and its member coalitions.

Click [HERE](#) to read the HPIT policy brief.

Florida Alliance President and CEO Karen van Caulil is now co-chair of the Health Policy Strategy Group for the National Alliance, so please contact her at karen@flhealthvalue.org if you have any questions.