

**Collections: The New Normal** 



### **Issues to Discuss**

- The Changing Payor Landscape
- Shifting the Risk
- How to Prepare for the New Normal
- Key Metrics and Benchmarks



## The Changing Payor Landscape

- Significant consolidation occurring in the Payor Market.
  - Anthem and Cigna combination would create the largest health insurer in the country if the deal is completed
  - Aetna and Humana deal is significant especially in the Medicare Advantage market.
- Potential to Decrease Provider Payment Rates and Create Narrower Networks with more onerous Administrative Requirements
  - Typically would migrate to more favorable contract terms.
  - Preauthorization and Referral Requirements could become more stringent.



### The Reallocation of Risk

- Who is looking to reallocate the Risks and Costs?
  - Employers due to rising premiums
  - Insurers due to Employer Financing Models and to Reign in Medical Costs.
  - Some Providers
- Where are the Risks and Costs being reallocated to?
  - Patients/Enrollees
  - Providers



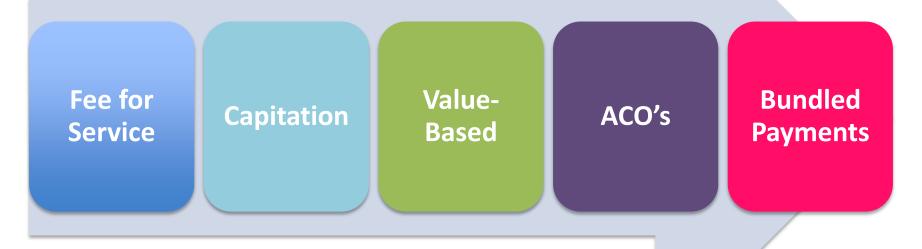
### The Reallocation of Risk

- How are the Risks and Costs being Reallocated?
  - Higher Deductibles and Coinsurance
    - Rationale due to Patients/Enrollees who have to pay more of the costs will seek less care.
    - Slows the premium rises associated with Employer Sponsored Health Insurance
  - New Payment and Financing Mechanisms
    - ACO's
    - Value Based Care and Reimbursement
    - Bundled Payment Methodologies



## **Evolution of Payment Mechanisms**

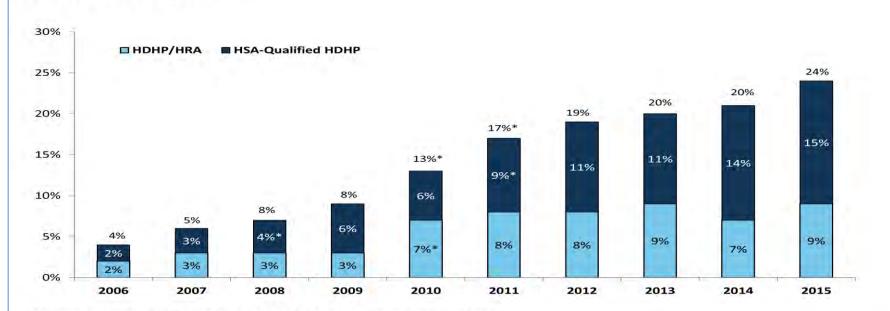
## **Increasing Provider Risk**





### High Deductible Health Plan Coverage Trends

### Exhibit F: Percentage of Covered Workers Enrolled in an HDHP/HRA or HSA-Qualified HDHP, 2006-2015



<sup>\*</sup>Estimate is statistically different from estimate for the previous year shown (p<.05).

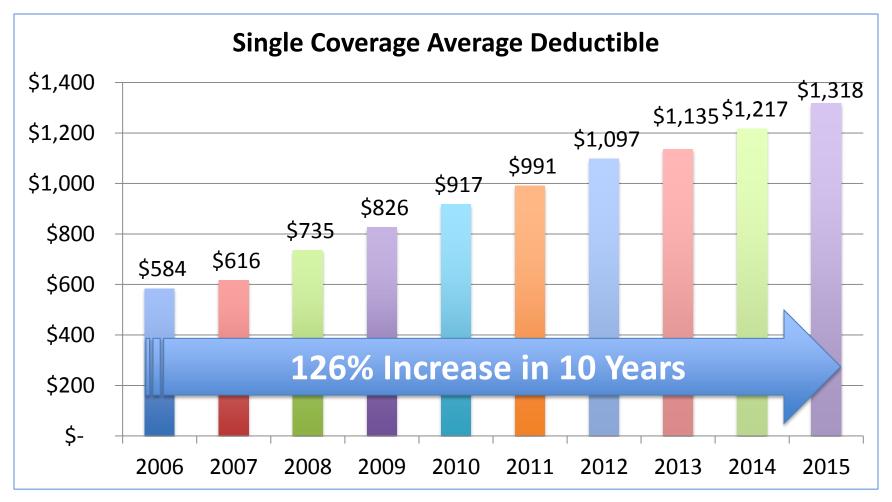
NOTE: Covered Workers enrolled in an HDHP/SO are enrolled in either an HDHP/HRA or a HSA-Qualified HDHP. For more information see the Survey Methodology Section. The percentages of covered workers enrolled in an HDHP/SO may not equal the sum of HDHP/HRA and HSA-Qualified HDHP enrollment estimates due to rounding.

SOURCE: Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits, 2006-2015.





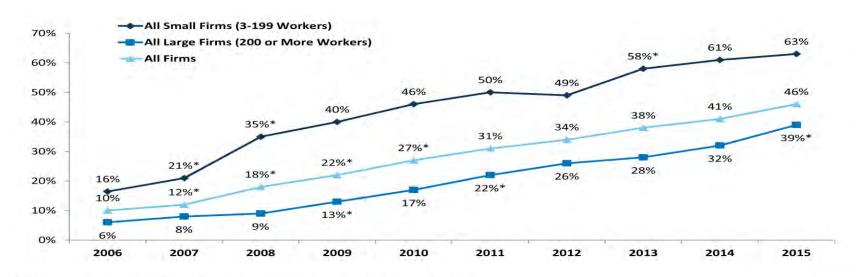
### Changes in Deductibles from 2006-2015



### **Deductible Trends**

#### **Exhibit G:**

Percentage of Covered Workers Enrolled in a Plan with a General Annual Deductible of \$1,000 or More for Single Coverage, By Firm Size, 2006-2015



\* Estimate is statistically different from estimate for the previous year shown (p<.05).

NOTE: These estimates include workers enrolled in HDHP/SO and other plan types. Average general annual health plan deductibles for PPOs, POS plans, and HDHP/SOs are for in-network services.

SOURCE: Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits, 2006-2015.





# Physician Risks Related to Higher Deductibles and Coinsurance

- Getting Paid Appropriately and Timely
- Significant Differences in Obtaining Payments directly from Patients vs. Insurers.
  - Ability to Pay
  - Propensity to Pay
  - Financing Discussions
  - Compliance Risks Associated with Waiver of Coinsurance and Deductibles
    - Recent Cigna Lawsuit against HDL for \$84 Million due to Routine Waiver of Coinsurance.



## Medical Debt and Collection Practices are on the Government's Radar

- Federal Reserve Board Study Results
  - > 50% of all credit report filings are related to Medical Debt.
- Medical Debt is the #1 Cause of Bankruptcies in the US.
  - Estimated that > 60% of all bankruptcies are related to Medical Debt.
  - 78% of the population that files for bankruptcy actually have Healthcare Insurance.



# Risks Related to Patient Financing and Collections

- Changing Legal and Operational Risks of Medical Debt and Patient Financing
  - Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA)
  - Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)
    - Placing more and more scrutiny on Medical Debt
  - Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA)
  - Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA)
  - Truth in Lending
  - State Consumer Protection Statutes



## How to Prepare for the New Normal

- Consolidation and New Payment Models
  - Data, Data and more Data
    - Payment Rates
    - Contract Terms
    - Timely Filing and Appeal Guidelines
    - Denials and Net Payment Rates
  - Knowledge of Payor Administrative Requirements
    - Preauthorization and Referrals
    - Medical and Payment Policies



## How to Prepare for the New Normal

- Higher Patient Share Responsibilities
  - Implement Patient Financial Counseling Policies and Procedures
    - Out of Pocket Requirements
    - Ability to Pay
    - Propensity to Pay
    - Income and Debt Related to the Federal Poverty Level and Proof of Income/Household Expenses
    - Negotiate Payment Plans
    - Drug Replacement Plans
    - Consider External Patient Financing Mechanisms
      - Third Party Financing Companies
    - Place of Service Considerations



## How to Prepare for the New Normal

- Higher Patient Share Responsibilities
  - Tighten Your Collection Processes
    - Autodraft Implementation for Patient Payment Plans
    - Statements
      - Consider eMail and Text Based
    - Outbound Calls
      - Automated Dialing
        - In-House vs. Third Party Outsourcing
    - Inbound Calls
      - Staffing and Call Center Performance
        - Abandonment Rates
        - Average Speed to Answer
        - Call Time
        - After Call Resolution Time
    - Implement Key Performance Metrics
    - Collection Agency Utilization



### RPM Keys to Revenue Cycle Success

#### **Patient Intake**

- ♦ Verification & Eligibility
- **♦**Authorizations
- **♦Workflow**
- **♦TAT**
- **♦**Secondary Capture
- ♦OON vs. InNetwork
- **♦**Contracting Strategy
- **♦**Electronic Capture
- **♦**Patient Retention
- ♦Financial Assistance
- ♦ Documentation
- ♦ Payer Selection
- **♦**Compliance

### **Charge Capture**

- ◆Expected Revenue Recognition
- **♦**Chargemaster
- феНR
- **♦**Electronic Capture
- $\diamond QA$
- **♦**Billable Items
- **♦Timely Capture**
- **♦**Charge Audits
- **♦**Missed Revenue
- **♦**Contract Mgmt
- ♦ Compliance
- ♦ Documentation Requirements

### **Billing**

- ♦Time to Close
- **♦**Electronic Capture
- **♦QA & Audit**
- ♦ Claims Mgmt
- ♦Electronic vs.
  Paper
- **♦**Timely Filing
- ♦ Payer Knowledge
- **♦**Coding
- ♦ Medical Necessity
- ♦Missing Documents
- **♦**Secondary
- ♦Load Balancing
- **♦Denials Mgmt**
- **♦**Compliance

#### **Collections**

- ♦Imaging & Workflow
- **♦835 Transactions**
- ♦ Denials Management
- ♦QA & Audit
- ♦Incentives
- **♦**Timely Filing
- ♦Pt. Pay/Early Out Strategy
- **♦**Contract Mgmt
- **♦**Productivity
- ♦ Payer vs. Specialty
- **♦Timely Appeals**
- **♦**Staffing Model
- →Reporting
- **♦**Credit Balances
- ♦ Collections vs.
  Expected
- **♦**Compliance



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