



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

CENTER FOR VALUE-BASED INSURANCE DESIGN

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

# **Potential Role for Value-Based Insurance Design in Cancer Care**

*Summit on Optimizing High Value Cancer Care*

**A. Mark Fendrick, MD**  
**University of Michigan Center for**  
**Value-Based Insurance Design**  
**[www.vbidcenter.org](http://www.vbidcenter.org)**  
**@um\_vbid**



# Improving Care and Bending the Cost Curve

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

- The past several decades have produced remarkable technological and therapeutic innovations for the prevention and treatment of cancer, resulting in impressive reductions in morbidity and mortality
- Regardless of these clinical advances, cost growth remains the principle focus of health care reform discussions
- Despite unequivocal evidence of clinical benefit, substantial underutilization of high-value cancer services persists across the spectrum of clinical care
- Given that there is no disagreement that there is enough money in the current system, stakeholders should shift the focus from *how much* - to *how well* - we spend

# Dealing with the Health Care Cost Crisis

## Interventions to Control Costs

- **Information Technology**
- **Payment Reform**
- **Make Beneficiaries Pay More**
  - **For today's discussion, it is important to distinguish between the total cost of care and the portion of costs of care paid by the consumer**

# The Problem: "One Size Fits All" Cost Sharing

Cost sharing for medical services and providers are the same for...



&



- + Strong evidence base
- + Enhance clinical outcomes
- + Increase efficiency

- Weak evidence base
- Minimal or no clinical benefit
- Increase inefficiency

...despite evidence-based differences in value.

# **Value-Based Insurance Design: Improving Care and Bending the Cost Curve**

- **A growing body of evidence demonstrates that increases in patient cost-sharing leads to decreases in non-essential and essential care which, in some cases, leads to greater overall costs**

# Value-Based Insurance Design 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.”**

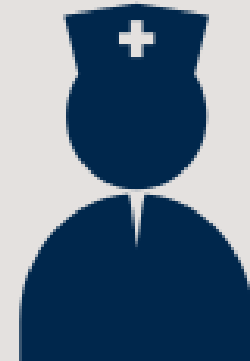
**Barbara Fendrick (my mother)**

# **Value-Based Insurance Design: Aligning Cost-sharing with Clinical Benefit – not Purchase Price**

- **Ideally, patient copayments would be used to encourage the use of high-value services and discourage the use of low-value services**
- **Cost-related non-adherence is particularly problematic in clinical oncology**

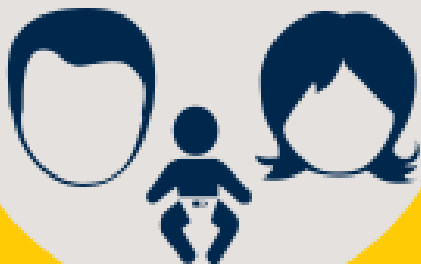
# A New Approach: Clinical Nuance

## 1. Services differ in clinical benefit produced

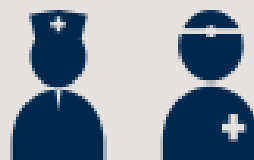


## 2. Clinical benefits from a specific service depend on:

Who  
receives it



Who  
provides it



Where  
it's provided





# The Solution: Clinically-Nuanced Cost Sharing

Low

Cost  Sharing

to encourage



High

Cost  Sharing

to discourage



# Value Based Insurance Design: “Carrot” Programs Improve Adherence Without Increasing Costs

- **July 2013 *Health Affairs*:**
  - Systemic review of 13 studies of incentive-only drug programs
  - “consistently associated with improved adherence”
  - Lower patient out of pocket costs
  - No significant increase in total spending by payers

**EXHIBIT 1**  
Descriptions Of Value-Based Insurance Design (VBID) Policies For Prescription Drugs

Policy (year)	Study authors	Drug class targeted	Pre-VBID plan design	Copay description	
CVS Caremark (2007)	Chang et al. (Note 8 in text)	Antidiabetics	3 tiers	Copay reductions for tier 1 and tier 2	5
Marriott (2005)	Chernew et al. (Notes 6 and 9 in text)	Antidiabetics, ACE inhibitors/ARBs, beta-blockers, statins, steroids	3 tiers	Eliminated for tier 1, tier 2 reduced to \$12.50, tier 3 reduced to \$22.50	37
Pitney Bowes (2007)	Choudhry et al. (Notes 10 and 11 in text) Choudhry et al. (Notes 10 and 11 in text)	Statins Clopidogrel	3 tiers 3 tiers	Eliminated for all statins	2.05
Novartis (2005)	Gibson et al. (Note 15 in text), Kelly et al. (Note 20 in text)	Antidiabetics, antihypertensives, bronchodilators	20% coinsurance for retail scripts, 10% coinsurance for mail-order scripts	10% coinsurance for retail scripts, 7.5% coinsurance for mail-order prescriptions	25,784 beneficiaries (Gibson et al.) 9,624 beneficiaries (Kelly et al.)
Florida Health Care Coalition (2006)	Gibson et al. (Note 14 in text)	Antidiabetics	10-35% coinsurance	10% coinsurance	1,876 beneficiaries
Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina (2008)	Maciejewski et al. (Note 16 in text), Farley et al. (Note 12 in text)	Antidiabetics, antihypertensives, cholesterol-lowering medications	10-35% coinsurance 3 tiers	10% coinsurance with disease management	328 employees
State of Colorado (2006)	Nair et al. (Note 17 in text)	Antidiabetics	3 tiers	Eliminated for tier 1 for program participants, reduced for tiers 2 and 3 for all beneficiaries	747,400 beneficiaries of participating employers
Blue Cross Blue	Rodin et al. (Note 18)	Antidiabetics	3 tiers	All drugs and testing supplies reduced to tier 1	589 state workers
				Eliminated for tier 1,	4,654 beneficiaries

# **Value-Based Insurance Design**

## **Implications for Use of “Clinical Nuance” in Oncology**

- **Screening**
  - Targeted screening based on cancer risks
- **Diagnostics**
  - Molecular diagnostics to determine prognosis or predict response to therapy
- **Treatments**
  - By indication
  - Based on results of diagnostics
- **Providers**
  - Centers of excellence



# HEALTH AND FITNESS

Northeast OH Healthy Living and Medical Consumer News

“Lowe's is offering employees incentives in the form of reduced out-of-pocket costs to come to the Cleveland Clinic for heart procedures.”

Harlan Spector, Health News, Insurance, Metro, Real-Time News »

## Lowe's will bring its workers to Cleveland Clinic for heart surgery

By Harlan Spector, The Plain Dealer  
February 17, 2010, 3:58AM



[View full size](#)

Chuck Burton / Associated Press

Lowe's is offering employees nationwide incentives in the form of reduced out-

# Value Based Insurance Design: Provisions in the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act

- **Coverage of Primary Preventive Services**
  - **Sec. 2713 prohibits cost sharing for >60 evidence-based preventive services**
  - **Approximately 105 million Americans have received expanded coverage**
- **Implementation of “nuanced” cancer related recommendations challenging**
  - **Screening (colonoscopy, CT for lung)**
  - **Treatment (chemoprevention for high risk breast cancer)**
- **Clinically indicated follow-up of preventive care not included**



# **V-BID in Medicaid**

## **CMS Regulatory Guidance Permits “Clinical Nuance”**

- **The CMS recently finalized rules (CMS-2334-F) giving Medicaid programs greater flexibility to vary cost-sharing for drugs as well as certain outpatient, emergency department, and inpatient visits**
- **States may vary cost-sharing for a particular outpatient service in accordance with who provides the service and/or where it is delivered**
- **States may target cost-sharing to specific groups of individuals based on clinical information (e.g., diagnosis, risk factors)**



# V-BID in Healthy Michigan Legislation

Health plans permitted to:

- Reduce required contributions to an individuals health savings account if “healthy behaviors are being addressed, as based on uniform standards developed by DCH in consultation with health plans.”
- Waive co-pays “to promote greater access to services that prevent the progression and complications related to chronic diseases.”

*[Section 105D(1)(e)]*

Department of Community Health to “design and implement a co-pay structure that encourages the use of high-value services, while discouraging low-value services such as non-urgent Emergency Department utilization.”

*[Section 105D(1)(f)]*

DCH to implement a pharmaceutical benefit that utilizes co-pays at appropriate levels allowable by CMS to encourage the use of high-value, low-cost prescriptions.

*[Section 105D(1)(5)]*

# Massachusetts V-BID Legislation

Section 226 (a) The commissioner shall by regulation determine which medical services, treatments and prescription drugs shall be deemed high-value cost-effective services for the purposes of this section. The determination of high-value cost-effective services shall rely on the recommendations of the Barrier-Free Care Expert Panel established by subsection (c). Any service, treatment or prescription drug determined by the commissioner to be a high-value cost-effective service by regulation promulgated prior to July 1 of a year shall be deemed a high-value cost-effective service for the purposes of subsection (b) effective on January 1 of the following year. In determining medical services, treatments and prescription drugs to be deemed high-value cost-effective services, the commissioner may limit the effect of the determination to people with one or more specific diagnoses or risk factors for a disease or condition.



## **Implementing V-BID in Medicare: Inclusion in “Better Care, Lower Cost Act” of 2014**

“(D) CHANGES IN COVERAGE.—The Secretary, in consultation with experts in the field, shall establish a process for qualified BCPs to submit value-based Medicare coverage changes that encourage and incentivize the use of evidence-based practices that will drive better outcomes while ensuring patient protections and access are maintained.

# Using Clinical Nuance to Align Payer and Consumer Incentives

**Many initiative are restructuring provider incentives:**

- **Payment reform**
  - **Global budgets**
  - **Pay-for-performance**
  - **Bundled payments**
  - **ACOs**
- **Tiered networks**
- **Health information technology**



# Using Clinical Nuance to Align Payer and Consumer Incentives

**Unfortunately, “supply-side” initiatives have historically paid little attention to consumer decision-making or the “demand-side” of care-seeking behavior:**

- **Shared decision-making**
- **Literacy**
- **Benefit design**



# Role of V-BID in Oncology: Using Clinical Nuance to Align Payer and Consumer Incentives

- **The alignment of supply- and demand-side incentives can improve quality and achieve savings more efficiently than either one alone**



# Aligning “Supply-Side” and “Demand-Side” Incentives

## BlueShield of California’s “Blue Groove” Plan

- **Combines wellness programs, advanced member engagement, Value-Based Insurance Design, and high-performing provider networks**
- **Qualify for lower co-payments only if you have one or more conditions and use a high-value provider:**
  - End-stage renal disease
  - Congestive Heart failure
  - Coronary artery disease
  - Cancer
  - Diabetes
  - Hypertension
  - Osteoarthritis
- **Aligns clinical goals of supply-side (ACO) and demand-side (V-BID) initiatives**



# Value-Based Insurance Design in Oncology

## “Clinically Nuanced, Fiscally Responsible”

- **The use of “clinically nuanced” incentives [and disincentives] to encourage [and discourage] patient and provider behavior to redistribute medical expenditures will produce more health at any level of health expenditure**

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