



The **Business Coalition on Healthcare**

60 West Broad St. • Suite 105 • Bethlehem, PA 18018  
Phone: 610-317-0130 • Fax: 610-317-0142

*Employers committed to quality and affordable health care since 1980*

[www.LVBCH.com](http://www.LVBCH.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 15, 2013**

**For more information, contact:**

**Tom Croyle**

LVBCH

Telephone: (610) 317-0130

Fax: (610) 317-0142

E-mail: [tcroyle@lvbch.com](mailto:tcroyle@lvbch.com)

***LVBCH and Sanofi Release Regional Diabetes Report  
Information Critical to Managing Care of Employees***

Bethlehem, PA (October 15, 2013) *LVBCH* (Lehigh Valley Business Coalition on Healthcare) and *Sanofi US* (Bridgewater, NJ) announce the release of the ***Type 2 Diabetes Report*** for 2013. This regional report covers markets in the Lehigh Valley, Harrisburg, Reading and Scranton detailing key demographics, financial, utilization, pharmacotherapy and health outcomes measures. Also included are state and national benchmarks to better assist employers and providers in identifying the populations most at risk.

Although sponsored by Sanofi, all data was collected, categorized and analyzed by an independent third party, IMS Health of Parsippany, NJ. For each reporting category, there are results by market contrasted with Pennsylvania and National data. This permits quick comparisons for employers and providers when designing programs to address Type 2 Diabetes in the workforce and populations at large. Data for this report were collected between 2010 and 2012.

In commenting on the report, LVBCH President Tom Croyle stated, "This report is LVBCH's first effort to compare statewide and national benchmarks for diabetes care in the region where our employers are located. Employers, providers, insurers and community health agencies should use this report to assess how diabetes management strategies are working to change behaviors, improve community health and contain costs."

Some highlighted findings are:

- o The percentage of working age adults (18-35 and 36-64) diagnosed with diabetes fell between 2011 and 2012.

- o Working adults in the 36-64 age group represented the highest percentage of patients in the four market area ranging from 37.4 percent in Scranton to 42 percent in Reading. PA and national percentages for same age group 42.7 and 46.4.

- o Approximately 29 percent of diabetes patients receive their diagnosis from Primary Care and Internal Medicine doctors.

- o Hospital average length of stay (ALOS) for diabetes patients is higher in the four markets surveyed (4.5 to 6.5 days) when compared with Pennsylvania and National data (4.2 and 4.3 days respectively).

- o Average charge for episode of diabetes related hospitalization ranged from \$34,218 in Scranton to \$58,375 in the Lehigh Valley vs. \$49,889 Pennsylvania and \$40,177 nationally.

- o The percentage of patients covered by commercial insurance declined in the four markets surveyed ranging from 48.4 percent in Scranton to 56.3 in Harrisburg. Pennsylvania and national average are 53.3 and 50.5 respectively. The largest decrease occurred in Reading dropping some 2.3 percent.

Reports such as these assist employers in designing screening and wellness programs to assist their employees in maintaining a healthy life style. The complete report—in pdf version---is available on the LVBCH website at [www.LVBCH.com](http://www.LVBCH.com). We thank our partner Sanofi US for its support of this important health metric study.

### **About LVBCH**

LVBCH is a multi-state, not-for-profit, coalition of employers striving to provide the finest health care coverage possible for their employees, in the most economical fashion. The Coalition's mission is to improve the delivery, cost and quality of health care in our communities through: Collective employer action; Quality and data initiatives; Value based purchasing; and, Providing forums for the exchange of information, ideas and resources. The Coalition is also a member of the National Business Coalition on Health, the National Quality Forum and The Leapfrog Group. For more information, visit [www.LVBCH.com](http://www.LVBCH.com).