

2016 Member Interest Survey Shows Consistency of Houston Health Benefits Concerns

Are your health benefits concerns in line with those of other Houston employers? HBCH conducted its *2016 Interest Survey* among members and prospects in the fourth quarter of 2015. The survey requested input on general and specific program content based on current “Pain Statements” in health benefits design and delivery. HBCH will address all of these topics in our 2016 programs and roundtable discussions. The top challenge in 2016 for employers remains cost containment. Cost containment was targeted towards pharmaceutical pricing, high costs claimants, and concern about the ability to continue to provide benefits that are competitive and of value to employees. Another major “pain statement” among employers is a lack of employee engagement in health.

The top general program area that employers would like HBCH to address is Employer Benefits Strategies to Bend the Cost Curve & Impact Health Outcomes. Rounding out the top five are Integrated and Actionable Data to Improve Cost & Quality, Employer Transparency & Consumerism Tools, Specialty Pharmaceuticals Cost Containment and Employee Wellness.

Employers requested program content for each of these general topics and the top vote getters shown below.

Employer Benefits Strategies to Bend the Cost Curve & Impact Health Outcomes: HDHP’s, CDHP’s and Their Impact on Health Engagement Outcomes; Narrow Networks / High Performance Networks / Centers of Excellence; and Employer Direct Contracting for Health Services

Integrated and Actionable Data to Improve Cost & Quality: Use of Actionable Data to Guide the Design of the Health Benefit Strategy

Employer Transparency & Consumerism Tools: Employee Health Engagement Applications and Devices; and Physician & Hospital Cost & Quality Selection Tools

Specialty Pharmaceuticals Cost Containment: An Employer’s Guide to Specialty Pharmacy; and Medical Plan, Pharmacy and PBM Opportunities