



## Translating Economic Evaluation into Policy: Value-Based Insurance Design

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@um\_vbid



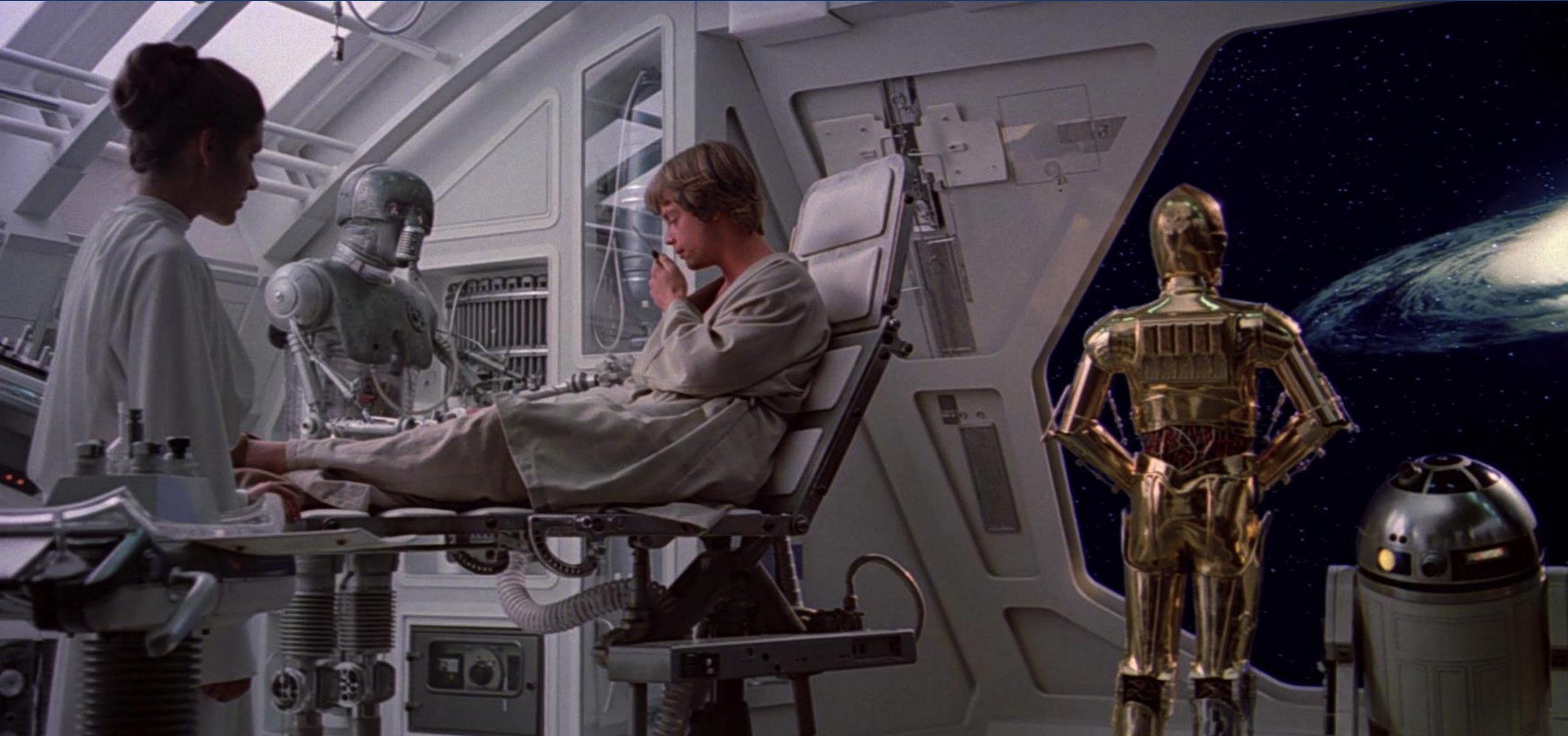


**I PUBLISHED  
BUT STILL PERISHED**

# Health Care Costs Are a Top Issue For Purchasers and Policymakers: Solutions must protect consumers, reward providers and preserve innovation

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

# Star Wars Science



# Flintstones Delivery



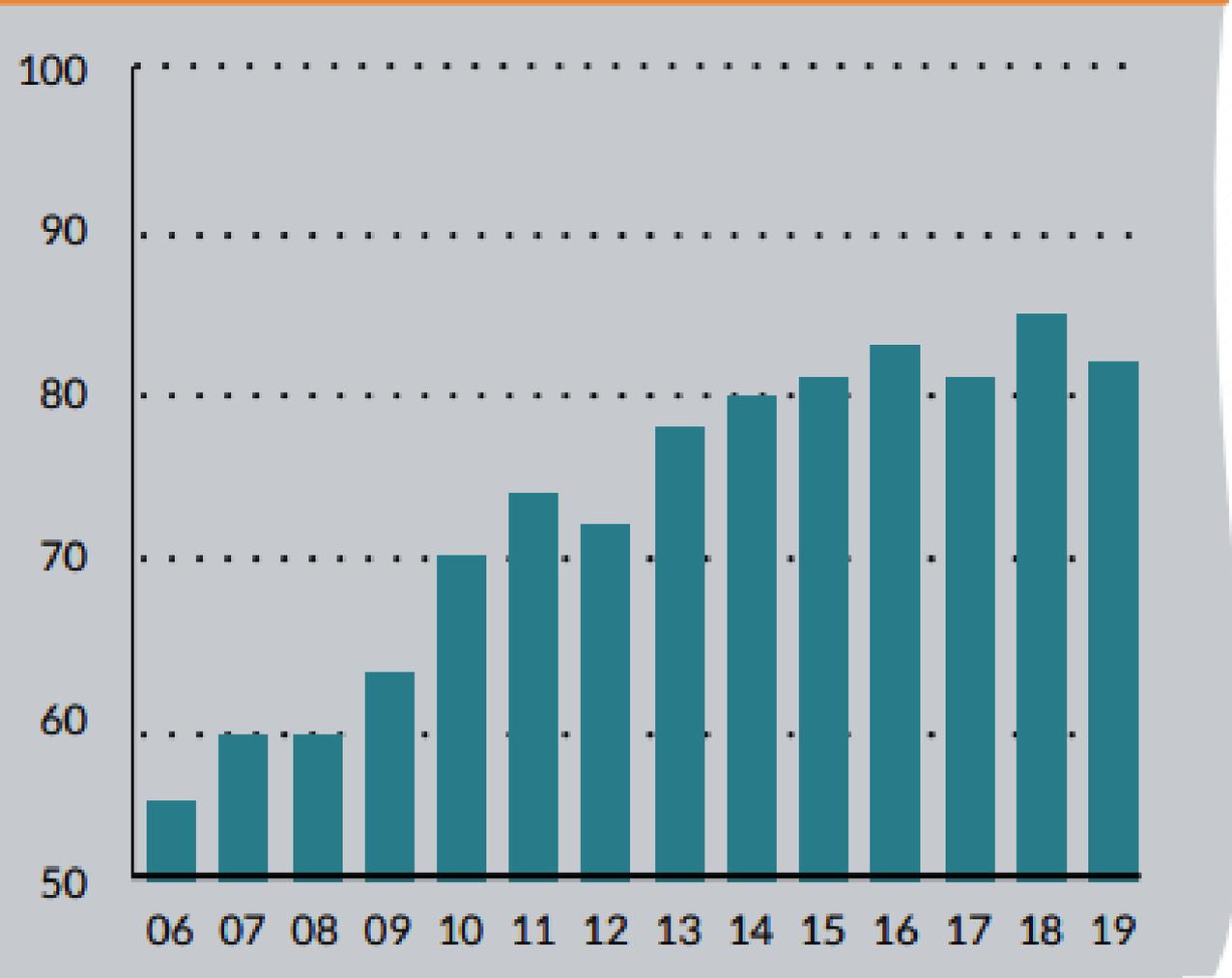
# Moving from the Stone Age to the Space Age:

## Change the health care cost discussion from “How much” to “How well”

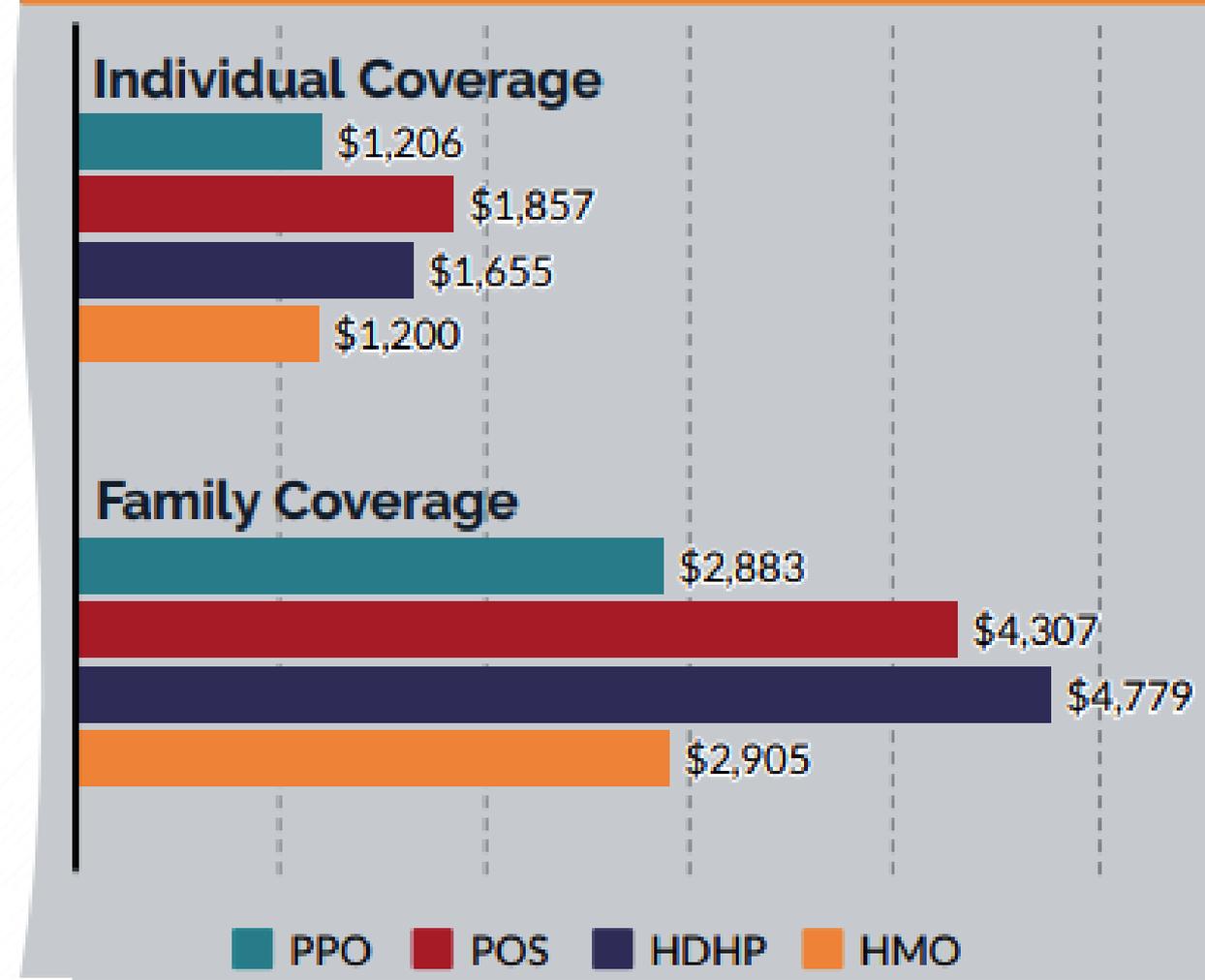
- Everyone (almost) agrees there is enough money in the US health care system; we just spend it on the wrong services and in the wrong places
- Moving from a volume-driven to value-based system requires a change in both how we pay for care and how we engage consumers to seek care
- The most common patient-facing strategy - consumer cost-sharing – is a ‘blunt’ instrument, in that patients pay more out of pocket for **ALL** care regardless of clinical value

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

## Percent of Americans With a Deductible



## Average Deductible by Plan Type in 2019



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# The New York Times

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OPINION  
GUEST ESSAY

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## What's Wrong With Health Insurance? Deductibles Are Ridiculous, for Starters.

July 7, 2022

# Inspiration (Still)



“

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)

# “Blunt” Cost-Sharing Worsens Health Care Disparities

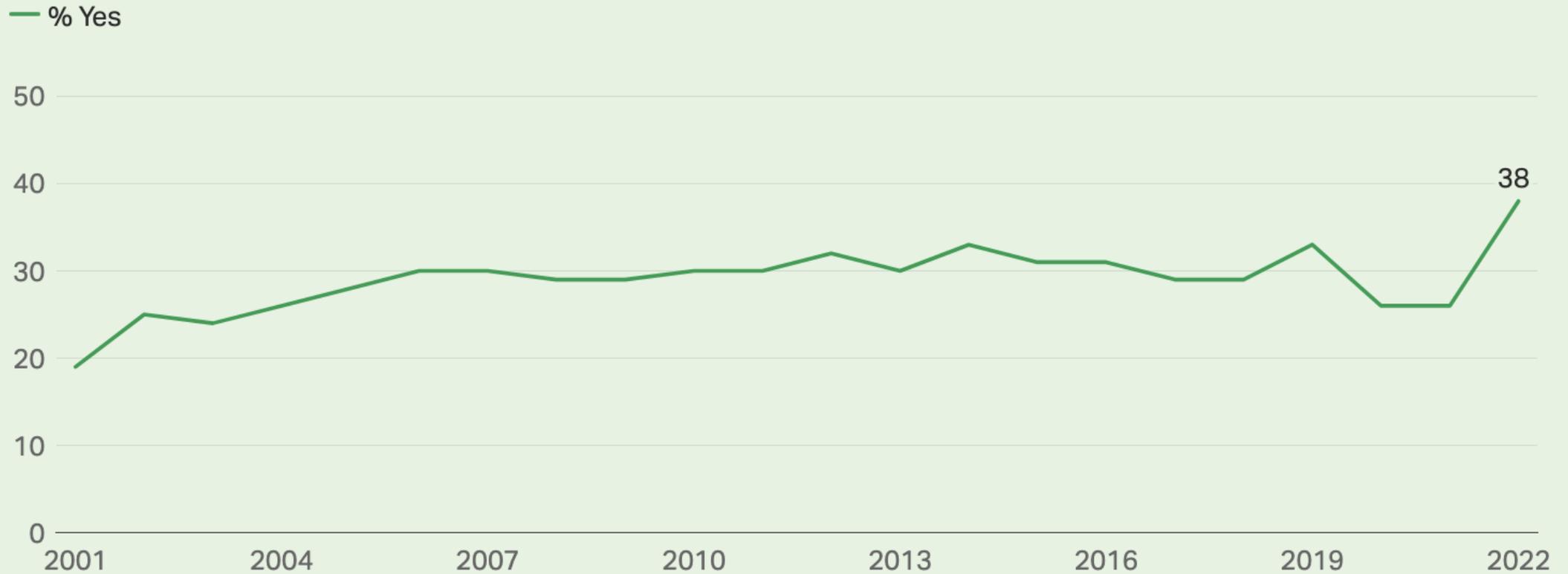
## Effects of Increased Patient Cost Sharing on Socioeconomic Disparities in Health Care

*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>*

- Cost-sharing worsens disparities and adversely affect health, particularly among economically vulnerable individuals and those with chronic conditions

## Record High in U.S. Putting Off Medical Treatment Due to Cost, 2001-2022

Within the last 12 months, have you or a member of your family put off any sort of medical treatment because of the cost you would have to pay?



[Get the data](#) • [Download image](#)

GALLUP

# What Americans say government efforts should prioritize when it comes to U.S. public health

Survey of 1,213 U.S. adults conducted Feb. 17-21, 2023

Lowering costs for health care and prescription drugs



Reducing gun deaths



Research into cures and treatment for major diseases



Ensuring the safety of existing health practices and medications



Preventing deaths from overdoses and accidents



Something else



# A Clinically Nuanced Alternative to “Blunt” Consumer Cost-sharing: Value-Based Insurance Design - More of the Good Stuff and Less of the Bad Stuff

- Sets consumer cost-sharing on clinical benefit – not price
- Little or no out-of-pocket cost for high-value care; higher cost-sharing for low-value care
- Implemented by hundreds of public and private payers
- Bipartisan political support
- Enhances equity



By Niteesh K. Choudhry, Katsiaryna Bykov, William H. Shrank, Michele Toscano, Wayne S. Rawlins, Lonny Reisman, Troyen A. Brennan, and Jessica M. Franklin

## **Eliminating Medication Copayments Reduces Disparities In Cardiovascular Care**

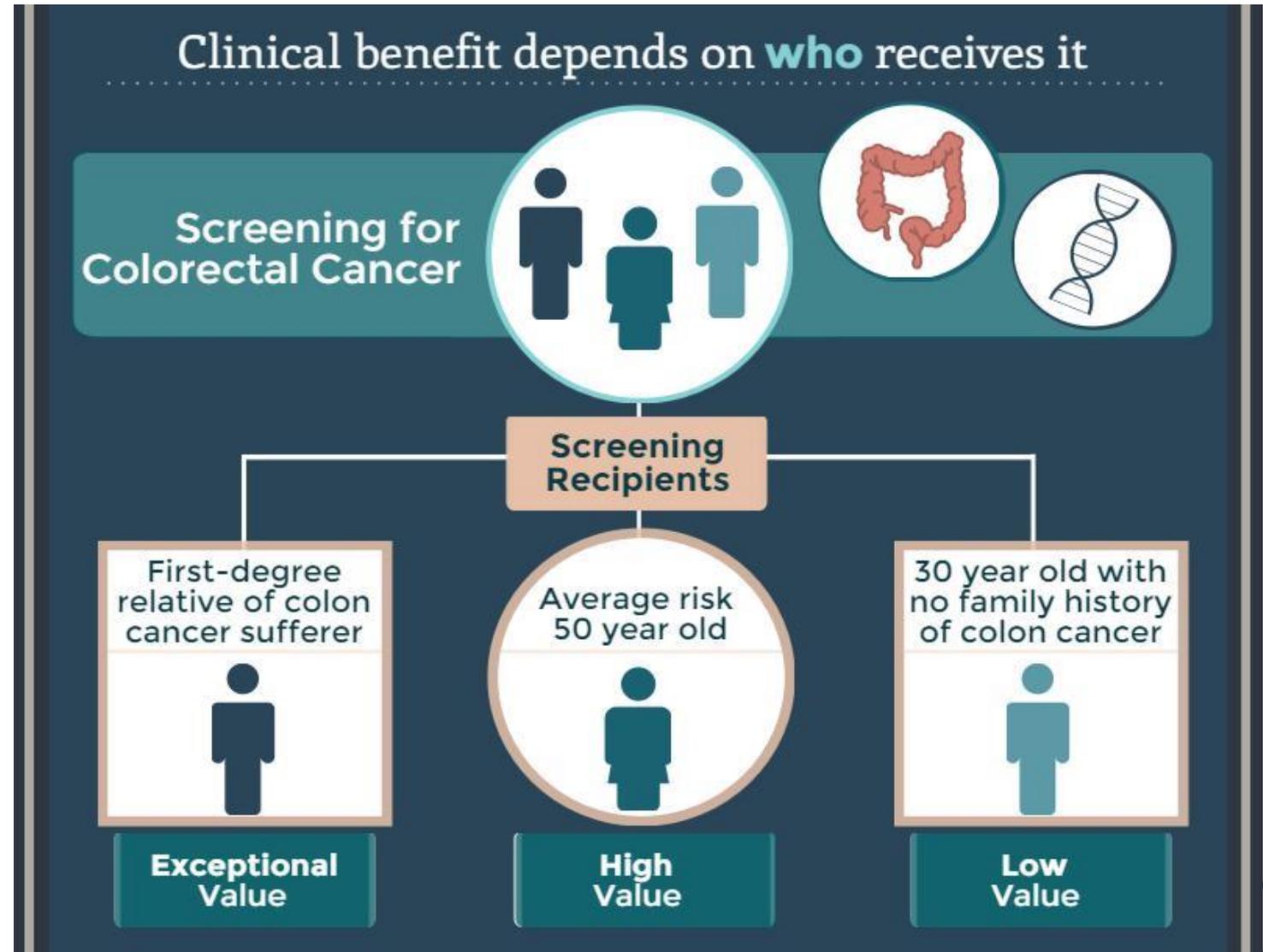
# V-BID:

## Rare 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

# A Clinically Nuanced Alternative to “Blunt” Consumer Cost-sharing: A Role for V-BID in Colorectal Cancer Screening

The clinical benefit derived from a specific service depends on the consumer using it, as well as when, where, and by whom, the service is provided.



# 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)
  - Screening for depression in the adult population, including pregnant and postpartum persons as well as older adults.
  - Screening for major depressive disorder (MDD) in adolescents aged 12 to 18 years.
- Immunizations recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)
- Preventive care and screenings supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

# COVID-19 Testing and Vaccines Provided without Cost-sharing



# Texas Judge Finds ACA Requirement for Preventive Services Without Cost Sharing Invalid

- Several outstanding questions remain, but it is possible that this ruling will mean that employers will no longer have to provide first-dollar coverage for the 52 services that have received an “A” or “B” rating from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force
- This requirement benefitted almost 152 million people in 2020 and led to increases in cancer screening and vaccinations, improved access to contraceptives, and earlier detection and treatment of chronic health conditions, including hypertension, depression, high cholesterol and diabetes.

RELATED TOPICS:

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT | PREVENTIVE CARE | PHARMACEUTICALS | ACCESS TO CARE | COST SHARING  
| DRUG COST SHARING | HIV/AIDS

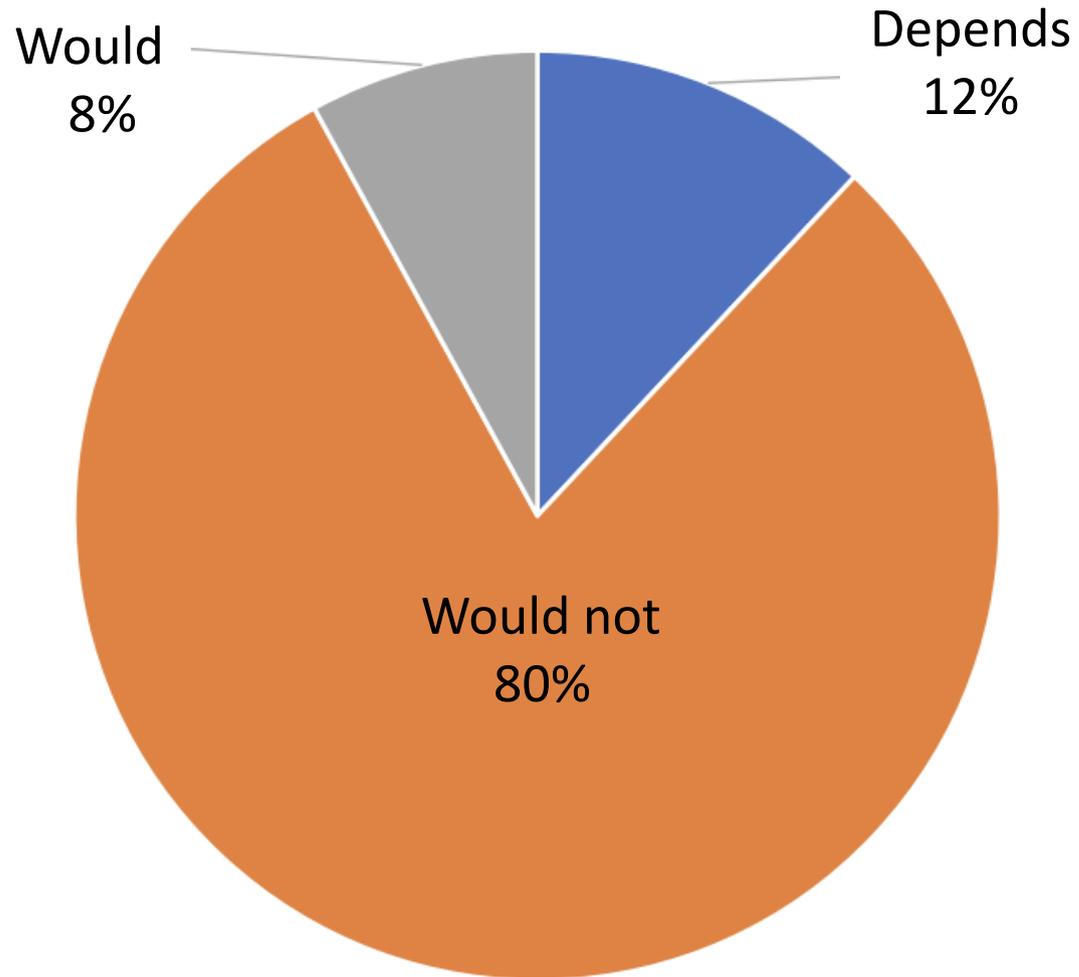
# A Texas Judge Just Invalidated The Preventive Services Mandate. What Happens Next?

[Nicholas Bagley](#), [A. Mark Fendrick](#)

MARCH 30, 2023

10.1377/forefront.20230330.177353

# Percentage of Employers That Would Impose Cost Sharing for Preventive Services if Allowed by Law



2 in 5 individuals report that they will not use preventive services if they are no longer fully covered

Source: Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI) Pulse Survey of Health Benefits Decision Makers, n=25, representing over 600,000 employees.



# High Out of Pocket Costs are Common and Impactful For Medicare Beneficiaries



**4 in 10**  
Paid over \$200

**34%**

of seniors on Medicare with high out-of-pocket costs reduced other spending in order to afford their prescription drugs

56%  
Reduced spending on non-essential activities

49%  
Reduced spending on every-day purchases

31%  
Accrued credit card debt

# Medicare Advantage V-BID Model Test: Expanded Opportunities

Reduced cost-sharing permissible for:

- high-value services
- high-value providers
- enrollees participating in disease management or related programs
- additional supplemental benefits (non-health related)

## Wellness and Health Care Planning

Advanced care planning

Incentivize better health behaviors

## Rewards and Incentives

\$600 annual limit

Increase participation

Available for Part D

## Targeting Socioeconomic Status

Low-income subsidy

Improve quality, decrease costs

## Telehealth

Service delivery innovations

Augment existing provider networks

# Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 Includes Several V-BID Elements

- Caps Medicare patients' out-of-pocket costs at \$2,000 per year, with the option to break that amount into affordable monthly payments
- Covers adult vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices under Medicare Part D without cost-sharing
- Amends the Internal Revenue Code to create a safe-harbor allowing Health Savings Account-eligible plans to cover insulin prior to meeting the plan deductible
- Caps Medicare patients' out-of-pocket costs for insulin at \$35 per month



# Lilly plans to slash some insulin prices, expand cost cap

By TOM MURPHY yesterday



# Creating 'Smarter' Deductibles



## PREVENTIVE CARE COVERED

Dollar one



## CHRONIC DISEASE CARE

NOT covered until deductible is met





# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

## PRESS RELEASES

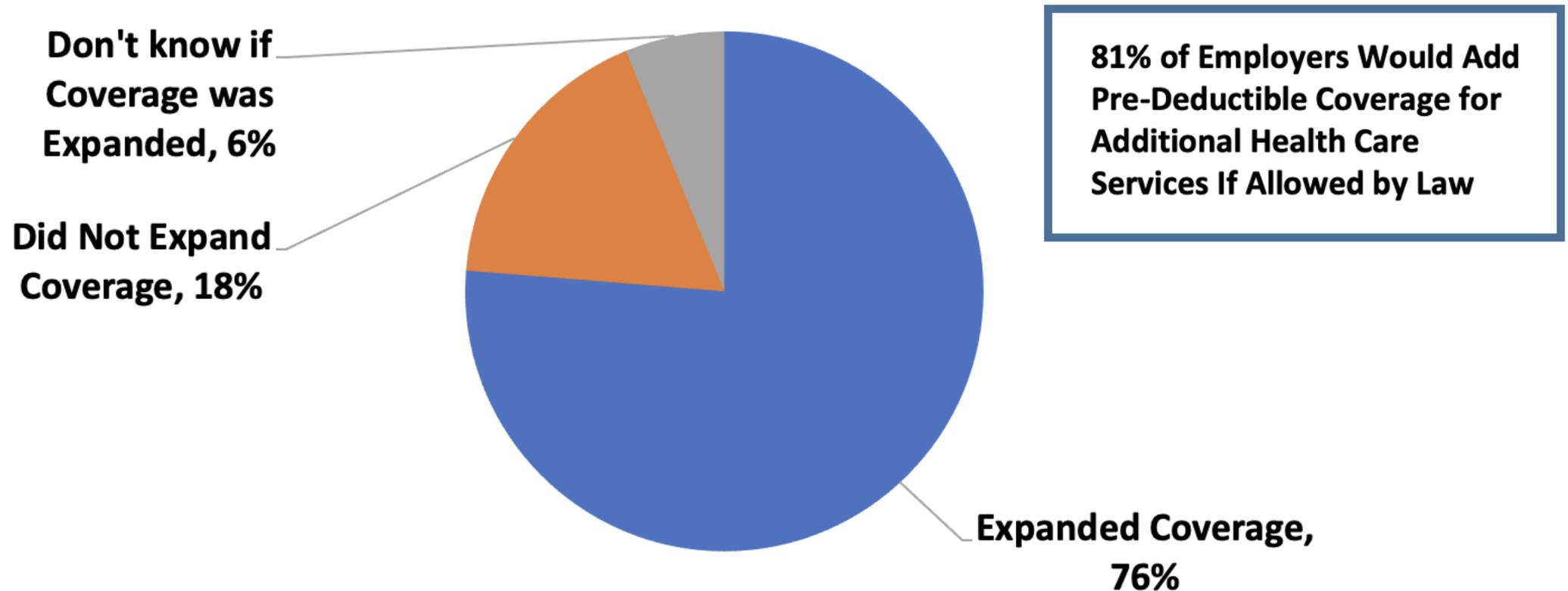
Treasury Expands Health Savings Account Benefits for Individuals Suffering from Chronic Conditions

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# List of services and drugs for certain chronic conditions that will be classified as preventive care under Notice 2019-45

<b>Preventive Care for Specified Conditions</b>	<b>For Individuals Diagnosed with</b>
Angiotensin Converting Enzyme (ACE) inhibitors	Congestive heart failure, diabetes, and/or coronary artery disease
Anti-resorptive therapy	Osteoporosis and/or osteopenia
Beta-blockers	Congestive heart failure and/or coronary artery disease
Blood pressure monitor	Hypertension
Inhaled corticosteroids	Asthma
Insulin and other glucose lowering agents	Diabetes
Retinopathy screening	Diabetes
Peak flow meter	Asthma
Glucometer	Diabetes
Hemoglobin A1c testing	Diabetes
International Normalized Ratio (INR) testing	Liver disease and/or bleeding disorders
Low-density Lipoprotein (LDL) testing	Heart disease
Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs)	Depression
Statins	Heart disease and/or diabetes

# Percentage of Employers Who Expanded Pre-Deductible Coverage in HSA-Eligible Health Plan for Preventive Services Allowed Under IRS Rule 2019-45



SOURCE: Fronstin, Paul, and A. Mark Fendrick, "Employer Uptake of Pre-Deductible Coverage for Preventive Services in HSA-Eligible Health Plans," EBRI Issue Brief, no. 542 (October 14, 2021).

# Chronic Disease Management Act of 2023: Expands Services and Drugs for Chronic Conditions Classified as Preventive Care

117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

## S. 1424

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.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 28, 2021

Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. CARPER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

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.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*



# Paying for More Generous Coverage of High Value Care: Reduce Spending on Low Value Care



# Paying for More Generous Coverage of High Value Care: Reduce Spending on Low Value Care

- Increase premiums – politically not feasible
- Raise deductibles and copayments – ‘tax on the sick’
- **Reduce spending on low value care**

**\$345  
BILLION**

## Examples include:



Vitamin D screening tests

Diagnostic tests before  
low-risk surgery



PSA screening for men 70  
and older

Branded drugs when identical  
generics are available



Low-back pain imaging  
within 6 weeks of onset

# ACA Sec 4105:

## Selected No-Value Preventive Services Shall Not Be Paid For

### SEC. 4105. EVIDENCE-BASED COVERAGE OF PREVENTIVE SERVICES IN MEDICARE.

(a) **AUTHORITY TO MODIFY OR ELIMINATE COVERAGE OF CERTAIN PREVENTIVE SERVICES.**—Section 1834 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(n) **AUTHORITY TO MODIFY OR ELIMINATE COVERAGE OF CERTAIN PREVENTIVE SERVICES.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, effective beginning on January 1, 2010, if the Secretary determines appropriate, the Secretary may—

“(1) modify—

“(A) the coverage of any preventive service described in subparagraph (A) of section 1861(ddd)(3) to the extent that such modification is consistent with the recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force; and

“(B) the services included in the initial preventive physical examination described in subparagraph (B) of such section; and

“(2) provide that no payment shall be made under this title for a preventive service described in subparagraph (A) of such section that has not received a grade of A, B, C, or I by such Task Force.”.

(b) **CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in the amendment made by paragraph (1) shall be construed to affect the coverage of diagnostic or treatment services under title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

HHS granted authority to not pay for USPSTF ‘D’ Rated Services

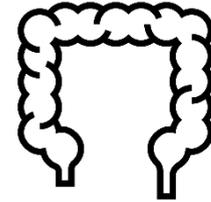
# Examples of USPSTF Grade D Services



Prostate cancer screening  $\geq 70$  years



Cervical cancer screening  $> 65$  years



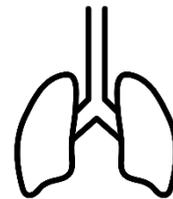
Colon cancer screening  $>85$  years



Cardiovascular screening in low risk patients



Asymptomatic bacteriuria screening



COPD screening



Vitamin D to prevent falls among older women

# Annual Use and Cost of Seven Grade D Services Among Medicare Enrollees



Total Annual Count:

**31 million**



Total Annual Costs:

**\$478 million**

V-BID X:

Better Coverage, Same Premiums and Deductibles



# V-BID X: Expanding Coverage of Essential Clinical Care Without Increasing Premiums or Deductibles

Clinically driven plan designs, like *V-BID X*,  
reduce spending on **low-value care**



...creating headroom to reallocate spending  
to **high-value services** without increasing  
**premiums or deductibles**

RELATED TOPICS:

[COST SHARING](#) | [DEDUCTIBLES](#) | [COSTS AND SPENDING](#) | [PHARMACEUTICALS](#) | [PREMIUMS](#)  
| [AFFORDABLE CARE ACT](#) | [MEDICARE ADVANTAGE](#)

# V-BID X: Creating A Value-Based Insurance Design Plan For The Exchange Market

Haley Richardson, Michael Budros, Michael E. Chernew, A. Mark Fendrick

**JULY 15, 2019**

[10.1377/hblog20190714](https://doi.org/10.1377/hblog20190714)

**TABLE 5 – HIGH AND LOW VALUE  
SERVICES AND DRUG CLASSES**

<b>High-Value Services with Zero Cost-Sharing</b>
<b>Glucometers and testing strips</b>
<b>LDL testing</b>
<b>Hemoglobin A1C testing</b>
<b>Cardiac rehabilitation</b>
<b>INR testing</b>
<b>Pulmonary rehabilitation</b>
<b>Peak flow meters</b>
<b>Blood pressure monitors</b>

# V-BID X: Enhancing Access and Affordability to Essential Clinical Services in Addition to COVID-19 Related Care

## **Specific Low-Value Services Considered**

**Spinal fusions**

**Vertebroplasty and kyphoplasty**

**Vitamin D testing**

**Proton beam for prostate cancer**

## **Commonly Overused Service Categories with Increased Cost-Sharing**

**Outpatient specialist services**

**Outpatient labs**

# CMS promotes value-based insurance design in final payment notice for 2021

Much of CMS's framework—including a list of high-value services that insurers could cover with little no impact on premiums but better care incentives—comes from the [University of Michigan's Center for Value-Based Insurance Design](#). The list includes a number of the same preventive care benefits that can be newly provided by a high-deductible health plan paired with a health savings account on a pre-deductible basis under [Treasury guidance](#) from July 2019. CMS also notes that PrEP, an HIV prevention medication, must [soon be covered](#) without cost-sharing by all non-grandfathered private health plans (including individual, small group, large group, and self-insured plans).

# State Exchanges Using V-BID X Principles to Enhance Equity

- California
- Colorado
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- District of Columbia
- Washington



## V-BID Elements Adopted to Achieve Equity in Health Insurance Coverage

Diabetes - 01/01/23

Pediatric mental and behavioral health - 01/01/24

# Using V-BID to Enhance Access to Essential Services, Reduce Low Value Care and Enhance Equity

- Expand pre-deductible coverage/reduce consumer cost-sharing on essential services
  - Generous coverage likely not enough to increase use and reduce disparities
- Identify, measure and reduce low-value care to pay for more generous coverage of high-value care
  - Start with USPSTF D Rated Services
- Implement clinically-driven plan payment reform, technologies and benefit designs (i.e., V-BID X) that increase use of high-value services and deter low value care

Thank you

Questions?



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