## What's Next in Health Care Cost Management

Strategies for Active and Retiree Health

GFOA October 14, 2016



Prepared by Aon Hewitt Health & Benefits Consulting



### How Big is the Challenge?



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### Health and Benefit Issues: Challenges



#### Unsustainable medical costs



Population health concernsObesity

Aging workers



- Affordable Care Act (ACA) driving major changes
- Insurance mandate for employers
- Excise tax will minimize differentiation in health



Health care system rapidly increasing in complexity

 Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), delivery system transformation



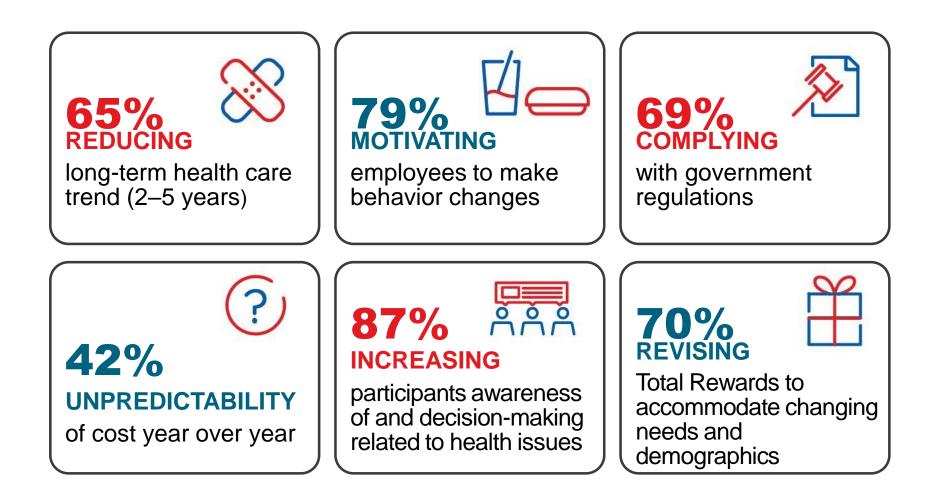
Growing competition for key talent



U.S. health care system undergoing a seismic shift



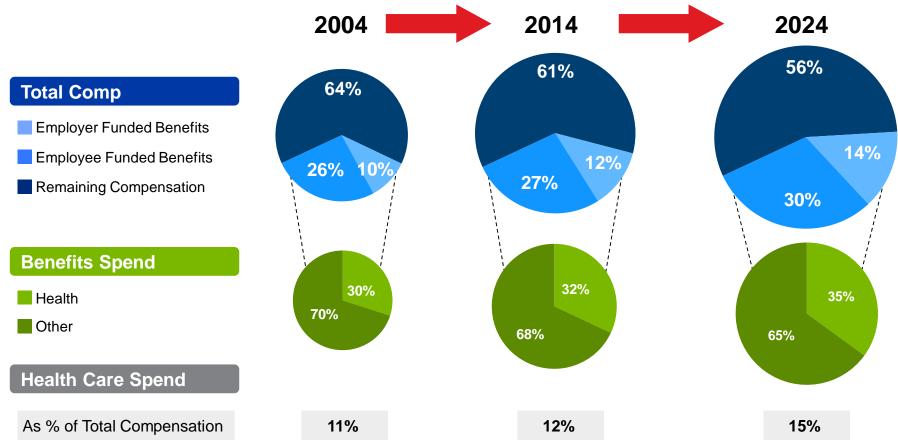
### **Employer Priorities**





### Health Care is Eroding Available Revenues and Employee Pay

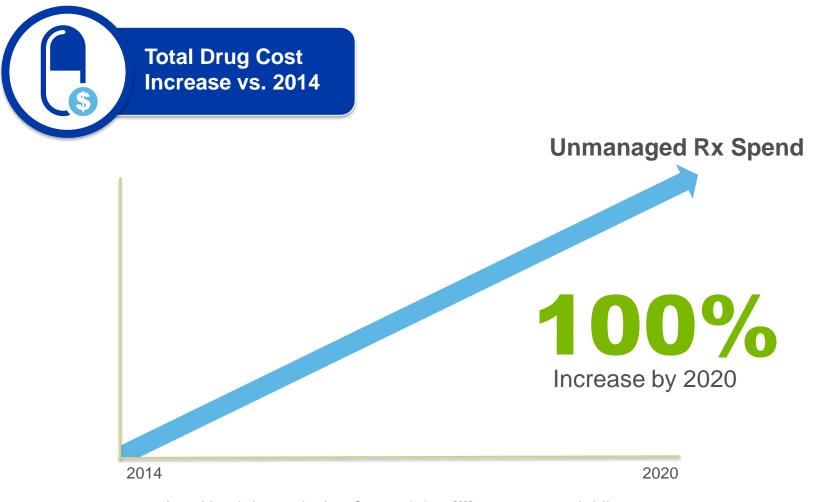
Benefits Will Represent Nearly Half of the Average Employee's Total Compensation by 2024



**Sources:** Bureau of Labor Statistics: Employer Costs for Employee Compensation; Bureau of Labor Statistics: Consumer Expenditure Survey; CBO Budget and Economic Outlook: 2014 to 2024

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### Projected Pharmacy Costs by 2020

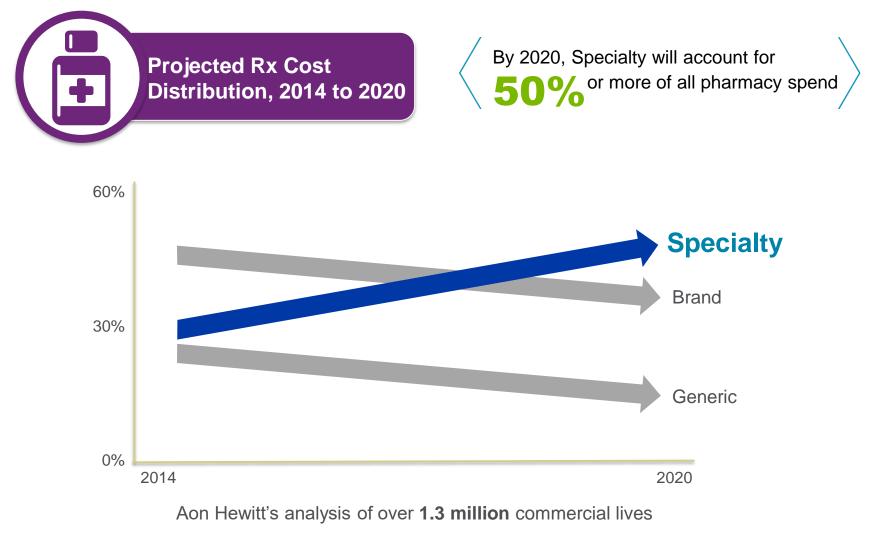


Aon Hewitt's analysis of over 1.3 million commercial lives



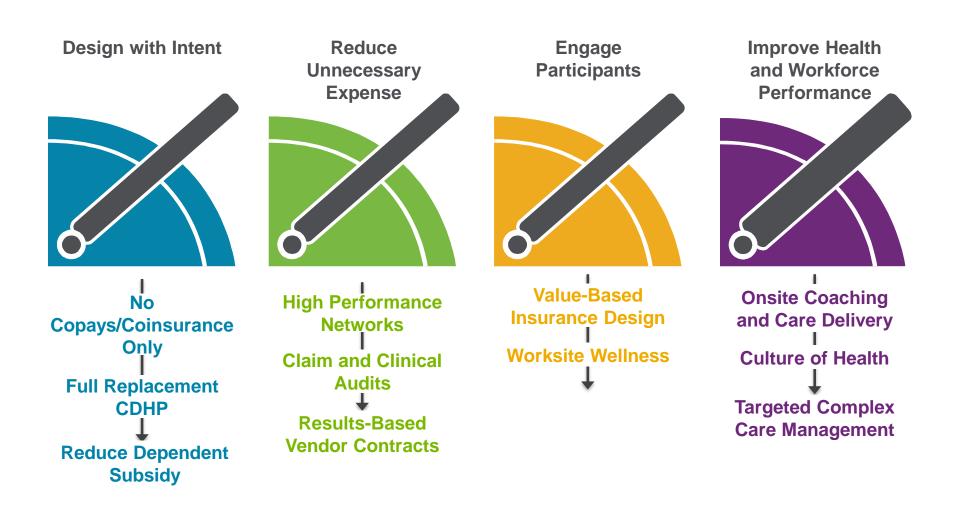
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### Projected Pharmacy Costs by 2020





### A Framework for Cost Management



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### **Don't Forget the Basics**



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### Don't Forget the Basics

- Plan Efficiency
  - PBM carve outs, bidding and Coalitions
  - Medical bidding
    - Fully Insured
    - Self Insured
      - Network Discount Evaluation
      - Fees
      - Optimal stop loss
      - Do you really need Aggregate Stop Loss?
- Benefit redesign
  - Benchmarking for deductibles, copays, out of pocket maximums







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### Employer Subsidy Strategy

Consideration	Description/Rationale	
Defined	Strategy to split plan cost betweer	n employer and employee
	Addresses cost share by member	type as well as plan choice
Considerations	Vary by plan choice or a defined c	ontribution?
	<ul> <li>Does the organization feel a different employee coverage vs. dependen</li> </ul>	<b>C C</b>
Market Prevalence	Working Spouse Surcharge	Working Spouse Exclusion
	17% 50%	8% 48%
	Reduce All Dependent Subsidies	Tobacco Surcharge
	18% 50%	36% 39%
ource: 2015 Aon Hewitt Healt	h Care Survey	

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### CDHP/HDHP

Consideration	Description/Rationale	
Defined	<ul> <li>Encourages employees to become actively involved in managing their health care expenses by:</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Giving employees a financial stake in lowering some of their health care costs through the use of high-deductible plans coupled with an account-based medical plan</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Increasing employee awareness of the costs of medical care</li> </ul>	
Considerations	<ul> <li>Various studies on the effectiveness of CDHP/HDHP in reducing unnecessary care without restricting essential care do not always reach the same conclusions</li> </ul>	
Market Prevalence in the Public Sector	Full Replacement CDHP/HDHP CDHP/HDHP as an Option	
	<b>11% 38% 58% 30%</b>	

Source: 2016 Aon Hewitt Health Care Survey



### What We Know About CDHP/HDHP

The Good	<ul> <li>Robust evidence demonstrating effectiveness of CDHP designs: ranging between 5% and 24% reduction in costs</li> <li>Reductions in all utilization categories, Rx, and Outpatient highest</li> <li>Most savings are permanently sustained</li> </ul>
The Bad	<ul> <li>Inconclusive or no "trend reduction" found after second year</li> <li>Some initial savings reversed in later years (Inpatient)</li> </ul>
The Ugly	<ul> <li>Pharmacy reductions detected even in chronic maintenance drugs</li> <li>Higher reductions in utilization found in lower-income members</li> </ul>



### Reduce Unnecessary Expense





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### **On-Site Clinics**

Consideration	Description/Rationale
Defined	<ul> <li>Direct sourcing where there are a large number of employees in one location</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Traditionally focused on employees only, some have expanded to dependents</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Staffed with physician, nurse practitioner and/or physician assistant, and less frequently with a pharmacist</li> </ul>
Considerations	Lower cost for office visits and simple procedures
	<ul> <li>Reduced inpatient admissions and days, emergency room and urgent care visits, visits to specialists, improved use of generics, and improved drug compliance</li> </ul>
	Better support/care for people with chronic illness who usually represent the top 5% of medical costs
Market Prevalence	16% 40%
Source: 2015 Aon Hewitt Health C	are Survey

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### **Centers of Excellence**

Description/Rationale	
<ul> <li>Services such as transplants, bariatric surgery, heart surgery, back surgery, joint replacement surgery, and the treatment of complex cancers;</li> </ul>	
Primary focus on the quality/outcomes and a secondary focus on cost	
Large untapped strategy to reduce health care cost and trend	
<ul> <li>Benefit steerage includes a tiered benefit or reference-based pricing, and/or supported by concierge/navigator steerage</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Contracting process focused on high-dollar, high-volume services which have a large, measureable variability in price and/or quality</li> </ul>	
13% 51%	



# Accountable Care Organization (ACO) and Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH)

Consideration	Description/Rationale
Defined	<ul> <li>Integrated health systems organized and motivated to deliver improved outcomes through value-based reimbursement arrangements that hold providers at risk for key cost and quality metrics, with shared savings should results exceed targets</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul> <li>ACOs and PCMHs come in a variety of forms and models and provider affiliations</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Passive model depends on attribution, with employer paying care coordination fees with no overt design steerage and provider contracts at aggregate level</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Active model requires formal option/choice with more formal contractual arrangements dictating risks/rewards and design/contribution steerage</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Challenge is determining if ACO/PCMHs are really constructed to deliver improved cost and quality results</li> </ul>
Prevalence in the Public Sector	4% 31%
Source: 2016 Aon Hewitt Health Care S	Survey



### **Tiered and Narrow Networks**

Consideration	Description/Rationale
Defined	<ul> <li>Preferred subset of providers demonstrating quality and cost effective outcomes</li> </ul>
	Non-preferred providers are offered at reduced benefit levels (tiered network) or treated as out-of-network (narrow network)
Considerations	Opportunity for improved quality and reduced cost
	<ul> <li>Networks that drive value primarily through deeper discounts may miss an opportunity for quality improvement</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Savings in tiered models are often driven by coverage reductions on Tier 2 providers</li> </ul>
Public Sector Market Prevalence	9% 49%

Source: 2016 Aon Hewitt Health Care Survey



### Transparency

Consideration	Description/Rationale
Defined	Cost and medical outcomes vary widely even in one geography
	<ul> <li>20%–40% of an employer's costs are tied up in costs for which there is cost/quality data available (e.g., 'shoppable' care that is elective, not urgent, and can be in or outpatient)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Emerging third-party vendors capable of bundling the costs for comparison shopping</li> </ul>
Considerations	Health care shopping is a skill few Americans have
	Heavy education and marketing mandatory for success
Public Sector Prevalence	<b>70%</b> How effective are these tools and how often are they accessed?

Source: 2016 Aon Hewitt Health Care Survey



### **Reference-Based Pricing**

Consideration	Description/Rationale
Defined	<ul> <li>Plan establishes the maximum amount (reference price) that will be covered for certain medical services that have wide cost variations without measurable differences in patient outcomes</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Cost reductions occur by members paying more out of pocket, using providers at/below the reference price, and providers reducing costs to the reference price</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul> <li>Reference-based pricing strategy effectiveness depends on completeness of transparency data available to members</li> </ul>
Market Prevalence	<b>53%</b>

Source: 2015 Aon Hewitt Health Care Survey



### **Engage Participants**



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Consideration	Description/Rationale
Defined	<ul> <li>Personalized, just in time help, for anything related to the use of the health care system and benefits</li> <li>In the absence of an active PCP role (Medical Home) this is considered a must-have</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul> <li>Evidence supports the need for someone to address the complexity of health care benefits and the complexity of the health care system</li> </ul>
Public Sector Prevalence	28% 57%
Source: 2016 Aon Hewitt Health C	Care Survey



### **Second Opinions**

Consideration	Description/Rationale
Defined	<ul> <li>"Expert" delivers a second opinion on the diagnosis and recommended treatments and/or surgery</li> <li>Can confirm or change a patient's diagnosis and treatment plan</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul> <li>Most employers limit eligibility to those members enrolled in the medical plan, although some employers offer the service to all employees, and even to non-covered family members</li> <li>Second-opinion services are typically offered at no cost to members</li> </ul>
Public Sector Prevalence	<b>17%</b>

Source: 2016 Aon Hewitt Health Care Survey



### Value Based Design

Consideration	Description/Rationale
Defined	<ul> <li>Differentiate coverage level on the basis of clinical value, providing richer benefits for higher-value and/or leaner benefits for lower value medical services</li> </ul>
	The basic premise of VBID is to remove barriers to essential, high- value services
	Improve treatment compliance
Considerations	<ul> <li>Commonly used incentives: copayment reductions, premium reductions, eligibility for a richer benefit plan, access to a particular benefit, and contributions to health accounts</li> </ul>
Public Sector Market Prevalence	13% 68%

Source: 2016 Aon Hewitt Health Care Survey



### Telehealth

Consideration	Description/Rationale
Defined	<ul> <li>Health care delivery, diagnosis, consultation, and treatment remotely using 2-way video or phone consultation directly between the physician and the patient</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul> <li>24/7 access to board certified physicians licensed in the state where the patient is located</li> </ul>
	Prescribe non-controlled medications without a physical, face-to- face examination
	<ul> <li>Common conditions treated include sinus infections, allergies, stomach aches, ear infections, and upper respiratory infections; evolving to include behavioral health and dermatology</li> </ul>
Market Prevalence	21% 33%

Source: 2015 Aon Hewitt Health Care Survey



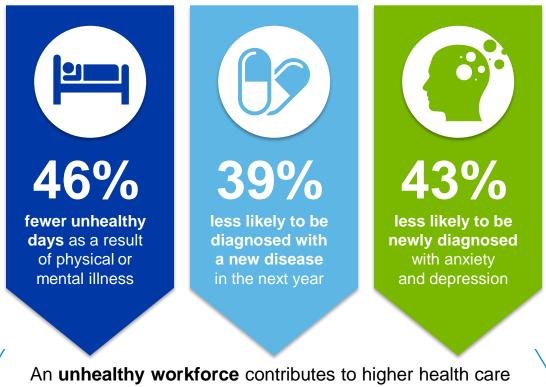
### Improve Health and Workforce Performance





### Health is Both a Valued Asset and Potential Financial Risk

Engaged colleagues with strong wellbeing are...



An **unhealthy workforce** contributes to higher health care and injury costs and cannot sustain basic business activities.

Source: Gallup, "State of The American Workplace Employee Engagement Insights for US Business Leaders", 2013



### A Shift in Focus: Business Case for **Better Health**

#### The HR Opportunity to Shift the Focus...





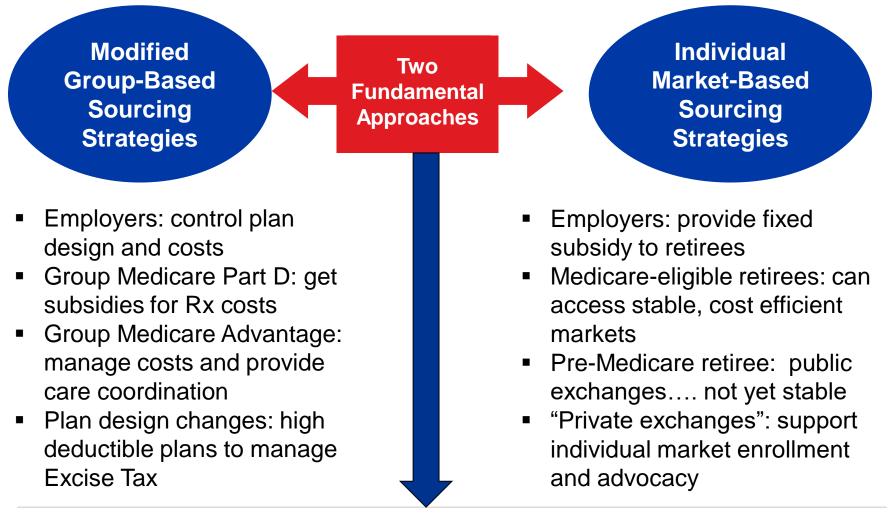


### **Retiree Healthcare**

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# Retiree Health Care Strategy: Future Outlook... A New Paradigm

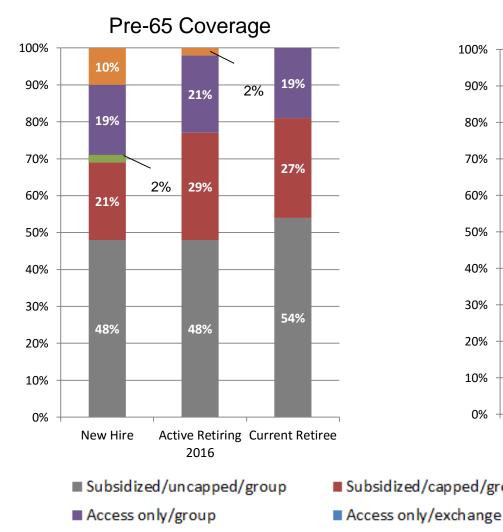


#### Many plan sponsors will segment their strategy and use both

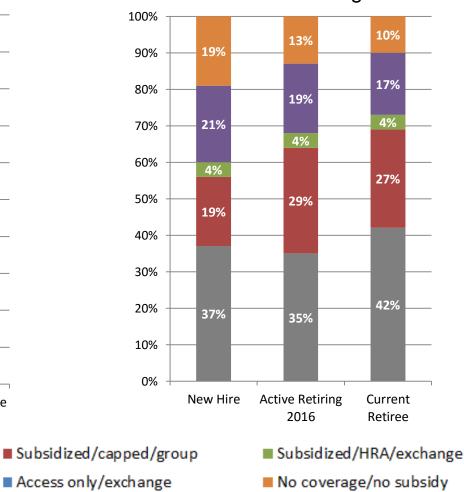


### **Retiree Health Benefits General Trends**

#### What are public sector employers doing for retiree health?







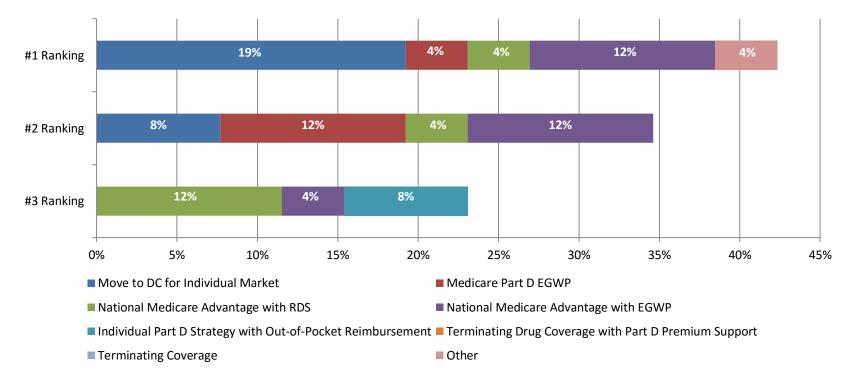
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Source: 2016 Aon Hewitt Retiree Health Care Strategy Survey: Public Sector Respondents <sup>31</sup>

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#### Long term strategy for post-65 retiree health coverage

Public sector employers favor individual market strategy (#1 ranking) followed closely by National Medicare Advantage with prescription drugs on a group basis



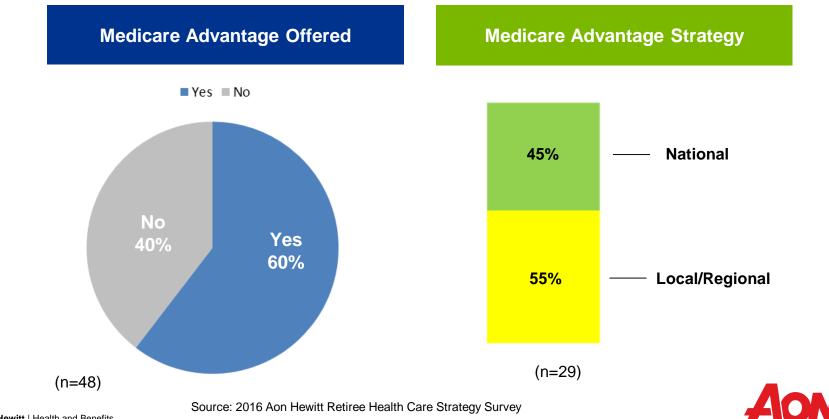
(n=11)

Source: 2016 Aon Hewitt Retiree Health Care Strategy Survey: Public Sector Respondents



#### **Group Medicare Advantage Plans -- Who Has These in Place?**

60% of public sector plan sponsors currently offer group-based Medicare Advantage plans, and do so more often using local / regional insurers

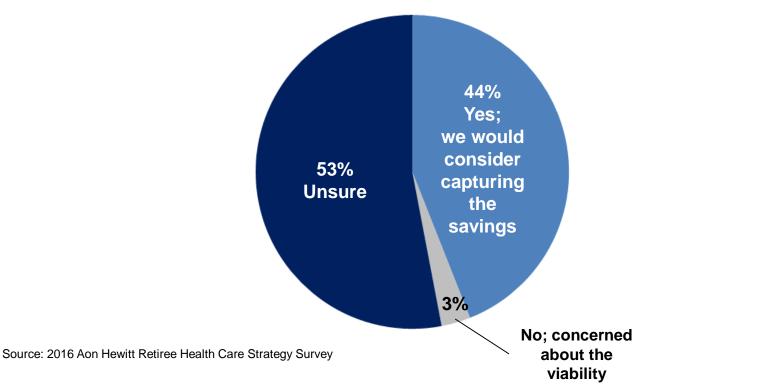


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## National Medicare Advantage PPO: for material savings for near term, with no change in retiree benefits

Public sector plan sponsor feedback indicates that there is some degree of interest in a national Medicare Advantage PPO strategy to replace the traditional indemnity plan

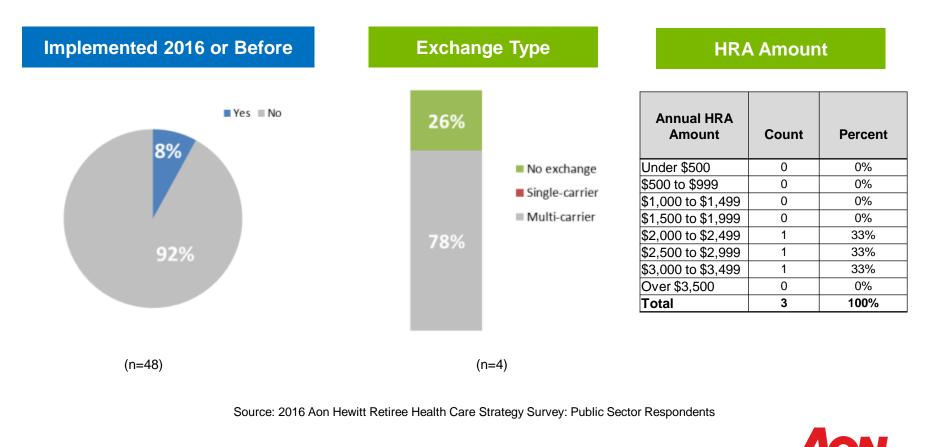




(n=36)

#### Use of Private Exchange for Post-65 Retiree Health – Who's Done It?

A handful of public sector employers have adopted this strategy, with all but one using multi-carrier exchange and varied HRA amounts

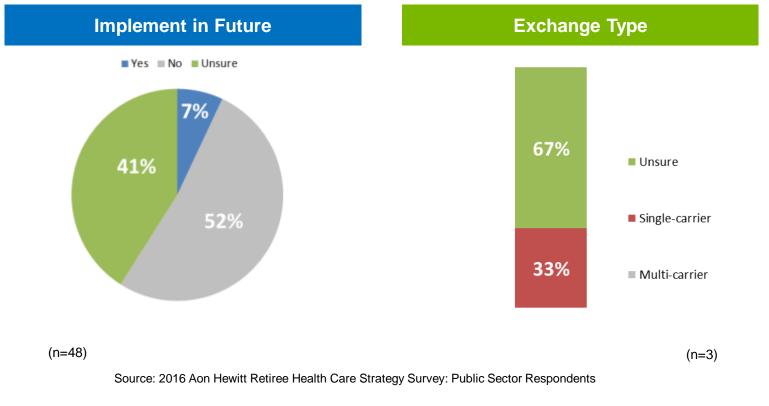




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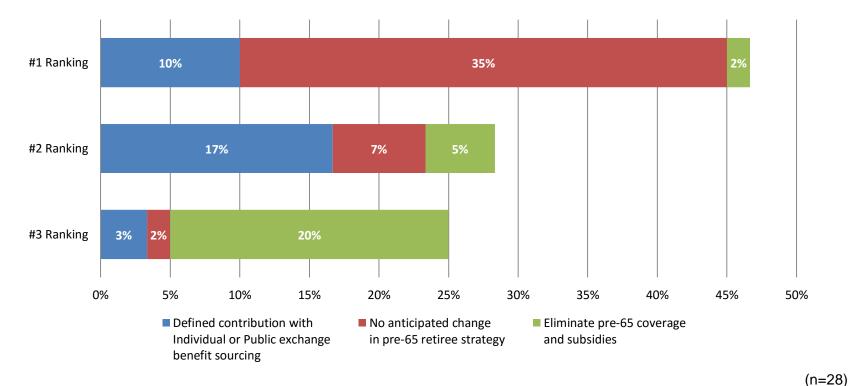
#### Use of Private Exchange for Post-65 Retiree s – Who's Thinking About It?

Most of the public sector employers are not interested in or unsure about this strategy; only a handful are thinking about it



#### Public Exchanges: Go or No Go Strategy?

Public sector employers' long-term strategies for Pre-65 retiree coverage is to "stay the course" followed by use of the public exchanges for benefit delivery

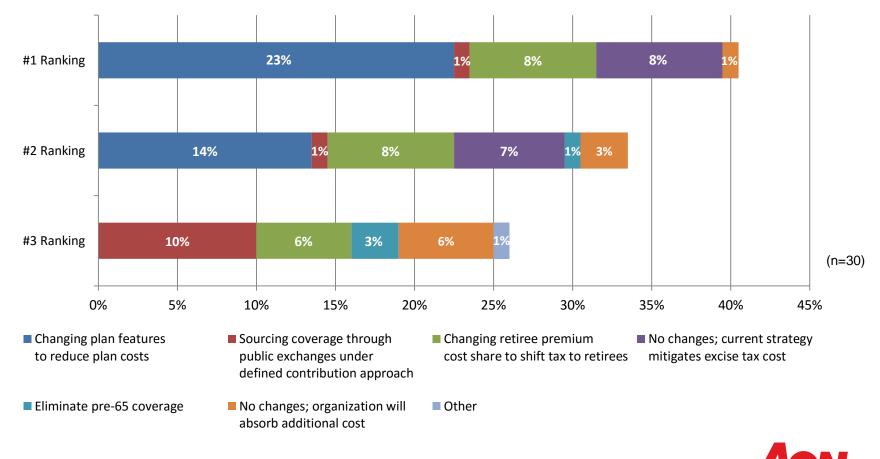


Source: 2016 Aon Hewitt Retiree Health Care Strategy Survey: Public Sector Respondents



#### Excise Tax will impact retiree health coverage

Public sector employers favor change in plan features (#1 ranking) followed by change in retiree premium to shift tax to retirees, to avoid excise tax for pre-65 retirees

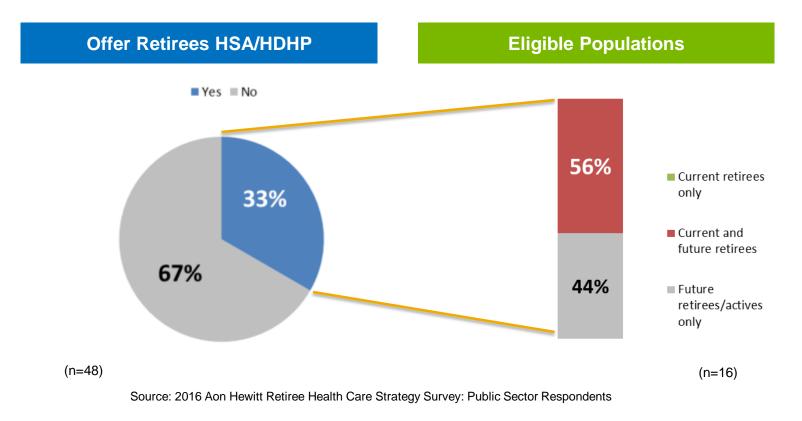


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High Deductible Health Plan ("HDHP") with Health Savings Account ("HSA")

Public sector employers are more reluctant to provide HDHP to their pre-65 retirees





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### **Don't Forget the Basics**



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### Basics

- Plan Efficiency same as active employee health
  - PBM carve outs, bidding and coalitions
  - Medical bidding
- Benefit redesign
  - "Maintenance of benefits" Medicare coordination Medicare retirees experience same cost share for services as an early retiree
- Contribution structures
  - True cost rates for retiree health coverage eliminating hidden subsidy in rates
  - Service-based contributions for new retirees (maybe grandfather those close to retirement – retirement eligible, or near retirement eligible)
  - Lower subsidy for spouse's coverage
- Eligibility for coverage
  - Increase age and / or service separate from pension/retirement income eligibility



# **Questions?**

