



April 2021

NAWHC NOW! provides information on upcoming programs, new developments, resources and benchmarking surveys related to onsite, near-site, shared, mobile and virtual worksite clinics, offered by the National Association of Worksite Health Centers, as well as information and resources from other industry experts and partners. Visit www.nawhc.org for details and membership information.

BENCHMARKING

2021 NAWHC-Mercer National Worksite Clinic Survey

The deadline for the NAWHC-Mercer Survey on Worksite Clinics has been extended to **April 23rd**. **As a participant, you'll receive a free copy of the results.** The survey tracks emerging trends to give you a better picture of what's happening in worksite clinics around the country: What services are offered, and by what type of staff? How are employers integrating telemedicine and other digital technology into clinic operations? Utilization rates, average wait time, and many other benchmarks will be provided as well.

The survey is brief and should take **only about 20 minutes** to complete. Please submit your response by **Friday, April 23rd**. Your individual responses will be kept strictly confidential.

You can access the survey here:

http://mercer.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2bkKAMtTc57bXBI?Link=V8

Thank you for your help with this important research.

Employer Directions on Health Benefits

A recent survey of 151 employers by the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions on their health benefit directions found:

- Over 90% of employers have or anticipate expanding telehealth for both physical care and behavioral health care and 8 in 10 employers are expanding virtual wellbeing programs and investing in other care management solutions and even small employers are currently using (61%) or considering (31%) telehealth
- About 2/3 of employers are already doing or considering value-based design approaches. Over half are considering pre-deductible coverage of chronic conditions. 45% anticipate increased employee cost sharing to mitigate cost increases, while 55% are not considering
- About 9 in 10 are implementing or considering delivery reform-based strategies with the most common being virtual care delivery and improving mental health access
- Related to payment reform – significant focus is being invested in hospital pricing and quality transparency efforts and 7 in 10 employers will be considering strategies to high-cost claimants as well as bundled payment
- There is a significant focus on Total Person Health as it relates to mental health integration, people with multiple chronic conditions, recognizing diversity within the employee population and emphasis on more personalization of health interventions

PROJECTS

Healthy Hearts in Manufacturing

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NAWHC has been asked by Northwestern University to assist in identifying employers interested in improving heart health and reducing disparities in cardiovascular care. A grant proposal is being prepared that would enable Northwestern to provide free clinical training for clinic staffs, as well as a report on cardiovascular care outcomes in the worksite clinic before and after the intervention. There is no cost to the companies involved.

If you are interested in being part of the grant project, contact Larry Boress (lboress@nawhc.org) by April 21, 2021.

EDUCATION

Creating and Expanding Worksite Health Centers: NAWHC 9th Annual Forum – September 9-10, 2021, Chicago, Illinois

We anticipate that the COVID-19 vaccine rollout will permit us to hold the NAWHC Annual Forum in September as an in-person event. This program brings together NAWHC members, leading employer, vendor, consultant and research experts on planning and expanding the value of worksite health center operations and performance. All safety protocols in place at the time of the meeting will be followed to protect attendees.

The event will have formal and roundtable sessions on: The direction of employer centers in post-COVID-19 world; Planning and design of worksite health centers; Operations, staffing and management of worksite health centers; Legal and regulatory aspects of worksite health centers; The impact of COVID-19 on center services; Measuring the health center performance; Increasing utilization and engagement; Pharmacy services; and Digital services.

[REGISTER at this link.](#)

MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

Cigna Onsite Health is Now “Evernorth”

Last September, Cigna launched “Evernorth” as a new brand for its portfolio of services, including Cigna Onsite Health. It is available to both Cigna and non-Cigna clients.

RESOURCES

Managing Pain and Treating Musculoskeletal Conditions

MSK conditions are often among the top three cost areas for employers due to their high medical and prescription drug expenses and the resulting absenteeism and lost productivity. A report, based on a virtual conference conducted by the Center for Workplace Health and Performance Institute and the NAWHC, examines multiple care goals and effective approaches for patients with MSK and pain.

[Download the report](#) to learn more about:

- The current evidence base on effective interventions for musculoskeletal conditions
- Best practices in treating patients at worksite health centers

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- Common themes that arose from a symposium on musculoskeletal care

The report and conference were sponsored by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI).

Addressing Drug Deductibles and Disincentives for Treatment

The National Pharmaceutical Council (NPC) recently published a blog titled "[Savvy Employers Alter Status Quo to Address Drugs, Deductibles, and Disincentives for Treatment](#)." Due to a 2019 [IRS rule](#), high-deductible health plans (HDHPs) with health savings accounts can now cover an expanded list of preventive services and medications before patients meet their plan's annual out-of-pocket deductible. This blog examines approaches to help remove barriers to patient access.

Please visit our website at www.nawhc.org and be sure to check in and sign-up at the [NAWHC LinkedIn Group](#) to stay abreast of developments in NAWHC and in worksite health and wellness.