

Your International Healthcare Network

What Does Medical Tourism Mean For US Companies:
Benefits to Employers and Employees

Tom O'Hara March 13, 2010



#### Statistics to Consider:

- By 2050, more then 50% of the people living in the US will be of ethnic origin. \*
- Deloitte 2008 Survey of U.S. Health Care Consumers found that 51.4% of Hispanics and 56.8% of Asian Americans would consider having an elective procedure in a foreign country.
- It is expected that orthopedic surgeries will grow as the baby boomers age. A recent study released at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons estimates that knee replacement surgeries over the next 25 years will grow by 673%.
- Since 1999, employment-based health insurance premiums have increased 120 percent, compared to cumulative inflation of 44 percent and cumulative wage growth of 29% during the same period. \*\*

<sup>\*</sup> Medical Tourism Magazine

<sup>\*\*</sup> National Coalition on Health Care



#### **Terms**

- \* Major medical insurance is a form of health care coverage that provides benefits for most types of medical expenses that may be incurred. Offering more complete coverage with fewer gaps, major medical insurance covers a much broader range of medical expenses with generally higher individual benefits and policy maximum limits.
  - Fully Insured Plans
  - Self-Funded Plans (Larger employers)
- \* Mini-Medical/Limited Medical Plans are lower cost alternatives to major medical insurance. These plans usually include capped benefits meaning there are specific maximums attached to the benefits. For example, a plan might pay \$60 for a doctor's visit and \$1,000 for a night in the hospital. In capping specific benefits, carriers are able to offer a lower cost plan.
- Fee-For-Service, Managed Care, Consumer Directed Health Plans



### **Fully Insured Plan**

Insurance Carrier receives a premium from the employer and takes on the following:

- Risk for all claims
- Benefit Plan Design
- Claims adjudication
- Administration
- Hospital/Doctor network
- Customer Service



## What is Self-Funding

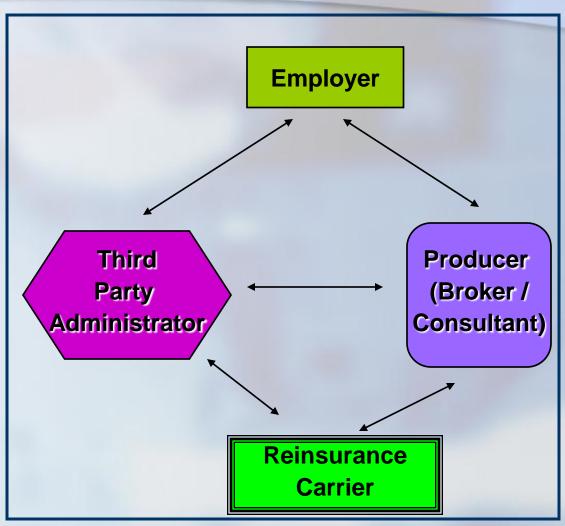
- Self-funding is an alternative funding arrangement to provide group and medical reimbursement
- The employer group assumes direct financial responsibility for the costs of the benefit plan
- The employer may purchase stop-loss coverage to protect the plan in the case of very high claims



## Self-Funding Model

#### Employer selects the services of:

- Third party administrator (TPA) or administrative services only (ASO) carrier
  - claims adjudication
  - administration
  - benefit plan design
  - managed care networks
  - other service vendors
- Reinsurance carrier for stoploss coverage
  - specific coverage
  - aggregate coverage





### **US Health Care Evolution**

Fee-For-Service	Managed Care	Consumer Directed Health
Indemnity Plan	HMO Plan	High Deductible Plan
Freedom to choose Dr	Care is directed by a Primary Care Physician (PCP)	Consumer "shops" for their care based on cost and quality
% reimbursement	Copay	Consumer pays until deductible and/or maximum out-of-pocket is achieved



# Sample Cost Savings

Procedure	Normal US Retail Medical Cost	International Medical Cost	Potential Savings
Heart Bypass	\$130,000	As low as \$12,500	\$117,500
Angioplasty	\$57,000	As low as \$5,000	\$52,000
Knee Replacement	\$40,000	As low as \$10,500	\$28,000
Hip Replacement	\$43,000	As low as \$11,000	\$32,000

## Self-Funded Health Plan

\$4,000	
80%	
\$8,000	*
Average US	International
Hospital	Hospital
\$40,000	\$10,500
	\$4,000
\$40,000	\$14,500
\$8,000	\$0
\$32,000	\$14,500
	\$17,500
	000 82
	\$17,500 \$8,000
	80% \$8,000 Average US Hospital \$40,000 \$40,000

# Mini-Medical Plan

Example B: Mini-Medical Plan	I otal Knee	керіас	ement	
Employee Plan Coverage from Mini-me	edical Plan:			
Hospital Admission Benefit	\$1,000			
Daily Hospital Confinement Benefit	\$1,000 per day	(2 days)		
Surgical Benefit	\$5,000			
Anesthesia Benefit (25% of surgical)	\$1,250			
Employee Costs:				
	Average US	i	nternational	
	Hospital		Hospital	
Medical Costs	\$40,000		\$10,500	
Air, hotels, meals			\$4,000	
Total	\$40,000		\$14,500	
Plan Coverage	\$9,250		\$9,250	
Employee Total Costs	\$30,750		\$5,250	



## Advantages of Global Health for Insurers and Employers

- Decreases health care costs while maintaining quality benefits
- Expansion of consumer directed health
- Employers see this as an alternative solution rather then shifting costs to employees
- Elimination of Stop Loss claims
- Predictability of surgery costs because pricing is "fixed"
- Provides employees with health care value

# Advantages of Global Health for Employees

- Money saving alternative
  - No deductible, coinsurance, copay
- Money "stretching" alternative
  - Affordability of major surgeries
- Employee choice
- High quality of care
- Personalized care by nurses, doctors and hospital staff

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