

# Cutting the Gordian Knot: Finding True Balance in Self Funding

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## Topics for today

- 1 How the traditional healthcare system is failing us
- The need for true balance in self-funded healthcare
- 3 Designing a better healthcare system





# How are traditional healthcare approaches failing us?

- Lack of transparency regarding cost and quality
- Fragmentation across the healthcare system
- Misaligned financial incentives
- Not enough emphasis on primary and preventive care



### What is Medical Cost Trend?

Medical cost trend is the *projected percentage increase* in the cost to treat patients from one year to the next, assuming benefits remain the same. Insurers use this projection to calculate health plan premiums for the coming year.

**Example:** A plan with Medical and Rx benefits costs \$10K per employee this year. Trend is projected to be 10%.

Next year's cost will be \$11K.



### **Audience Poll**

A recent study found medical inflation in 2018 was at 6.9%.

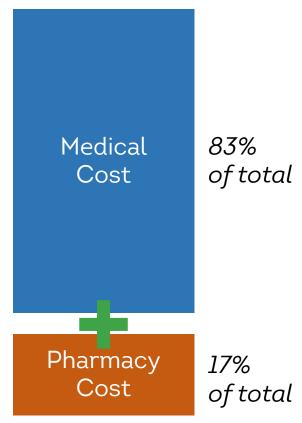
## Where do you stand with regards to rising health costs?

- We're below 7%
- We're between 7% and 10%
- We're over 10%

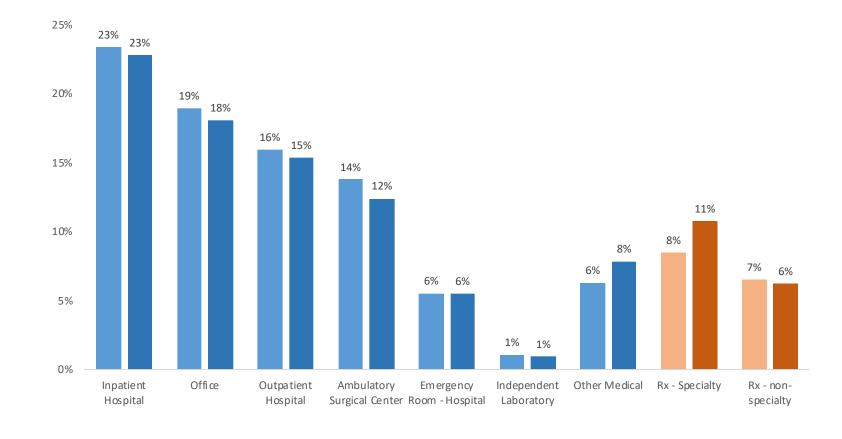


## How Healthcare Spend Has Changed Over Time

Major Healthcare Cost PEPM Components



Where our health plan clients are spending their healthcare dollar: 2016 vs. 2018





### What Drives Medical Cost Trend?

### Research points to a few key factors:

- Increased access leading to higher utilization of health services
- Health system consolidation and reduced marketplace competition
- More physicians practicing as employees of organizations that charge higher prices



### What Can We Learn from the Cost Drivers?

### Each has a takeaway, which we can use to our advantage.

- More access points + increased utilization
- Health system megamergers
   = massive negotiating power
- Fewer independent physicians = higher prices and facility fees

- Consumers are accepting of alternate care settings
- > Traditional PPO networks no longer provide as much protection
- Need for hyper-local, customized primary care strategy to counteract corporatization of medicine





## The need for true balance in self-funded healthcare

- We all experience the rising-cost problem. Typical reactions are to:
  - Take out benefits
  - Restrict the formulary
  - Increase co-pays and deductibles
- The approach in the industry seems to focus only on decreasing cost.
- 3 At EBMS, we believe there needs to be a true balance.



## So how do we balance competing interests in healthcare?

Plan sponsors and members ultimately want the same things.



Make It Easy – a simplified benefit journey







## **Cutting the Gordian Knot**

## Gordian knot noun

Gor·di·an knot | \ 'gor-dē-ən- 🕡 \

#### Definition

- an intricate problem
   especially: a problem insoluble in its own terms often used in the phrase cut the Gordian knot
- 2 : a knot tied by Gordius, king of Phrygia, held to be capable of being untied only by the future ruler of Asia, and cut by Alexander the Great with his sword



### **Audience Poll**

# For you or your clients, which of the following factors are the most important?

- 1 Improve care
- 2 Make it easy
- 3 Reduce costs



# Losing Sight of True Balance by Too Aggressively REDUCING COSTS

#### Typical scenarios

- Scary prior year PEPM increase prompts knee-jerk reaction
- Dramatic change in strategy (e.g. move from PPO to RBP solution) without adequate member education
- Reduce cost by dramatically increasing member responsibility



#### Likely outcomes

- Member access challenges
- Decreased quality of care (avoiding preventative care to save costs)
- Member dissatisfaction with resulting "noise" to HR



# Losing Sight of True Balance by Focusing Too Narrowly on IMPROVING CARE

#### Typical scenarios

- Multiple vendors who each offer a slightly different niche solution to increase access and decrease costs
- Desire to be at the cutting edge of healthcare innovation (e.g. coverage for unproven I&E treatments)



#### Likely outcomes

- Increased complexity in integrating benefits and operations; overlapping vendors with resulting Member confusion
- Increased medical and admin costs
- Lack of data integrity because data resides in many niche applications



# Losing Sight of True Balance Through Unstructured Care Delivery Designed to MAKE IT EASY

#### **Typical scenarios**

- Provide rich benefits with very few restrictions
- Offer widest possible choice around providers
- Avoid processes that require Members to take personal accountability for their health



#### Likely outcomes

- Repeatedly go out to bid to shop for the cheapest deal
- Failure to get traction with engaging consumers; quality of care deteriorates
- Increase in healthcare costs



### **Polling Results**

# For you or your clients, which of the following factors are the most important?

- 1 Improve care
- 2 Make it easy
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### We Believe in the Need for True Balance

The optimal approach balances the needs of the Employer and the Member.



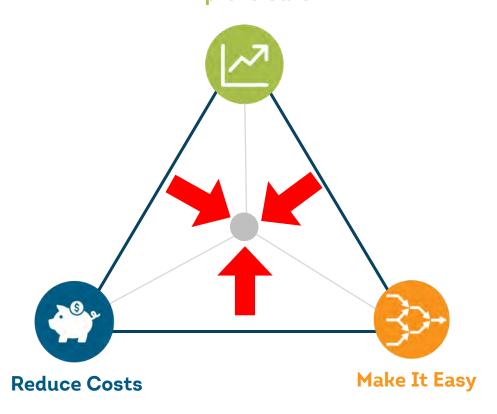
This leads to *appropriate care:* better care for the Member at a lower cost to Employers.



### We Believe in the Need for True Balance

Plan decisions need to be made proactively, considering the health of the plan,

the client's HR strategy and the Member experience.



Finding True Balance requires a new way of thinking and new set of tools.



## Other leading Employers are heading down the same track

In 2018, three corporate giants tackled the issues of rising health costs and fragmented care.

They formed a nonprofit consortium to provide healthcare for their 1.2 million combined employees.











### **Audience Poll**

# What is your strategy for promoting primary care?

- I have an onsite or near-site clinic for primary care.
- I have a relationship with a local healthcare facility that gives my Members direct access to primary care.
- My Members access primary care within their own communities.



## How do you Design a New Healthcare System that is:

- Designed specifically for your organization
- Responsive to the needs of your Members
- Hyper-local and composed of the best access points in your community
- Seamlessly integrated



## We've developed a blueprint that puts you in control

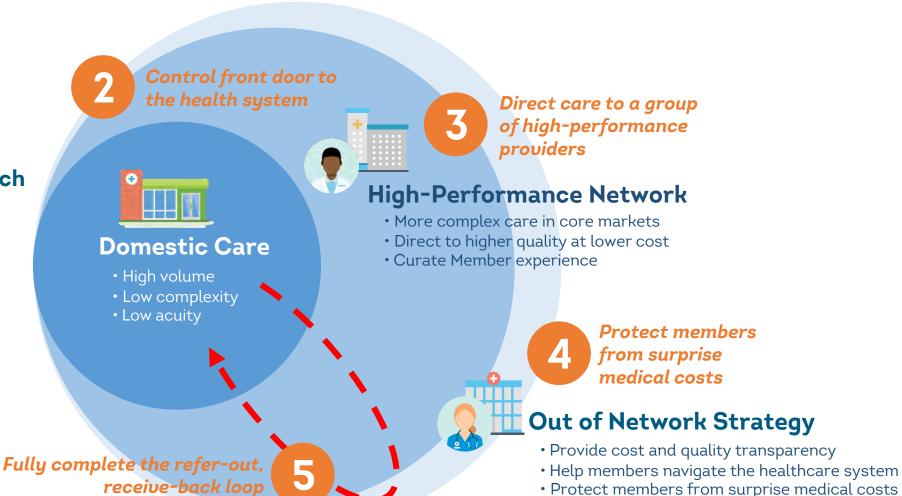


Drive awareness, advocacy and seamless coordination



#### Personal Health Coach

- Care coordination
- Referral management
- Motivational coaching





## Primary Care Services sit at the core of our model

#### **Domestic Care Delivery**



Lab Testing + Pharmacy + Wellness

#### High-Performance Network



#### OON Strategy







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### Integrated suite of tools/solutions needed

Understand population care needs

Collect data, plan and coordinate care

**Directly control care delivery** (insource key steps in value chain)

Population Health Management

Wellness

Care Management

Primary Care Solutions Pharmacy Solutions

Pop. Health Analytics

Predictive Modeling

Wellness

Coaching & Navigation

Utilization Management

Case Management

Complex Care Management

Virtual Care

Onsite/Near-site Clinic

**Direct Contracts** 

Regional / National PPO

Out-of-Network (RBP)

Single-case Agreements

Clinic Rx Dispensing

Retail Network (PBM)

Mail Order

Specialty Rx



### Complex patients hit multiple touch points



Use case: Sally, from Accounting, is pre-diabetic and needs a knee replacement

Population Health Management

Pop. Health Analytics

Predictive Modeling

Wellness

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Coaching & Navigation

Utilization Management

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Complex Care Management

Primary Care Solutions

Virtual Care

Onsite/Near-site Clinic

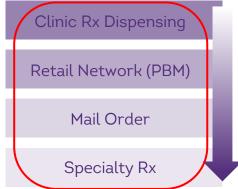
**Direct Contracts** 

Regional / National PPO

Out-of-Network (RBP)

Single-case Agreements

Pharmacy Solutions





### How an integrated model changes Sally's care journey



Use case: Sally, from Accounting, is pre-diabetic and needs a knee replacement

#### Member's healthcare experience

Jenny is Sally's Personal Health Coach.

Together they evaluate all of Sally options and choose an outpatient surgical center with a top-notch quality ranking.

Sally receives excellent follow-up care, coordinated and monitored by Jenny.

Sally's doctor at the clinic helps her manage pain and medication side effects.

#### **Benefits and Advantages**

- Personalized approach and expert at hand leads to effective health engagement
- Cost and quality transparency drives better informed healthcare utilization decisions
- Well-coordinated care decreases risk of complications and adverse events
- Achieved True Balance between Reducing Cost, Improving Care and Making it Easy



