Proactively Managing Obesity at Your Member Organizations



The Burden of Obesity



Obesity is prevalent and the number of Americans with the disease will continue to grow^{1,2}



Non-Hispanic 34% 2010 white male 49% 2030 Non-Hispanic 36% white female 48% Non-Hispanic 36% black male 49% Non-Hispanic 58% black female 76% Mexican-American 33% male 45% Mexican-American 44% female 56% 0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Current vs projected prevalence of obesity for US adults²



Obesity may be connected to decreased productivity among employees¹⁻³



Presenteeism

Absenteeism

Short-term disability

Workers' compensation



Managing Obesity



Employers are interested in implementing wellness solutions^{1,a}



of small companies say wellness is an important part of the benefits mix

of large companies say wellness solutions are an important part of the benefits mix

52%

of all companies offer wellness programs to employees' family members, while one-quarter extend access to retirees



^aOf employers surveyed.

90%

Reference: 1. Optum. https://broker.uhc.com/assets/wellness-in-the-worklplace-2012-WP.pdf. Accessed October 13, 2015.

They are looking to improve their wellness initiatives¹

	2013	2014 ^a
Financial rewards	62%	81%
Penalties	18%	36%
Requiring health risk assessments	54%	75%
Requiring validation of activities	33%	59%
Outcomes-based rewards or penalties	16%	47%
Involvement of spouses	31%	59%



^aIncludes companies indicating "planned for 2014."

Reference: 1. Towers Watson. Reshaping health care: best performers leading the way. 18th annual Towers Watson/National Business Group on Health employer survey on purchasing value in health care. 2013.

Many employers don't believe obesity management practices are very effective¹

Employer perceptions of the overall effectiveness of their obesity management strategy¹





Obesity management is more than implementing a wellness program





Understand the cost of obesity

Collect, analyze, and integrate:



Health risk assessments



Claims analyses/ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes



Obesity screenings



Obesity-related wellness program costs



Workers' compensation and short-term disability costs



Employee survey/focus group insights



Presenteeism and absenteeism costs





Assess employer obesity management options





Wellness programs

Consider whether incentives, rewards, or other systems are effective



Anti-obesity medications

The 2015 Endocrine Society Clinical Practice Guideline recommends pharmacotherapy as an adjunct to behavioral modification for individuals with BMI \geq 27 kg/m² with a comorbidity or BMI \geq 30 kg/m² who have been unable to lose weight in the past¹



Bariatric surgery

There are several types of surgery that can be performed to help employees with >BMI 40 kg/m², or ≥BMI 35 kg/m² with 1 obesity-related comorbidity¹

It's important to make multiple options available to employees with obesity so the disease can be properly managed



Develop and implement a comprehensive weight management offering



Find gaps in current weight management approach, and identify opportunities to improve program outcomes

Develop a strategic plan that incorporates evidence-based obesity management offerings, along with programs that incorporate employee interests and preferences

Confirm work environment fully aligns with new strategic plan, and ensure data collection processes exist to monitor utilization and effectiveness of new strategy

Implement new comprehensive weight management offering and strategy



Case Studies and Best Practices



Global financial firm

A third-party insured, global financial firm with nearly 4,900 employees¹

BACKGROUND¹

This organization started becoming concerned with rising health care costs and was looking for an innovative way to both control costs and improve employee morale.

DETAILS¹

- Biometric screenings
- Online health risk questionnaires
- Health and wellness seminars
- Healthy eating program
- Nurse hotline
- "Take the stairs" campaign
- Work your way to a 5K walk/run
- Increased number of healthy food options in cafeteria

RESULTS¹

- 70% of participants lost weight
- ER visits decreased 1% to 7% each year

This wellness program included additional initiatives and incentives, and these also attributed to the results of this case study.

The organization saved **\$111** per employee in 2009, \$261 in 2010, and the trend has continued upward¹



Reference: 1. RAND Corporation. http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/pdf/workplacewellnessstudysummary.pdf. Published April 2013. Accessed October 28, 2015.

Manufacturing company

A manufacturing company with nearly 9,000 employees across the United States and Canada¹

BACKGROUND¹

Leaders at this employer consider tobacco use, obesity, high cholesterol, and hypertension as the most common health risk factors among employees. They decided they needed to make their workforce healthier and reduce health care costs.

DETAILS¹

- Subsidized gym memberships
- Weight-loss challenge
- Nurse hotline

RESULTS¹

- Nutritional information provided for vending machine selections
- Healthier food choices in break room and vending machines
- Financial penalty for nonparticipation in annual wellness screenings

- 78% of employees met the LDL cholesterol goal
- 82% of employees met the blood pressure goal
- 63% of employees had normal glucose

This wellness program included additional initiatives and incentives, and these also attributed to the results of this case study.

2,000 employees lost a total of 16,000 pounds¹



Reference: 1. RAND Corporation. http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/pdf/workplacewellnessstudysummary.pdf. Published April 2013. Accessed October 28, 2015.

Financial services organization

A financial services firm with 63,500 employees worldwide (27,000 in the United States)¹

BACKGROUND¹

Internal research at this organization suggested that overall workforce health would translate to higher performance.

DFTAIL S¹

- Free onsite biometric screenings
- Free preventive screenings

- Annual health-risk assessment (HRA), including Work Limitations Questionnaire
- Incentivized participation through flexible spending account contribution

RFSUITS¹

- Expanded across the globe and tailored to be culturally relevant to different areas
- Now offering chronic disease intervention **programs** to employees in the United States for conditions, such as: **diabetes**, **migraines**, and asthma

This wellness program included additional initiatives and incentives, and these also attributed to the results of this case study.

The firm saw annual estimated productivity savings of **\$483** per participating US employee¹



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Thank you & Questions

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