

New Mexico Coalition
for Healthcare Value
October 2017



Board members include:

Albuquerque Public Schools
– Vera Dallas

City of Albuquerque
– Mark Saiz

HealthInsight New Mexico
– Margy Wienbar

New Mexico Health
Connections
– Kiko Torres, MD

New Mexico Hospital Associ-
ation
– Jeff Dye

New Mexico Public School
Insurance Authority
– Ernestine Chavez

New Mexico Retiree
Healthcare Authority
– Neil Kueffer

PNM Resources
– Mark Young

Presbyterian Health Plan
– Brandon Fryar

Sandia National Laboratories
– Mary Romero - Hart

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Tackling heart failure focus of summit

The upcoming New Mexico Coalition for Healthcare Value November summit is more than a heart to heart about cardiac health – it’s an opportunity for New Mexico’s employers to gain some valuable information about heart failure and how it affects a company’s bottom line.

“While advances in medical science provide a variety of treatment options, heart failure is a cardiac condition in which the heart does not pump blood as well as it should. The heart keeps working, but the body’s need for blood and oxygen isn’t being met. Because heart failure is the end result of many kinds of heart conditions, it is one of the most common cardiac problems doctors see,” Robert Federici,

MD, Presbyterian Heart and Vascular Program, said.

The summit is a half day of presentations and panel discussions examining best care practices that can lead to the goal of improving health outcomes.”



“We know that heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women and that costs the U.S. about \$300 billion each

year for healthcare services, medications and lost productivity,” Pat Montoya, executive director of the New Mexico Coalition for Healthcare Value said.

“We want to update employers on best practice, and answer specific questions of concern.”

Montoya said the Coalition planned the summit to advance awareness of this looming epidemic.

“Our goal for this summit is to lay a foundation for collaboration among the state players to better address heart failure,” Montoya said.

Register Today

“Heart Failure--The Rising Epidemic: Focusing on Achieving Healthcare Quality and Value through Collaboration,” summit is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 28, at the Albuquerque Balloon Museum. Registration is free.

Go to nmhealthcarevalue.org to sign up. Space is limited, so register early.

NMCHCV members to attend National Alliance conference

Members of the New Mexico Coalition for Healthcare Value (NMCHV) will be among the 400 employers (senior leaders in human resources, compensation and benefits, strategy, finance), policymakers, business coalition leaders and other healthcare stakeholders from across the U.S. to attend the 24th annual National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalition's conference in November in Washington, D.C.

"Thought leaders, policymakers and key healthcare experts from across the country attend this conference to share their insights and expertise on the emerging trends, innovations and opportunities in the changing healthcare marketplace," Pat Montoya, executive director of the NMCHV, said.

She said the three-day event brings employers of all sizes and industries together to learn from one another, network with other healthcare stakeholders and identify effective approaches to managing the health and wellbeing of their workforce from the leading innovators in healthcare and business.

Sessions will include interactive sessions, educational discussions, employer roundtables, demonstrations and exhibit floor events that all encourage networking, sharing and learning.

Montoya said topics for 2017 include innovative approaches and strategies to wellbeing, population health, employee empowerment, special sessions on healthcare policy and updates on the Affordable Health Care Act (AHCA) along with other emerging healthcare topics.



The NMCHCV is one of the 50 National Alliance members from all across the U.S. serving 12,000 purchasers and 41 million Americans. These business coalitions are composed of mostly mid- and large-sized employers in both the private and public sectors in a particular city, county, or region. National Alliance member coalitions are committed to community health reform, including an improvement in the value of health care provided through employer-sponsored health plans and to the entire community.

Heart experts from throughout state set for summit

Employers attending the New Mexico Coalition for Healthcare Value November summit will hear from heart experts throughout the state and all the major cardiology groups including:

Robert Federici, MD, Presbyterian Heart and Vascular Program;

Leonardo Macias, MD, Presbyterian Heart and Vascular Program;

Bart Cox, MD, UNM Cardiology Program;

Nancy Guinn, MD, Presbyterian

Health Care At Home ;

Mihaela Bujoi, MD, New Mexico Heart Institute;

Craig Cannon, MD, New Mexico Cardiac Care, Las Cruces;

Charles Wilkins, MD, San Juan Regional Medical Center,

Farmington;

Bill Mansfield, MD, Christus St. Vincent/ New Mexico Heart Institute, Santa Fe;

Fundador Adajar, MD, Cardiovascular Associates of Roswell;

Sean Mazer, MD, New Mexico

Heart Institute;

Sharif Halim, MD, Presbyterian Heart and Vascular Program; and

Robert Taylor, MD, Davita Medical Group.

Go to:

nmhealthcarevalue.org to sign up for the November summit.

Employers outline priorities

Coalition's 1st statewide employer benefit survey results are in!

A recent New Mexico Coalition for Healthcare Value survey shows that a majority of New Mexico employers are looking at several areas as priorities as they seek to manage employee health benefit programs.

Overall, New Mexico employers responding to the survey indicate a few of their health benefit management priorities includes creating a culture of healthy employees, improving communication between employees and health plans and extending the availability of telemedicine.

Of the more than 300 surveys distributed, employers completed and returned approximately 25 percent of the questionnaires. About 67 percent of those responding were organizations with more than 100 employees, with one indicating it had more than 50,000 employees.

Participants were asked 20 questions. The respondents were categorized as follows: 31 percent from the government-related sector; 14 percent from the healthcare sector and eight percent each from the non-profit, hospitality and financial services sectors."

"Employers can have a tremendous impact on the entire health care system including areas such as reducing costs, identifying areas of risk, improving healthcare utilization and innovation," Pat Montoya,

Coalition executive director, said. "The results of this survey provide the data that the Coalition, comprised of employers throughout the state, has to help inform employers

incentive to participate in a wellness program.

These programs typically include health education, screening, fitness and nutrition. The most common types of wellness benefits included biometric screenings with a personal health assessment and providing health promotion printed materials in workplace common areas.

The survey revealed that almost 73 percent of those responding do not offer a health saving account and 67 percent say they offer a co-pay plan. The most common deductible for a co-pay plan ranged from \$500 to \$999.

Other questions in the survey dealt with such topics as providing benefits to retirees, offering high-deductible plans and involvement in drug formulary structures.

The NMCHCV is working to analyze responses to the full survey, and to consider any differences in responses among small, mid-size, and large employer organizations.

Montoya said that once the analysis is completed the results will be shared with those employers who submitted completed surveys and provided their contact information. Major findings will be summarized and shared with key stakeholders working in healthcare, particularly, as it relates to healthcare coverage and benefits.



in making decisions about healthcare benefits."

"Preliminary findings indicate that of those who responded that approximately 85 percent of employers offer coverage through a Preferred Provider Organization (PPO), and 63 percent offer a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO).

"It is our hope that in these times of uncertainty in healthcare, this survey will provide valuable information to the Coalition members, other employers, health plans and executive state leaders and policy makers," Montoya said.

Although most employers responding said they provide some type of wellness programming, more than half of them do not offer either a financial or non-financial

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Montoya said.

We can't let inertia set in — take time today to join the Coalition

We Can't Let Inertia Set In!

Many New Mexico Coalition for Healthcare Value members are wondering if they have seen the last of federal legislation efforts to either repeal or replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Many experts thought that by fall we would have some type of legislative fix to repeal or replace the ACA, but as we now know, it did not happen.

I believe there is a stalemate because there are too many special interests and not enough policy makers working across party lines to reach consensus or alignment around the core issues impacting healthcare.

In fact, the current healthcare discussion has essentially just focused on health coverage, which is critical, but it has not even touched the issues of changing how we provide healthcare, how we pay for care, the supply of healthcare professionals and the innovation part of healthcare that we need as we move into this new healthcare world.

There has been lots of talk, but yet no real movement over the last couple of months to answer these bigger questions. So for now the Affordable Care Act is still the law of the land.

It is anyone's guess as to whether the gridlock in Washington will resolve itself anytime in the near future. It is because of this very fact that we must not allow inertia to set in. We have a broken healthcare system and we can't expect that any one federal or state

policy will fix healthcare. There is so much uncertainty in all sectors of healthcare that you can almost feel the inertia beginning to set in.

We can't let that happen.

We need to continue to push forward and innovate in the area of transparency while focusing on improving quality and decreasing costs.

We need to continue to support and fund innovation in healthcare, employer benefits, and insurance options, while providing adequate options for the consumer.

We need to continue to pilot and experiment with different payment models and ultimately continue to push for the new health care system of the 21st Century.

It is hard work, but those of us in the trenches we must roll up our sleeves and we must get out of our comfort zones and partner and align with different and varied partners. This is what is needed to push the new agenda for healthcare in the 21st Century.

We must support our colleagues and providers on the ground floor in their day-to-day efforts to create a higher quality, efficient and effective system and walk hand in hand with them in the spirit of experimentation.

We can't go backwards and we need to continue to look forward in implementing our vision of what the healthcare system can and should look like.

Employers must and will play a significant role in improving healthcare in our communities and in our state.

We are the torch bearers and must continue to carry the torch forward. One key way to do it is to join and be an active member of the New Mexico Coalition for Healthcare Value.

Join us in this journey.

Pat Montoya,
NMCHCV Executive Director

Check Your Meds

The New Mexico Coalition for Healthcare Value and Consumer Reports urge you to—once a year—take all your medications (prescription, over-the-counter), vitamins and supplements to your doctor or pharmacist for a thorough drug checkup.

It's a good way to spot-check for problems, like unsafe drug interactions, excessive dosages, duplicate meds, or ways to save you money for pills you don't need. Your doctor and pharmacist can be helpful, but it's best to schedule an appointment.

Thursday, Oct. 21 is "National Check Your Meds Day," and pharmacies like Albertsons, Costco, Sam's Club, CVS, Walmart, and Target support this effort.

Get more information from hash tag #NationalCheckYourMedsDay.

