

# A PRACTICAL APPROACH TO INTEGRATING HEALTH AND DISABILITY PROGRAMS

## Speakers:

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# Introductions



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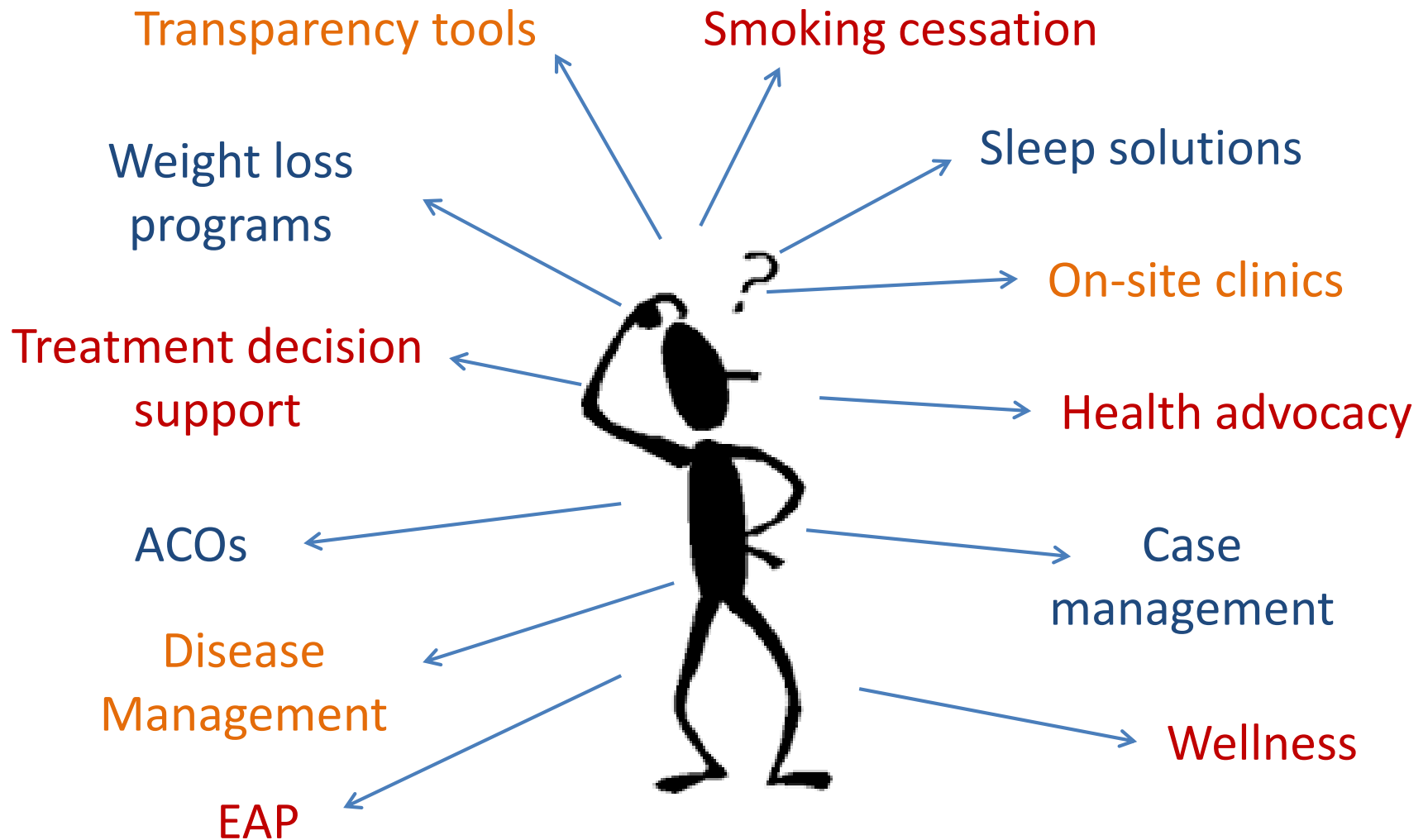
Rich Fuerstenberg,  
FSA, MAA, FCA  
Senior Partner,  
Mercer

# Today's Discussion

- Making the Health and Disability Connection
- Design fundamentals – “the right direction”?
- Tools to Maximize Program Effectiveness
- The Clinical Foundation
- The Consumer Journey - meet “Lee Philips”
- The CBS Experience
- Measurement and Value Drivers



# Current array of programs is overwhelming and growing



# How can employers help connect employees to the right programs at the right time?

## Who

- What triggers a referral?
- Do referrals vary by diagnosis?
- What happens to claimants not enrolled in the medical plan?

## When

- How soon after disability intake does a referral happen?
- Should all referrals happen at intake?
- What happens if additional information about the claimant comes up during the disability?

## How

- Is the referral a warm transfer? Call back?
- How is the employer name leveraged in the referral process?
- How is the appropriate legal release of information obtained from the claimant?

# Tools and Process to Maximize Program Effectiveness



## The “high risk” population

- Translate data into clinical action, all claims vs. targeted risk populations

## Identification during the claim process

- Maintain focus on “high cost” claims to provide greatest impact and efficiency, subjective or automated

## Education and focused communications

- Programs and services available to help you achieve recovery and better health

## Claimant authorization

- A critical step in the process – paper, electronic signature, voice-authorization

## Making the referral

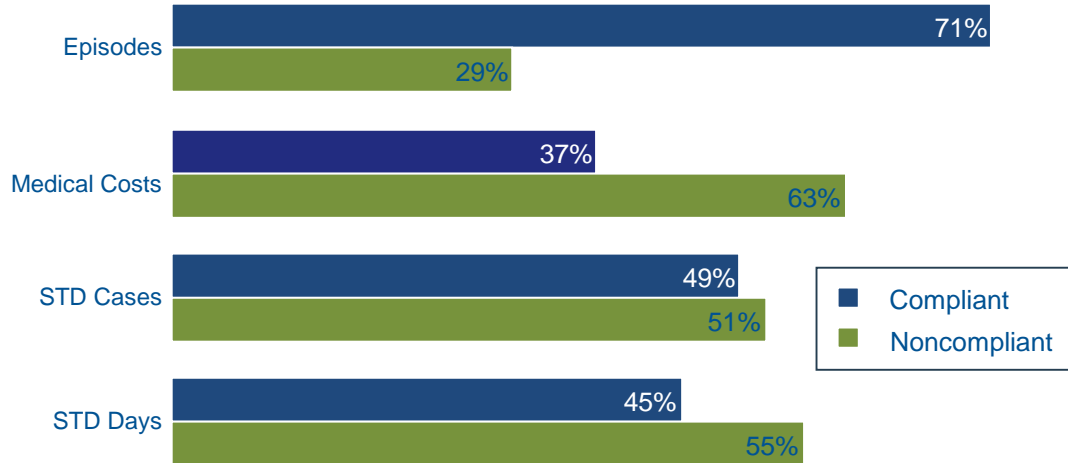
- Warm transfer, e-transfer, auto transfer

## Intake and clinical outreach

- Centralized, timing, attempts – qualified referral vs. random outreach

# Medical Best Practice: Compliance With Evidence Based Guidelines

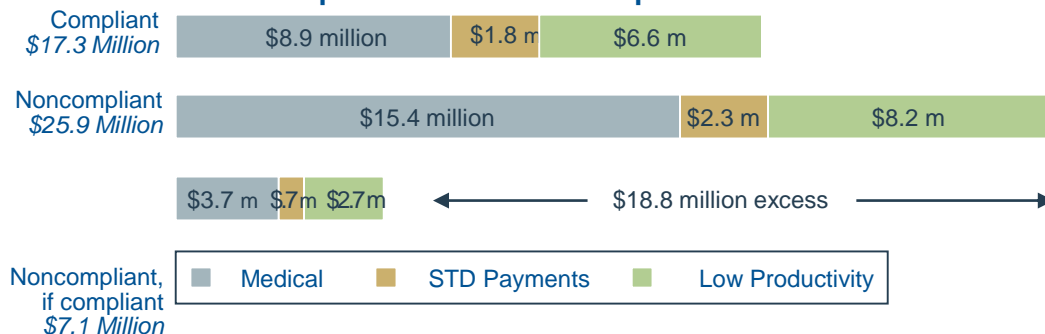
Compliance Effect: Low-Back (Percent of Cases)



## Lowest-Severity Low-Back Conditions: Compliant vs Non-Compliant

- **Compliant treatment** results in lower medical costs and lower incidence and duration of disability.
- **Non-Compliance** is associated with significant financial losses when considering full costs of health, disability, and loss productivity.

Cost Impact of Low-Back Compliance



**The total cost impact – Noncompliant if compliant = \$18.8 Million**

Source: "Are Medical Guidelines Effective Tools? Research by the Integrated Benefits Institute, February, 2004.

# Creating Clinical Alternatives

## Solving the big problems

Providing members information to participate in health care decisions with their doctors



**BACK, KNEE AND HIP**  
Decision support programs help guide members who are considering surgery or joint replacement

Each shift to an alternative treatment option produced an average savings of **\$10,400** per engaged member.  
Members moving to an in-network UnitedHealth Premium®-designated provider for care had an average savings of **\$625** per provider shift.

**35%** *Choose a less costly treatment path*

**Did you know that Musculoskeletal is one of the leading causes of lost work time and medical spend?**

Source: UnitedHealthcare book of business, National Accounts Claims Analysis, study period: July 2012 – June 2013 (6-month post-period, 3-month claims run-out). All figures in the presentation are based on historical experience and are not guarantees of future performance. Actual results will vary.



# Health matters

## supporting the employers population

### IDENTIFYING HEALTH RISKS MAXIMIZES ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT

Monitor your entire population for opportunities to deliver a broad portfolio of integrated clinical services and support, referrals maximize the opportunity with “high risk” employees.

#### Staying healthy



**Wellness and  
Prevention**

#### Getting healthy



**Care  
Management**

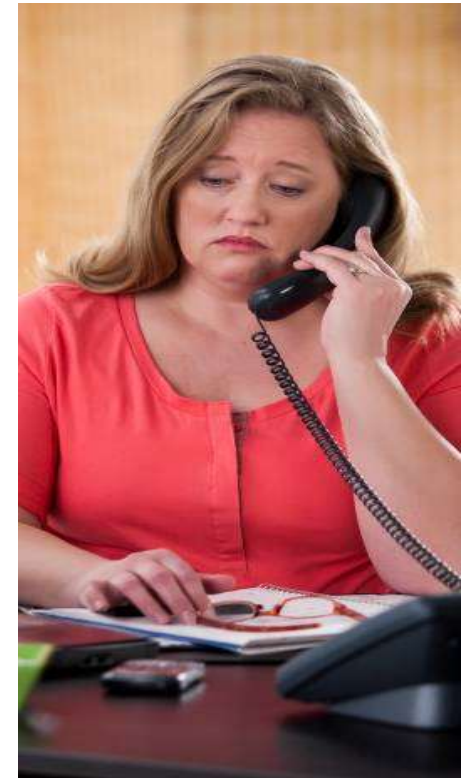
#### Living with a condition



**Chronic  
Conditions**

# Meet “Lee Philips”

- 39 years old
- Accounts Payable Manager
- Back injury- a bulging disc
- Filed for disability benefits
- Orthopedist is recommending surgery
- Unum Disability Specialist (DBS) identified Lee as referral candidate
- Unum Disability Specialist educated Lee on Care Management and Treatment Decision Support programs provided by CBS health plan provider, UnitedHealthcare
- With Lee’s voice authorization, e-referral was sent to UnitedHealthcare



**Musculoskeletal conditions are the number one drivers of medical costs (14%) and disability lost time (24%) for our clients**

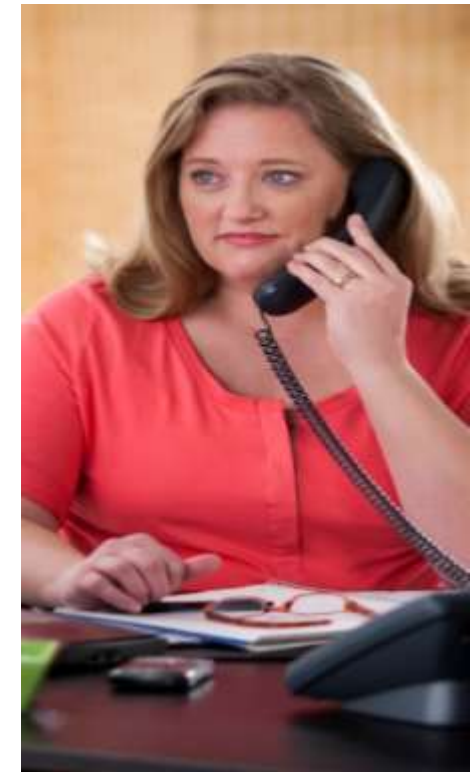
\*Source: UnitedHealthcare National Accounts Trends for AHRQ Chapters (2010)

Note: Lee Phillips is a fictitious character to demonstrate UnitedHealthcare/Unum tools and programs

# Engaging the Member

## Lee's UnitedHealthcare Nurse:

- Received referral from Unum – outreach call to Lee
- Discussed non-surgical options- similar outcomes
- Referred to UnitedHealthcare Premium Provider
- Recommended physical therapy and pain management as a conservative treatment
- Because Lee's back pain impacted day-to-day activities, she was screened for underlying depression
- UHC Nurse updated Unum DBS on activity and treatment plan
- Unum's Vocational Specialist worked with Lee, the treating Orthopedist and CBS on return to work plan



**TDS focuses on conditions that may respond equally effectively to surgical and non-surgical treatment, with average savings of \$10,400. 35% of TDS participants choose less complex procedures.\***

\* Source UnitedHealthcare analysis of medical expenses (no Rx) for several large employers.

# Lee Today – RTW Success

- Avoided back surgery
- Returned to work full time and shortened work absence- 21 saved lost work days
- Back pain managed with weight loss and physical therapy, enrolled in Healthy Back Program
- Exercises daily to strengthen her back
- Co-Managed successfully with Master-Level Clinician from UHC EAP and Personal Health Support nurse for depression and back pain

**Right Connection...**

**Right Programs...**

**Right Time...**



\*Source UnitedHealthcare analysis of medical expenses (no pharmacy) for several large employers

# CBS Corporation



# CBS Corporation

- Not just the news...
- No Medical Director – work with all stakeholders
- Self Insured
- Contributions based on salary tier
- 14,000 active benefit eligible employees
- 30,000 retirees
- Challenge to reach all employees



# CBS Benefits Strategy

## Health and Productivity in a Challenging Environment

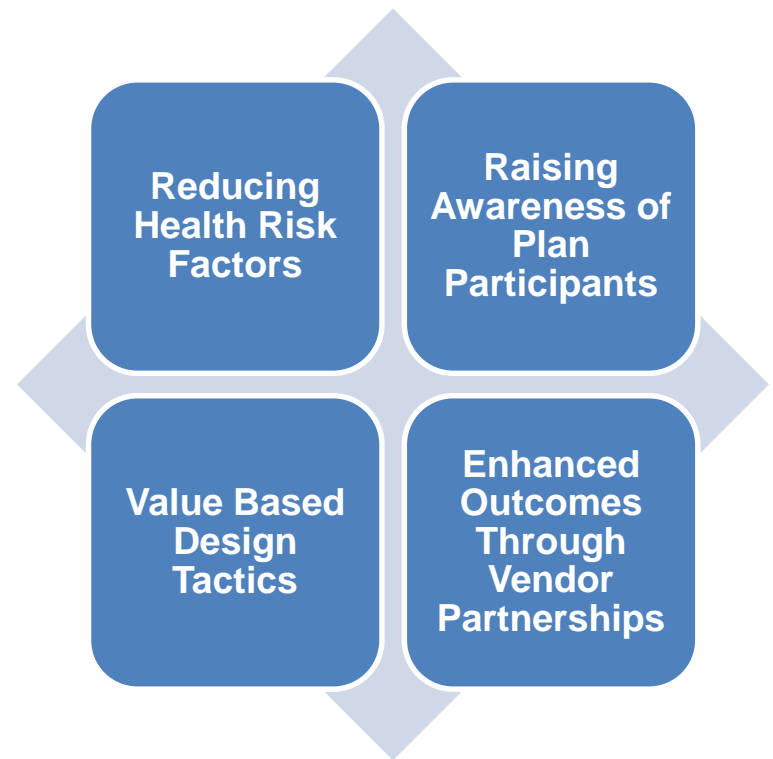
**CBS has a strategic approach to managing healthcare cost, employee engagement and lost work time**

Improving Health, Performance and Productivity

Design with Intent

Engaging Plan Participants

Cost-Benefits Program Optimization



# Today's Discussion

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## Disability and Health Integration

- Unum and UnitedHealthcare
- Impacting better outcomes through
  - Early Identification of “high risk claimants”
  - Employee education
  - Coaching and guidance

## Value Based Design Tactics – Design with Intent

- Impacting Behavioral Health outcomes
- Small change and easy implementation – significant impact



# Leveraging our Health and Disability Business Partners - Unum and UnitedHealthcare

1

**Identify:** Auto identification through Unum's Referral Priority Tool

CBS Referral Conditions Include:

- Cancer
- Circulatory
- Back
- Chronic Respiratory
- Diabetes
- Maternity (Complex)
- Behavioral Health (EAP)

2

**Educate:** Upfront education, helping CBS employees learn more about available health management programs and services

3

**Refer:** Voice Authorization -Secure E-referral to the UnitedHealthcare clinical nurse team

4

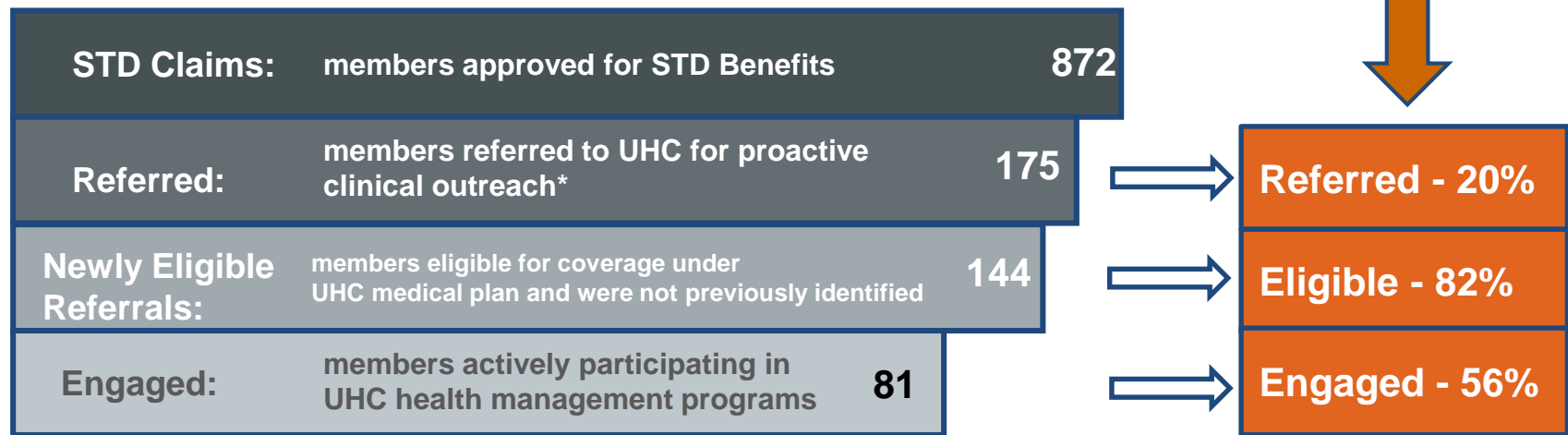
**Engage:** Helping employees make more informed choices, address gaps in care, understanding of their diagnosis and provide the needed support, coaching and guidance

Helping Employees Achieve Recovery and Better Health



# CBS - Disability Referral Funnel

Continuum of member engagement  
Reporting period: 1/1/2014 – 12/31/2014



Achieving increased levels of engagement and participation in UHC clinical programs through health and disability integration

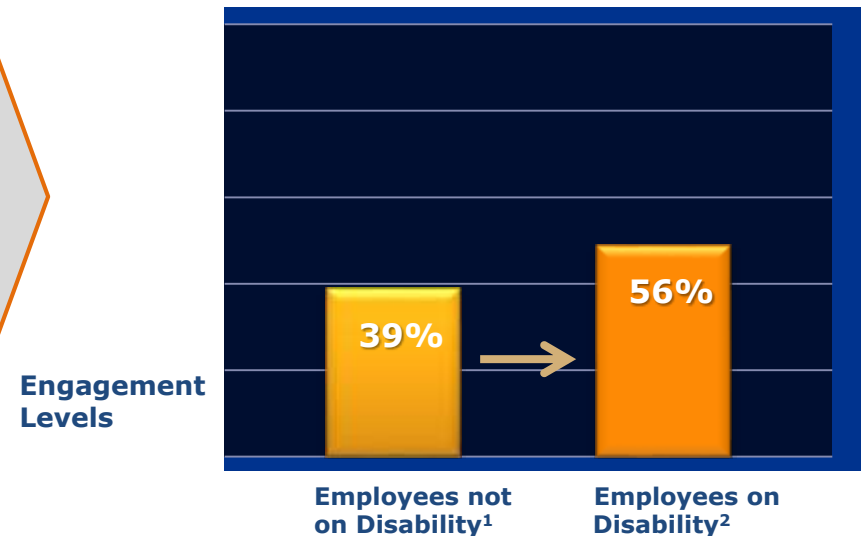
# CBS Highlights and Observations

Integration between UnitedHealthcare and Unum expanded our employee engagement in Case Management programs and services

Short Term Disability referrals expand the reach to **“at risk” employees**: newly identified referrals represent 82% of referral activity

56% of CBS employees on Short Term Disability engaged in case management programs and services. Increased from 2013 results of 49%.

Achieving increased levels of engagement and participation in UHC clinical programs



<sup>1</sup>Employees identified through the standard referral process for potential participation in a clinical program with similar diagnostic conditions.

<sup>2</sup>Employees identified through the Unum/UHC partnership referral process.

# Behavioral Health – A New Approach

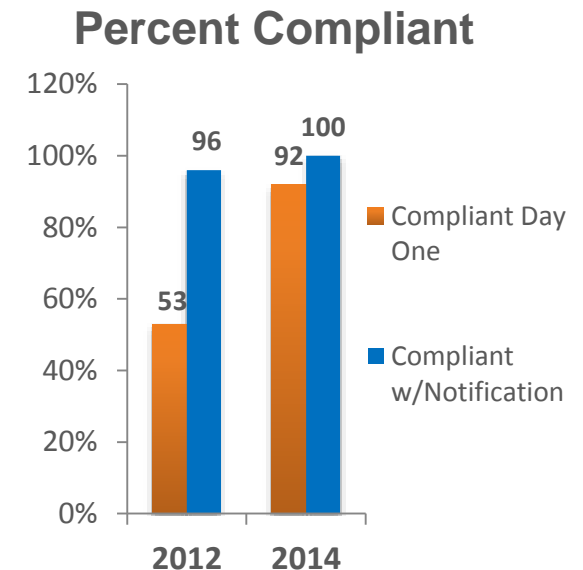
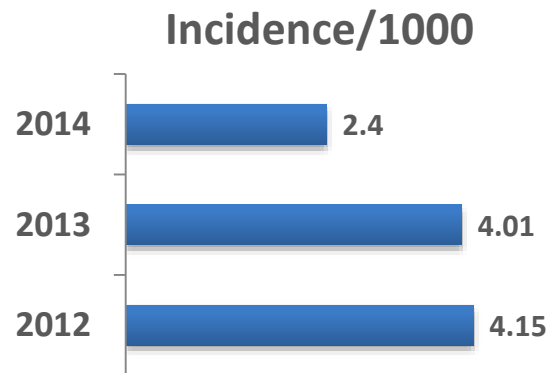
**The Challenge:** Assurance that Behavioral Health claimants were achieving appropriate and specialized care

**The Approach:** Policy change – requires employee on STD claim to be under the care of a Behavioral Health Specialist (BHS) within 14 days of their notice of claim

- Scheduling assistance provided
- Verification Required

## Learning's and Result

- Approach is not viewed as punitive, our goal is to provide appropriate care
- We leverage EAP to help employee's with scheduling appointments
- Meaningful change in compliance



# Where do you go from here?

- Do you know your baseline?
- Grab the low hanging fruit
- Adjust strategy based on your plan, vendors and strategies
- What does success look like?
- Referral volume does not equal value
- Plan design should reinforce the message
- Same goes for RTW Strategy and policy
- “State of the art” is constantly changing



# Questions



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