



News Notes

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Quarterly News & Updates

While the situation with the coronavirus (COVID-19) remains in flux, nothing is more important to the Lehigh Valley Business Coalition on Healthcare than the health and safety of our members, your employees, your families, our community, and our Country. The Coalition's operations and purchasing programs remain committed to providing full services to members.

Whether we are moving into the "new normal" or getting "back to business" our plan is to continue supporting our members, with purchasing programs that increase membership value and an ongoing commitment to providing education and networking opportunities - whether in person or virtual!

Thank you to our employer members and associate members for your ongoing engagement!

We hope you enjoy this latest e-Version of the LVBCH Quarterly News Notes!

[Visit our Website](#)

Welcome Message



Carl Seitz
President, LVBCH

Open Enrollment is here - and as we move into the fall and winter months, we want to thank everyone who was able to participate in the Coalition's 2022 educational programming. We would also like to extend a special thank you to all of our sponsors, exhibitors, speakers, volunteers, and attendees who contributed to the success of these programs. .

We enjoyed seeing you at our Education in the Vineyard series. Special thanks to our partners AmeriHealth Administrators and Health Advocate who provided the education at the final event in the series.

Thank you also to everyone who participated in our first Legislative Roundtable. We would like to recognize Representative Ryan Mackenzie, Representative Pete Schweyer, and Geoffrey Brace from Representative Mike Schlossberg's office who participated in a lively discussion, as well as Doug Furness from Capital Blue Cross who moderated the panel.

We also hope you will join us again in-person in 2023, including our 10th Anniversary Symposium with Lehigh University's Healthcare Systems Engineering Program, which is being planned for February 2023, and please save the date for the LVBCH Annual Conference:

- 43rd Annual Conference
 - Wednesday, May 17
 - At DeSales University
 - Additional information coming soon!

As we move into the final quarter of 2022, we remain committed to the health and safety of our members, and will continue to offer opportunities to best meet your needs and interests.

Welcome New Members

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to our new Coalition members - We encourage all members to get involved and participate in Coalition activities!

- Arrow Primary Care, PLLC
 - Carlisle School District
 - D'Huy Engineering
 - EMS Advisers
- GeoBlue/Blue Cross Blue Shield Global
 - Quantum Health
 - United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley

[View All LVBCH Members Here](#)

LVBCH Updates

LVBCH Receives Mental Health Grant

To Convene Employer Roundtable on Mental Health and Major Depressive Disorder

The Lehigh Valley Business Coalition on Healthcare (LVBCH) was selected as one of three organizations to receive a grant through the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions related to mental health and major depressive disorder, a top priority for many employers.

As part of this grant opportunity, LVBCH will be convening a roundtable of local employer members. The goal of the roundtable is to identify employer priorities and directions related to mental health, post-COVID, and determine what drives value for employers in supporting the mental health of their workforce.

This roundtable, which will be held virtually on November 17, 2022, 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., will include LVBCH employer members of various sizes and representing diverse industries. The discussion will provide an opportunity for employer members to share their thoughts and needs. For additional information, please contact Amanda Greene: agreene@lvbch.com.

[Read the Press Release](#)

Upcoming Events

Save-the-Dates

10th Anniversary Symposium
with Lehigh University Healthcare Systems Engineering

- Tuesday, February 7, 2023
- *Snow Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023*
- At Lehigh University

More information about this event and registration coming soon

43rd Annual Conference

- Wednesday, May 17, 2023
- At DeSales University

****More information about this event and registration coming soon****

Employer Forum



All LVBCH Employer Members are invited to participate in this ongoing peer-to-peer discussion between local employers on the topics most important to you!

Save-the-Date: The next employer forum is scheduled for:

- Thursday, November 10, 2022;
- 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
- Via Zoom

For more information or to register please contact Donna Corsi: dmcorsi@lvbch.com.

Recent Events

1st Annual Legislative Roundtable

- Friday, September 16, 2022
- At the Glasbern Inn, Fogelsville, PA

Thank You Panelists:

- Representation Ryan Mackenzie
- Representative Pete Schweyer
- Geoff Brace, from Representative Schlossberg's office
- Moderated by: Doug Furness, Capital Blue Cross

Thank You Sponsors & Exhibitors

Premier Sponsors



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HealthAdvocate™



UPMC HEALTH PLAN

Education in the Vineyard



Education in the Vineyard:

- Thursday, August 18, 2022

- At Stony Run

Thank You Presenters



HealthAdvocate™

Education in the Vineyard:

- Thursday, July 14, 2022
- At Weathered Vineyards

Thank You Presenters



EXPRESS SCRIPTS®



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National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions (NAHPC) Updates



LVBCH partners with the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions to drive innovation, health, and value through the collective action of public and private purchasers. Together, both organizations seek to accelerate the nation's progress toward safe, efficient, high-quality healthcare and the improved status of the American population.

Pulse of the Purchaser

Fall 2022 Survey

Pulse of the Purchaser, a national survey of employers, was conducted in August and September 2022. The survey gauges concerns and views of employers around the following:

- Workforce environment
- Hospital price and quality transparency
- Health and wellbeing benefit strategies, including reproductive benefits
- Health equity
- Pharmacy drug strategies
- High-cost claims
- Impact of potential health reforms

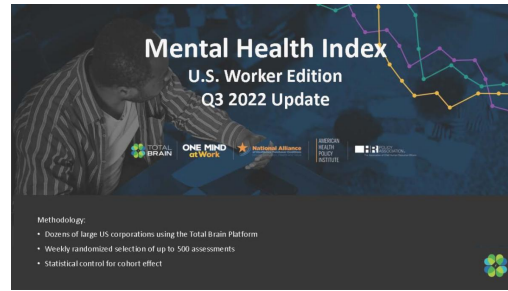


[View the Slides](#)

Mental Health Index - U.S. Worker Edition

Americans' risk of depression soared 106% in September when compared to the peak of summer. Further, data show that a rise in depression coupled with a 40% increase in anxiety and 16% increase in stress since August is impacting U.S. workers' ability to be decisive and meet complex business goals.

Get the details about how employees are faring and how to promote mental health resources to engage them in remedies that restore and sustain emotional wellbeing during the winter months.

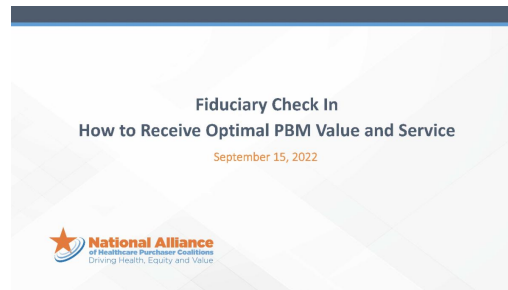


[View the Slides](#)

Fiduciary Check-In: How to Receive Optimal PBM Value & Service

"How to Receive Optimal PBM Value and Service" covers the implications of common PBM conflicts and questions, and questions to ask PBMs to achieve optimal service and value on behalf of organizations and employees.

[View the Slides](#)



Beyond Hospital Transparency: Getting to Fair Price

Hospital costs are one of the fastest growing expenditures in the US economy with employers and employees paying the highest prices in the world.

Employers not only have the right, but also the responsibility as plan fiduciaries, to ensure they are paying fair prices.

This playbook offers:

- An understanding of how to use the latest hospital price transparency tools
- Insight into employer fiduciary rights and responsibilities
- Actionable market- and policy-based strategies to drive value-based care

[View the Playbook](#)

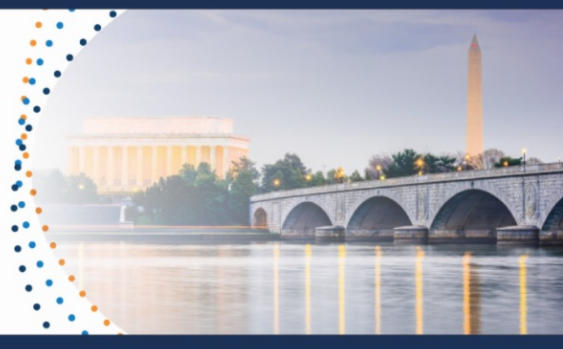
Beyond Hospital Transparency

GETTING TO FAIR PRICE



NOVEMBER 7-9, 2022

Crystal Gateway Marriott
Arlington, VA 22202



[More Information & Register Now](#)

Employer Members receive complimentary registration:

Email Amanda Greene - agreene@lvbch.com for registration code.

Health Policy in Transit

Federal Litigation on ACA's Requirement to Cover Preventive Services

Read Federal Litigation on ACA's Requirement to Cover Preventive Services



Leapfrog Updates



LVBCH continues to develop its relationship with the Leapfrog Group, serving as a Regional Leader. In this role, LVBCH invites and encourages hospitals across Pennsylvania to complete the annual Hospital Survey that assesses hospital safety, quality, and efficiency based on national performance measures.

Best Hospitals for Maternity Care

Powered by: The Leapfrog Group & Money

Hospitals play a crucial role in keeping us healthy. A stay at the hospital is made great by several factors, all of which can impact your wallet: quality, safe care, a reputation for excellent patient experience and an ethical approach to treatment. Money has teamed up with The Leapfrog Group to help you make educated decisions about which institutions are best for your money.

You and your newborn(s) want the best care a hospital can offer a new life. Money and The

Leapfrog Group's Best Maternity Care Hospitals highlights the institutions that deliver just that.

[View the List](#)



Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) Updates



PHC4 was formed to address rapidly growing health care costs and to contain costs by stimulating competition in the health care market by giving comparative information about the most efficient and effective health care providers and identifying opportunities to contain costs and improve the quality of care they deliver.

Common Procedures Report

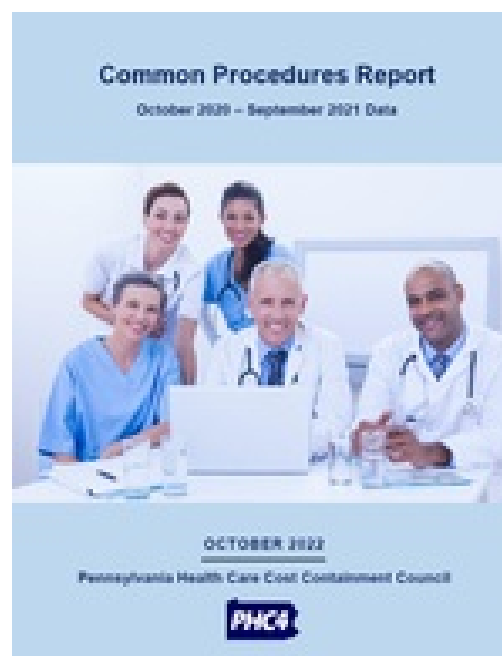
October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 Data

Hospital Results: Spinal Fusion, Total Hip & Total Knee Replacement

This report displays volume and outcome information for three common orthopedic procedures performed in the Pennsylvania acute care hospitals that typically perform these procedures on adults. The report can assist consumers and purchasers in making more informed health care decisions. The report can also serve as an aid to providers in highlighting additional opportunities for quality improvement and cost containment.

[News Release](#)

[About the Report](#)



Financial Analysis 2021

Volume Two - Ambulatory Surgery Centers

This report includes statewide data and facility-specific information about the financial health of Pennsylvania's ambulatory surgery centers. The report covers fiscal year 2021.

News Release

Read the Report

October 2022

Financial Analysis 2021

Ambulatory Surgery Centers

An Annual Report on the Financial Health of Pennsylvania Ambulatory Surgery Centers

EMBARGOED

NOT FOR RELEASE BEFORE
OCTOBER 13, 2022

PHCA Volume Two
Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council

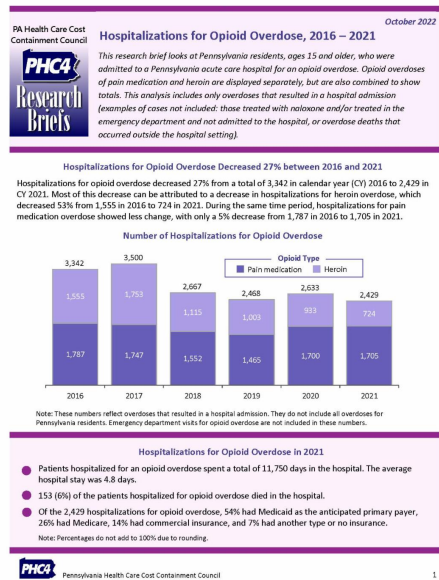
Hospitalizations for Opioid Overdose

Research Brief: 2016 to 2021

In this brief report, trends in yearly hospitalizations for opioid overdose are examined for the six-year period 2016 through 2021, with a closer look at differences by age, sex, race/ethnicity, and poverty rate. Overdoses for pain medication and heroin are shown separately and in total. In 2021 alone, Pennsylvanians were hospitalized for opioid overdose at a rate of 22.9 per 100,000. Sociodemographic differences showed Black, non-Hispanic residents, Hispanic residents, and male residents were more likely to be affected. County-level trends are also provided.

News Release

Read the Report



Purchasing Partner Employer Meetings



LVBCH & Capital Blue Cross Quarterly Employer Meeting (August 2022)

Guest Articles from Purchasing Partners



Reversing Diabetes - Yes It Can Be Done



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What is the Patient Assurance Program at Express Scripts



The Challenges of Accurately Repricing Pharmacy Benefits Manager Claims



PBMs Targeted by Government to Lower Drug Prices



Facing Your Dental Phobia Head On



Gen Z is Shaping the Future of the Workplace

The Link Between Vision Health and Mental Health



Addressing Holiday Stress and Its Impact at Work



Low-Cost Workplace Benefits Beyond Healthcare



A New You

Our affiliation with these national organizations is a value-added benefit for our members.



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