

# Value-Based Insurance Design

---

**A. Mark Fendrick, MD**  
**University of Michigan Center for**  
**Value-Based Insurance Design**



Pittsburgh  
Business Group  
ON HEALTH

**[www.vbidcenter.org](http://www.vbidcenter.org)**



**@um\_vbid**

**Table 1: Risk factors for nodding off at lectures**

Factor	Odds ratio (and 95% CI)
<b>Environmental</b>	
Dim lighting	1.6 (0.8–2.5)
Warm room temperature	1.4 (0.9–1.6)
Comfortable seating	1.0 (0.7–1.3)
<b>Audiovisual</b>	
Poor slides	1.8 (1.3–2.0)
Failure to speak into microphone	1.7 (1.3–2.1)
<b>Circadian</b>	
Early morning	1.3 (0.9–1.8)
Post prandial	1.7 (0.9–2.3)
<b>Speaker-related</b>	
Monotonous tone	6.8 (5.4–8.0)
Tweed jacket	2.1 (1.7–3.0)
Losing place in lecture	2.0 (1.5–2.6)

Note: CI = confidence interval.

# Making Health Care Great ... Again ; )

- 1 Innovations to prevent and treat disease have led to impressive reductions in morbidity and mortality**
- 2 Irrespective of these advances, cutting health care spending is the main focus of reform discussions**
- 3 Underutilization of high-value services persists across the entire spectrum of clinical care**
- 4 Our ability to deliver high-quality health care lags behind the rapid pace of scientific innovation**

# Star Wars Science



# Flintstones Delivery



# Outline

**Consumer  
Cost-  
sharing**

**Value-  
Based  
Insurance  
Design**

**Low-  
Value  
Care**

**Clinical  
Nuance**

**Translating  
Research  
into Policy**

# Shifting the Discussion from “How much” to “How well”

## Moving from Volume to Value

Requires a change in both how we pay for care and how we engage consumers to seek care



Principal focus of deliberations

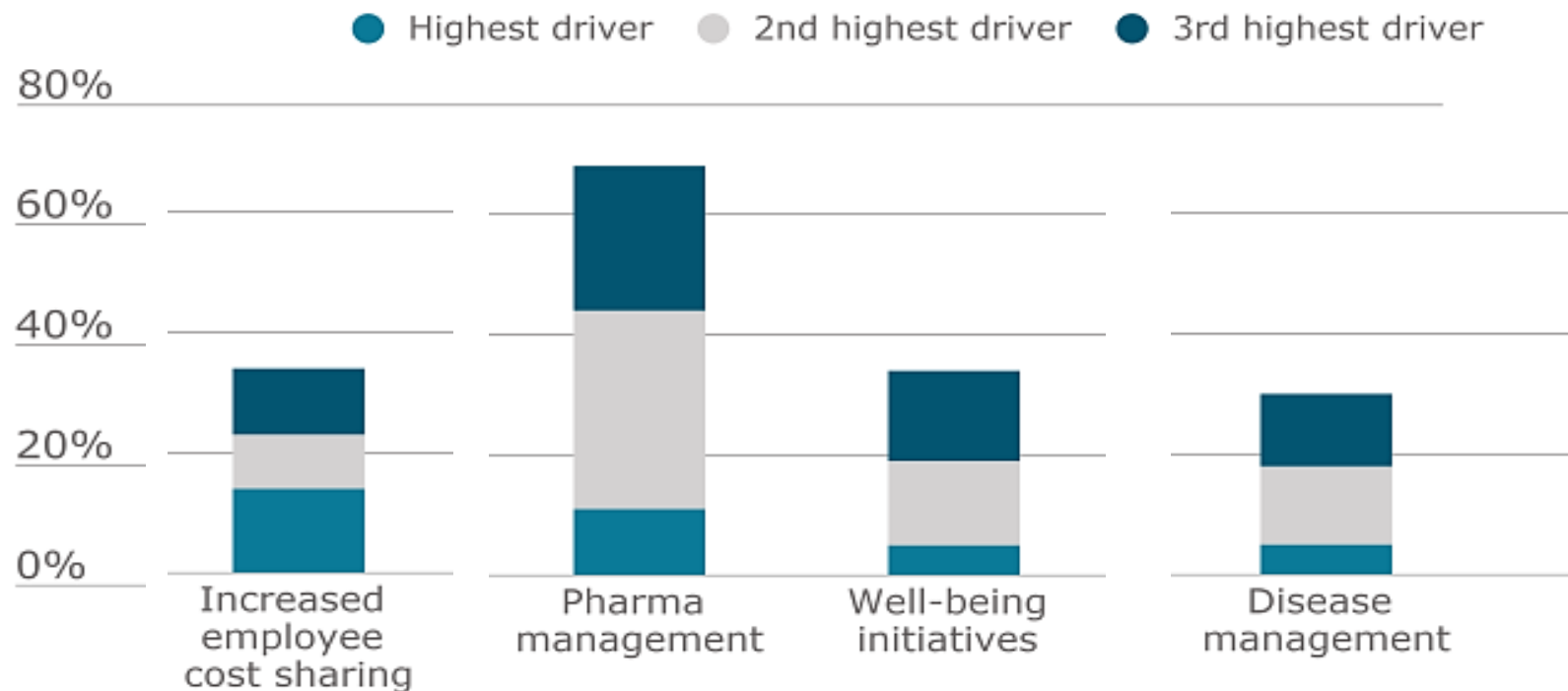


Essential strategy to enhance efficiency



Commonly used policy lever

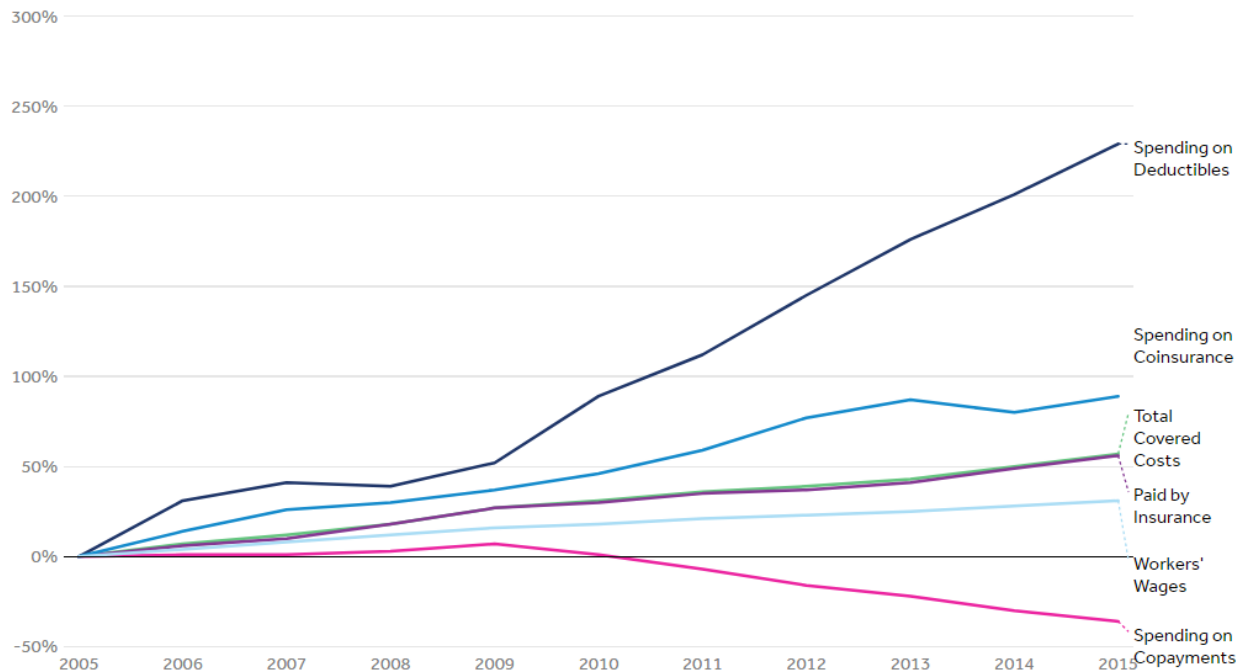
# Employer Tactics to Control Health Expenditures



Source: NBGH

# Consumer Cost-Sharing: Paying More for ALL Care Regardless of Value

Consumer  
Cost-sharing



Deductibles



Co-insurance



Co-payments



# Inspiration



“ I can't believe you had to spend a million dollars to show that if you make people pay more for something, they will buy less of it.

- Barbara Fendrick (my mother)

”

# Impact of Cost-Sharing on Health Care Disparities

## Effects of Increased Patient Cost Sharing on Socioeconomic Disparities in Health Care

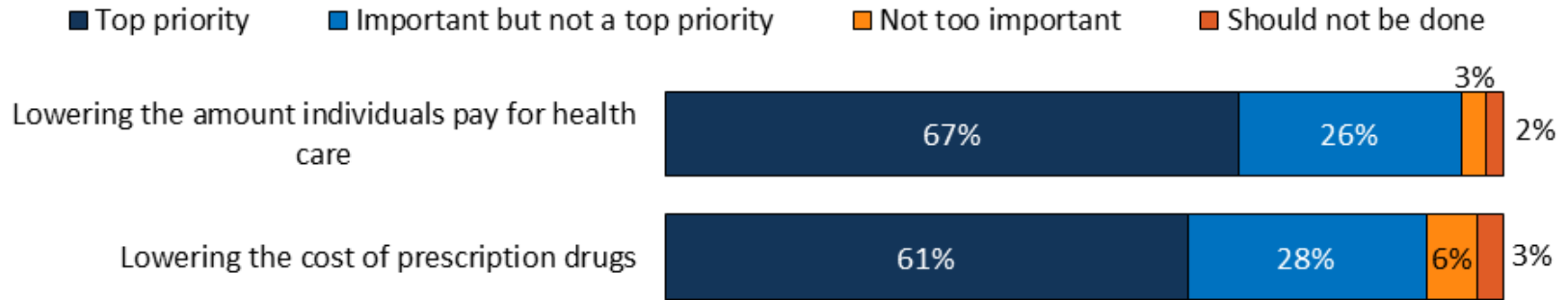
*Michael Chernew, PhD<sup>1</sup> Teresa B. Gibson, PhD<sup>2</sup> Kristina Yu-Isenberg, PhD, RPh<sup>3</sup>  
Michael C. Sokol, MD, MS<sup>4</sup> Allison B. Rosen, MD, ScD<sup>5</sup>, and A. Mark Fendrick, MD<sup>5</sup>*

- **Rising copayments worsen disparities and adversely affect health, particularly among economically vulnerable individuals and those with chronic conditions**

# One in Four Patients Have Difficulty Affording Their Prescription Medicines



# Americans Do Not Care About Health Care Costs; They Care About **What It Costs Them**



# **Clinical Nuance: An Alternative to 'Blunt' Cost-Sharing**

**The clinical value of a specific clinical service depends on:**

- Who receives it?**
- When in the course of disease?**
- By whom?**
- Where it is provided?**

# Clinical Nuance: Validation



“since nothing is  
really good or bad in  
itself—it's all what a  
person thinks about it”

**William Shakespeare**

**Hamlet Scene 2**

# Implementing Clinical Nuance: Value-Based Insurance Design (V-BID)

Value-Based  
Insurance  
Design

**TheUpshot**

## Health Plans That Nudge Patients to Do the Right Thing



Austin Frakt

THE NEW HEALTH CARE JULY 10, 2017



### RELATED COVERAGE



THE NE  
The A  
Prosta



THE NE  
Teach  
Save



A HEAL  
How I  
Better

**Sets consumer  
cost-sharing on  
clinical benefit  
– not price**

**M | V-BID**

# V-BID: Bipartisan Political and Broad Multi-Stakeholder Support

- **HHS**
- **CBO**
- **SEIU**
- **MedPAC**
- **Brookings Institution**
- **Commonwealth Fund**
- **NBCH**
- **American Fed Teachers**
- **Families USA**
- **AHIP**
- **AARP**
- **DOD**
- **BCBSA**
- **National Governor's Assoc.**
- **US Chamber of Commerce**
- **Bipartisan Policy Center**
- **Kaiser Family Foundation**
- **American Benefits Council**
- **National Coalition on Health Care**
- **Urban Institute**
- **RWJF**
- **IOM**
- **Smarter Health Care Coalition**
- **PhRMA**
- **EBRI**
- **AMA**

# Putting Innovation into Action: Translating Research into Policy

Translating  
Research  
into Policy



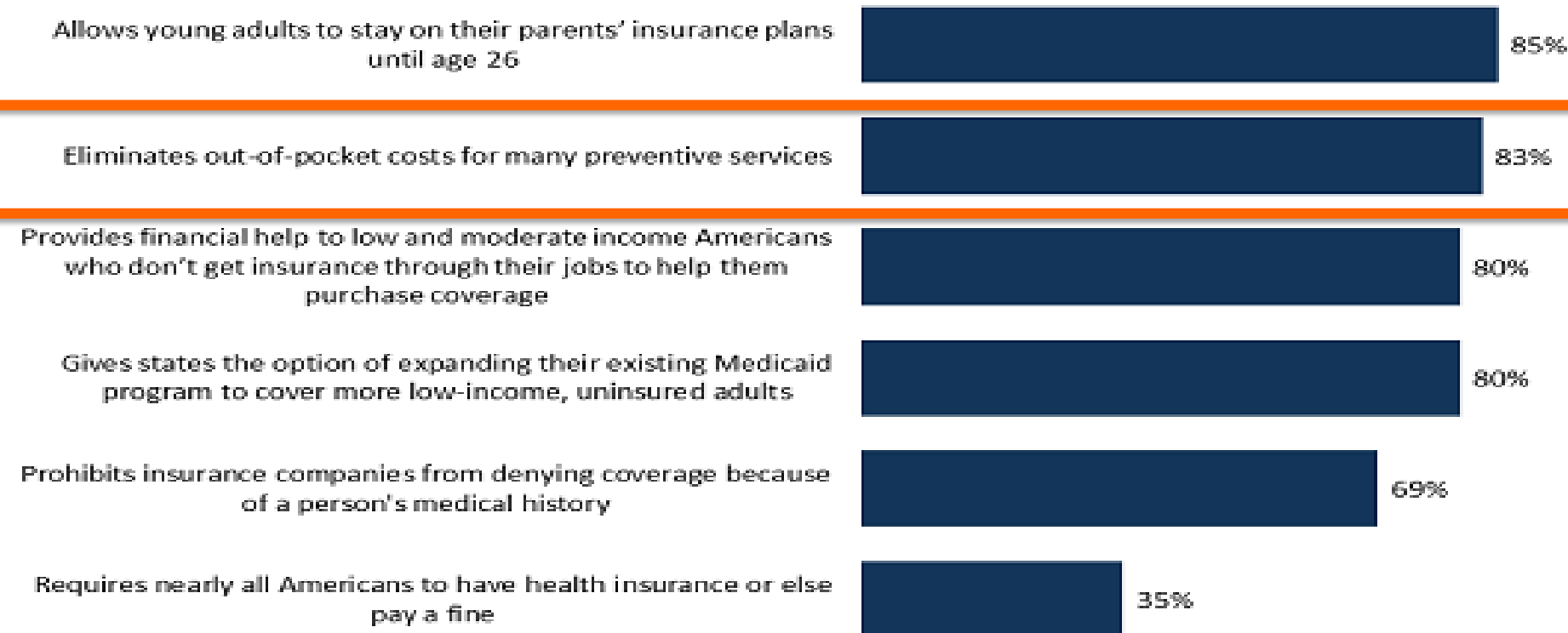
# ACA Sec 2713: Selected Preventive Services be Provided without Cost-Sharing

- **Receiving an A or B rating from the United States Preventive Services Taskforce (USPSTF)**
- **Immunizations recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)**
- **Preventive care and screenings supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)**

**Over 137 million Americans have received expanded coverage of preventive services; over 76 million have accessed without cost-sharing**

# Majorities Favor Many Key ACA Provisions, But Not Its Individual Mandate

Percent who favor each of the following specific elements of the health care law:



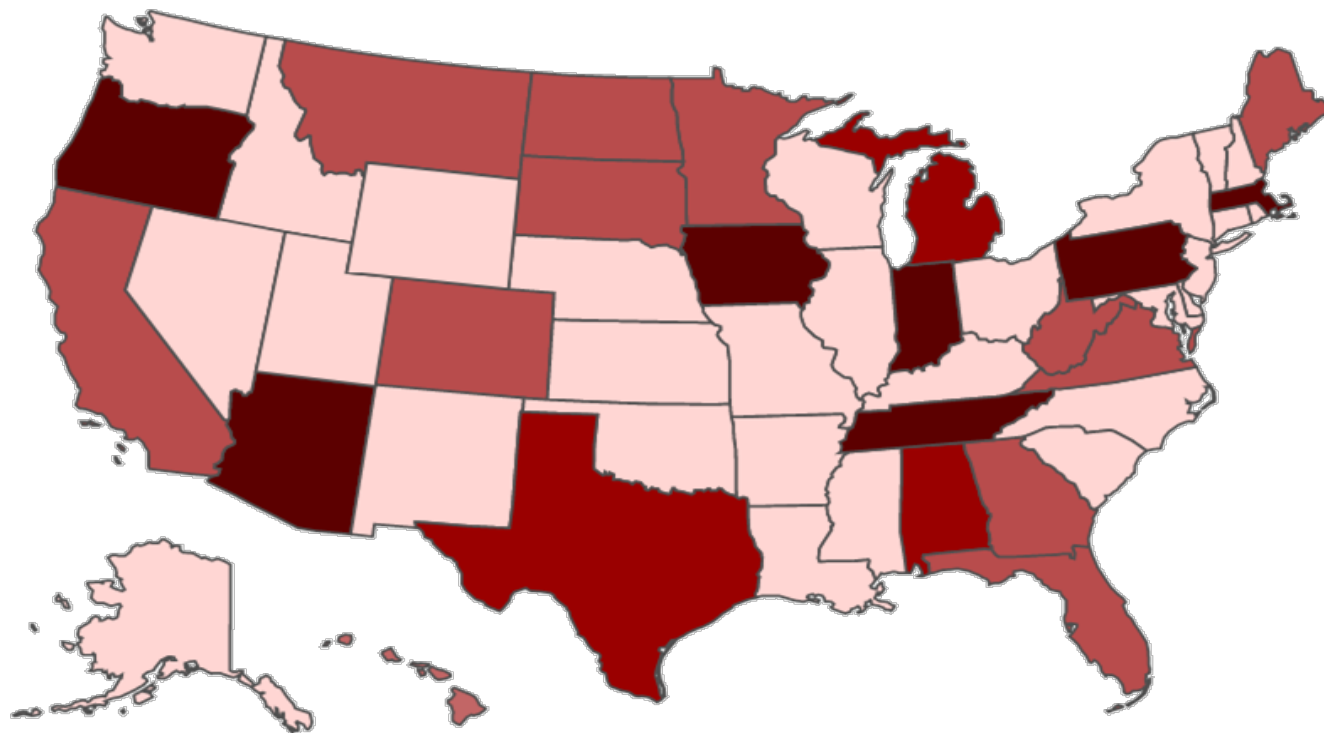
NOTE: Some items asked of half samples. Question wording abbreviated, see topline for full question wording.  
SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation Health Tracking Poll (conducted November 15-21, 2016)

# Putting Innovation into Action: Translating Research into Policy

Translating  
Research  
into Policy



# 2018 Budget Bill Expands MA V-BID Model Test to all 50 States



2017

2018

2019

2020



# New CMS Uniformity Rule Provides Flexibility for V-BID in Medicare Advantage



“providing access to services (or specific cost sharing) that are tied to health status or disease state in a manner that ensures that similarly situated individuals are treated uniformly is consistent with the uniformity requirement in the Medicare Advantage (MA) regulations”



# Putting Innovation into Action: Translating Research into Policy

Translating  
Research  
into Policy



# 2018 National Defense Authorization Act

## Further incorporates V-BID principles in TRICARE by...

- ▶ Giving preferential status to high-value, non-generic medications by treating them as generics for cost-sharing purposes
- ▶ Excluding from the pharmacy benefits program any medication that provides little or no value, so as to encourage the use of high-value services

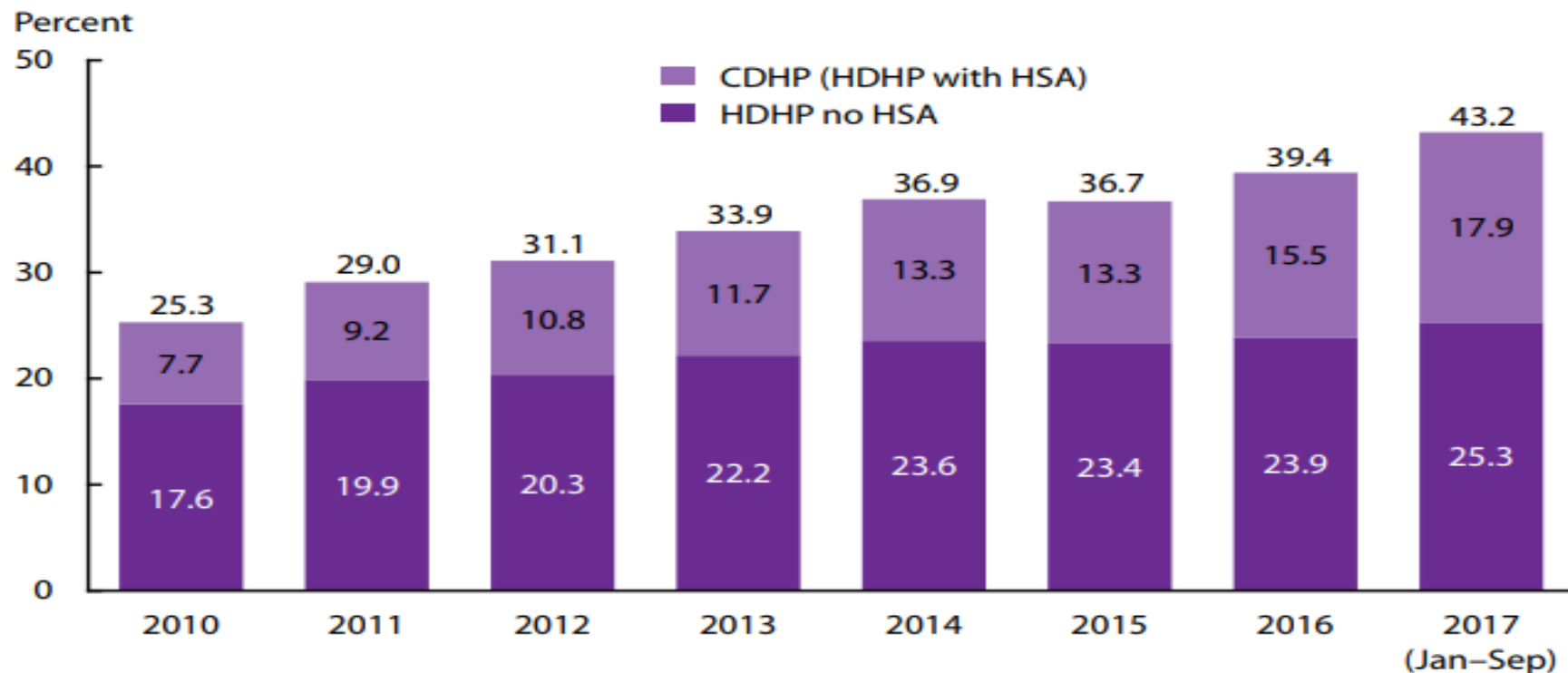
# Putting Innovation into Action: Translating Research into Policy

Translating  
Research  
into Policy



HSA QUALIFIED HDHPS

# Percentage of People under 65 Enrolled in HDHPs

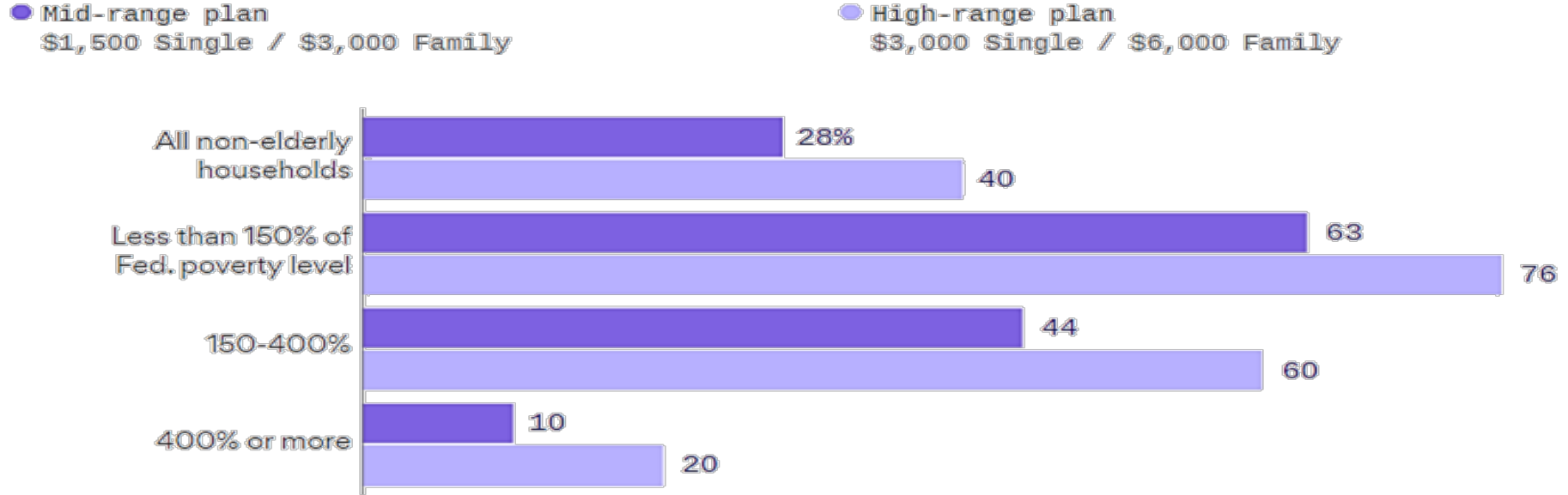


NOTES: CDHP is consumer-directed health plan, which is a high-deductible health plan (HDHP) with a health savings account (HSA). HDHP no HSA is a high-deductible health plan without an HSA. The individual components of HDHPs may not add up to the total due to rounding. Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, 2010–2017, Family Core component.

# A Significant Number of Households Do NOT Have Liquid Assets to Cover Their Plan Deductible

Among people with private health insurance



Reproduced from [Kaiser Family Foundation](#) analysis of the 2016 Survey of Consumer Finance; Note: Liquid assets include the sum of checking and saving accounts, money market accounts, certificates of deposit, savings bonds, non-retirement mutual funds, stocks and bonds. Chart: Axios Visuals

# IRS Rules Prohibit Coverage of Chronic Disease Care Until HSA-HDHP Deductible is Met

## PREVENTIVE CARE COVERED

Dollar one



## CHRONIC DISEASE CARE

NOT covered until deductible is met



**Potential Solution:**  
*High Value Health Plan*

Flexibility to expand IRS  
"Safe Harbor" to allow  
coverage of additional  
evidence-based services  
prior to meeting  
the plan deductible



# Chronic Disease Management Act of 2018

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION



## **S.2410 and H.R.4978** **Bipartisan, Bicameral Legislation**

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit high deductible health plans to provide chronic disease prevention services to plan enrollees prior to satisfying their plan deductible.

# Creating ‘Headroom’ to Pay for High-Value Care

## Identifying /Removing Unnecessary Services

Low- Value  
Care

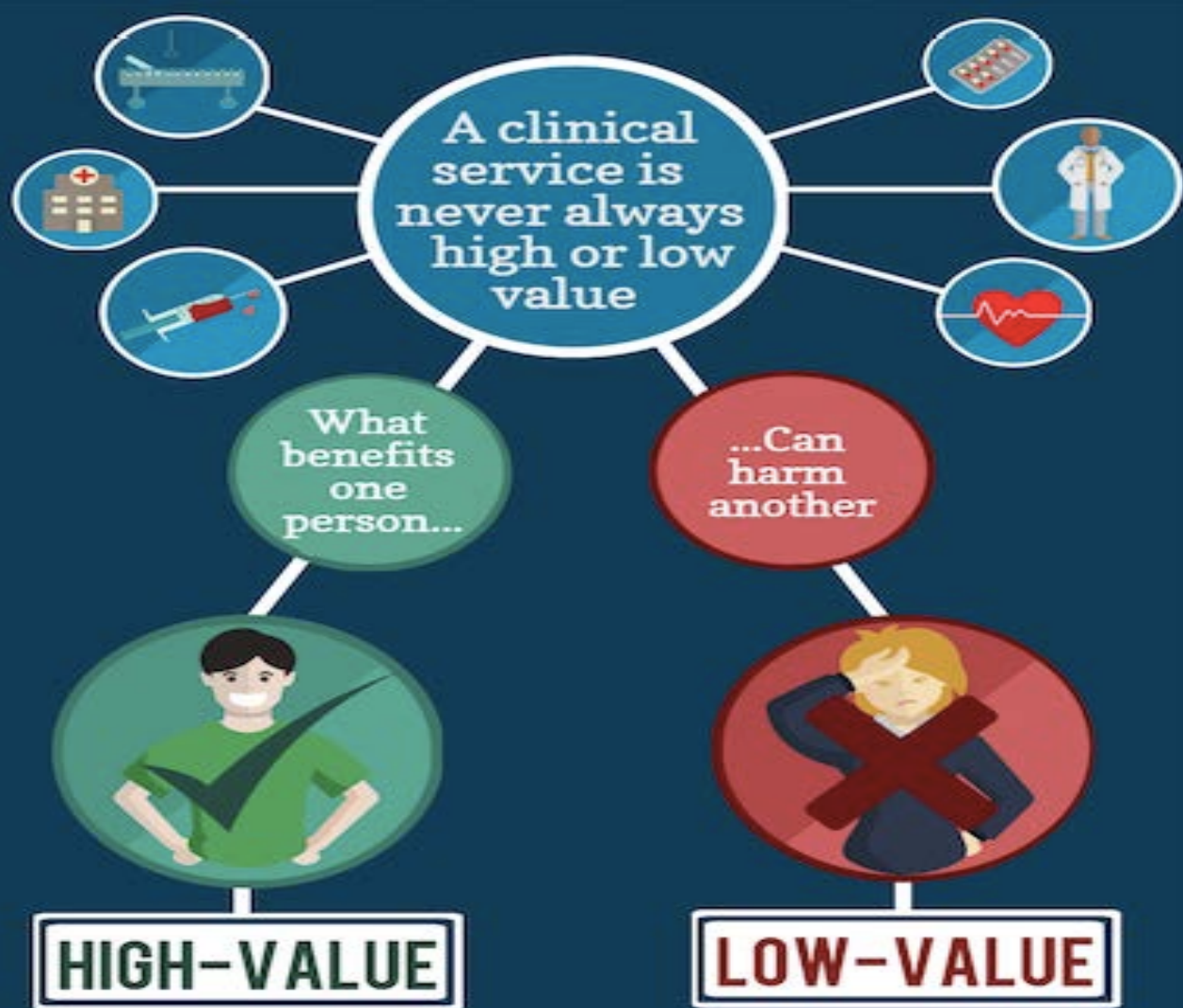
- **Discouraging the use of specific low-value services must be part of the strategy**

# Creating ‘Headroom’ to Pay for High-Value Care

## Identifying /Removing Unnecessary Services

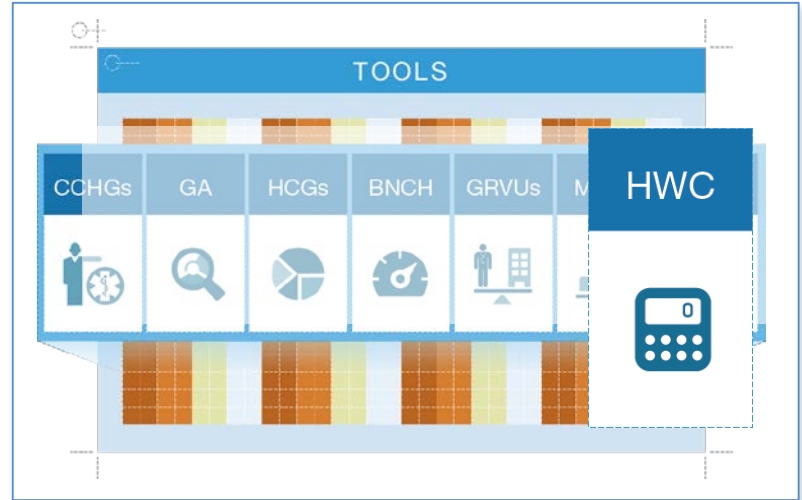
Low- Value  
Care

- Unlike delay for cost offsets from improved quality, savings from waste elimination are **immediate and substantial**
- Identification, measurement, and removal of unnecessary care has proven challenging



# Identifying and Removing Unnecessary Care: Milliman Health Waste Calculator

- **Collaboration between Milliman and V-BIDHealth**
- **Measures 47 potentially unnecessary services**
- **Analyze cost savings potential**
- **Generate actionable reports and summaries**



# Milliman Health Waste Calculator

## Commonwealth of Virginia Unnecessary Care Initiative

- Among 5.5 million Virginia beneficiaries, **1 in 5** received at least 1 low-value service in 2014
- The 44 low-value services were delivered 1.7 million times, which cost **\$586 million** (~2% of healthcare spend)

### COSTS & SPENDING

By John N. Mafi, Kyle Russell, Beth A. Bortz, Marcos Dachary, William A. Hazel Jr., and A. Mark Fendrick

### DATAWATCH

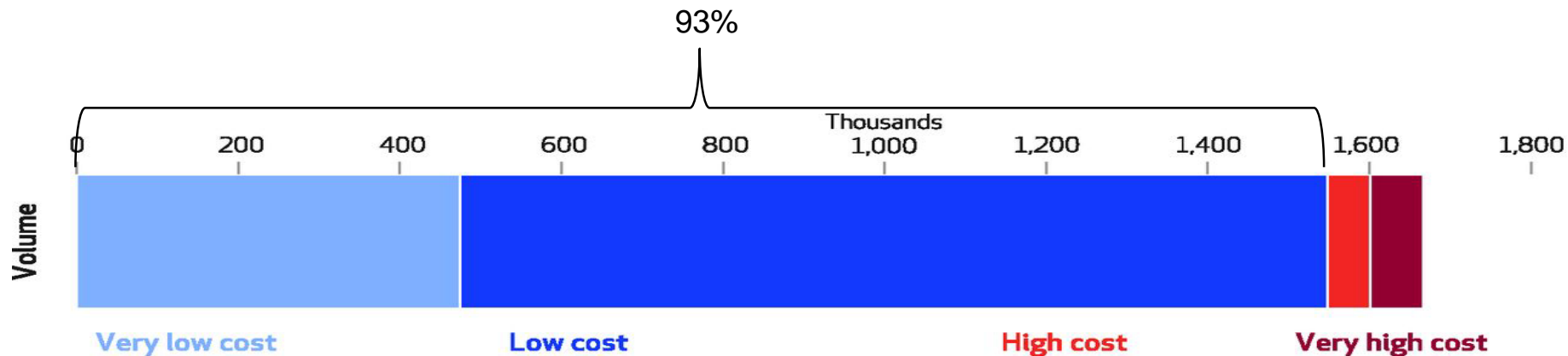
## Low-Cost, High-Volume Health Services Contribute The Most To Unnecessary Health Spending

*An analysis of data for 2014 about forty-four low-value health services in the Virginia All Payer Claims Database revealed more than \$586 million in unnecessary costs. Among these low-value services, those that were low and very low cost (\$538 or less per service) were delivered far more frequently than services that were high and very high cost (\$539 or more). The combined costs of the former group were nearly twice those of the latter (65 percent versus 35 percent).*

# Commonwealth of Virginia Unnecessary Care Initiative

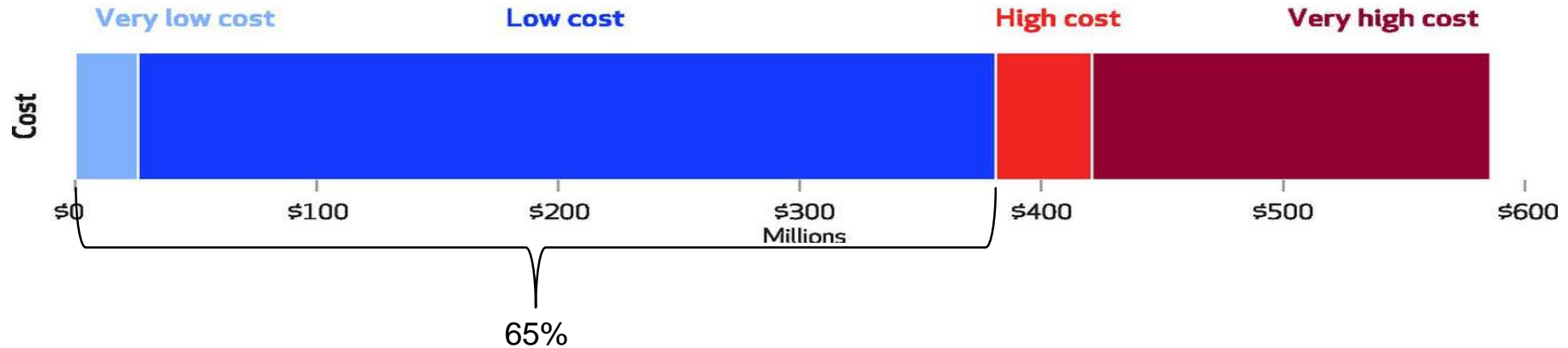
Clinical Measure	Total Services Measured	Low Value Index (%)	Low Value Services (#)	Unnecessary Spending (\$)
Baseline labs for patients undergoing low-risk surgery	571,600	79%	453,447	\$184,781,018
Stress cardiac or advanced non-invasive imaging in the initial evaluation of patients w/o symptoms	219,878	13%	27,817	\$185,997,938
EKGs or other cardiac screening for low-risk patients w/o symptoms	2,268,194	6%	147,423	\$60,499,385
Routine Pap tests in women 21–65 years of age	199,865	81%	161,539	\$37,558,706
PSA-based screening for prostate cancer in all men regardless of age	313,011	42%	132,793	\$31,501,675

# Over 90% of Low-value Services used in Virginia were “Little Ticket Items”



**Blue colors signify low-cost (<\$550) services**

# Nearly Two-Thirds of Expenditures on Low-Value Services in Virginia were on “Little Ticket Items”



# Community Coalition Reporting – State of Washington Health Alliance



- **Approximately 1.3 MM individuals received one of the 47 services, and almost half (47.9%) of them received at least one wasteful service.**
- **An estimated \$282 MM in wasteful spending**
- **This is surprising, given that Washington State leads the nation in providing integrated, high-value care in largely capitated payment systems**



# Reducing Low Value Care: Why so difficult?

- **Clinician factors**: e.g., training, fear of lawsuits, time pressures, intolerance of uncertainty
- **Patient factors**: lack of knowledge or financial consequences, “more is better”
- **Healthcare system factors**: institutional culture, pricing, fee-for-service payment models

# Reducing Low Value Care: Where to Start?

- **Although much of the low-value care discussion has focused on high-cost services, low-cost items are less likely to draw attention by particular clinicians or patient advocacy groups**
- **Choose services:**
  - **Easily identified in administrative systems**
  - **Mostly low value (little or no clinical nuance)**
  - **Reduction in their use would be barely noticed**

# Multi-Stakeholder Task Force Identifies 5 Commonly Overused Services Ready for Action



1. Diagnostic Testing and Imaging Prior to Surgery



2. Vitamin D Screening



3. PSA Screening in Men 75+



4. Imaging in First 6 Weeks of Low Back Pain



5. Branded Drugs When Identical Generics Are Available

# Aligning Payer and Consumer Incentives: As Easy as Peanut Butter and Jelly

**Many “supply side” initiatives are restructuring provider incentives to move from volume to value:**

- **Medical Homes**
- **Electronic Medical Records**
- **Accountable Care Organizations**
- **Bundled Payments/Reference Pricing**
- **Global Budgets**
- **High Performing Networks**



# Aligning Payer and Consumer Incentives: As Easy as Peanut Butter and Jelly

**Unfortunately, some “demand-side” initiatives – including consumer cost sharing - discourage consumers from pursuing the “Triple Aim”**

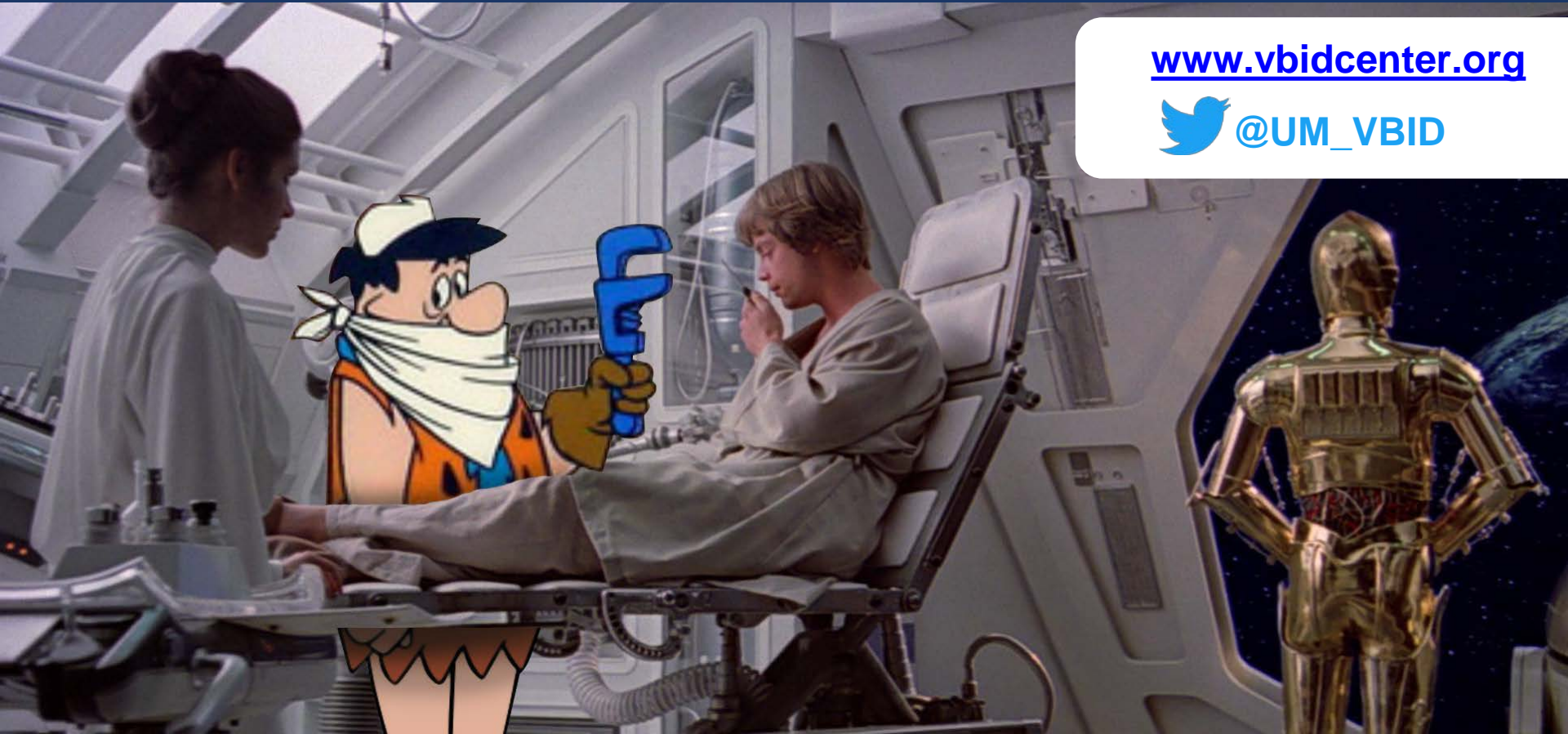


# Aligning Payer and Consumer Incentives: As Easy as PB & J

**The alignment of clinically nuanced, provider-facing and consumer engagement initiatives is a necessary and critical step to improve quality of care, enhance patient experience, and contain cost growth**



# My Hope for the Future



[www.vbidcenter.org](http://www.vbidcenter.org)

 @UM\_VBID