Employers' Next Steps:
The last time big employers focused
on health insurance, we got managed care;
what will we get this time?

May 11, 2001 Arnold Milstein MD, MPH



### An Employer's Diary 1990-2000

- Managed care tamed insurance trend x 5 yrs
- Carriers and providers responded to margin pressure by consolidating more than re-engineering
- Media, politicians, and consumers villainized managed care
- Expanding biotech pipeline began colliding with population aging

### An Employer's Diary 1990-2000 (cont'd)

- Managed care's simple active ingredients succumb to double-digit premium trend
- IOM flags unreliable Q
- Berwick & Juran flag 30% Q waste
- Globally competitive employers refocus

# The Big Picture on Quality 50/50 reliability, generously calculated

	Preventive	Acute	Chronic
Get help	50%	70%	60%
Avoid danger	100%	70%	80%
Both	50%	49%	48%

Schuster et al: Milbank Qtly Dec. '98

## How is 50/50 Reliability Perpetuated?

- Invisibility of quality failure
- **■** Trusting customers
- Near zero clinical information systems
- Scattered fiduciary responsibility for quality

# The Quality Buck Stops Nowhere Everyone Responsible, No One Accountable

#### **Consumers**

"I'm busy; I defer to regulators."

### Regulators

"My budget's too small; I defer to accreditors."

#### **Accreditors**

"I get paid by providers; I defer to them."

#### **Purchasers**

"Consumers get mad if we restrict choice or aggressively link their out-of-pocket cost to quality; I defer to them."

#### **Insurers**

"Purchasers don't heavily weight quality in plan selection; I defer to them."

### **Providers**

"Insurers don't pay differently for quality; I defer to them."

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### What Can Be Done to Improve Value Now?

- Hospitalists (1-2% PMPM savings)
- Enhanced case/disease/self-management (2-3% PMPM savings)
- More selective provider networks (5-15% PMPM savings)

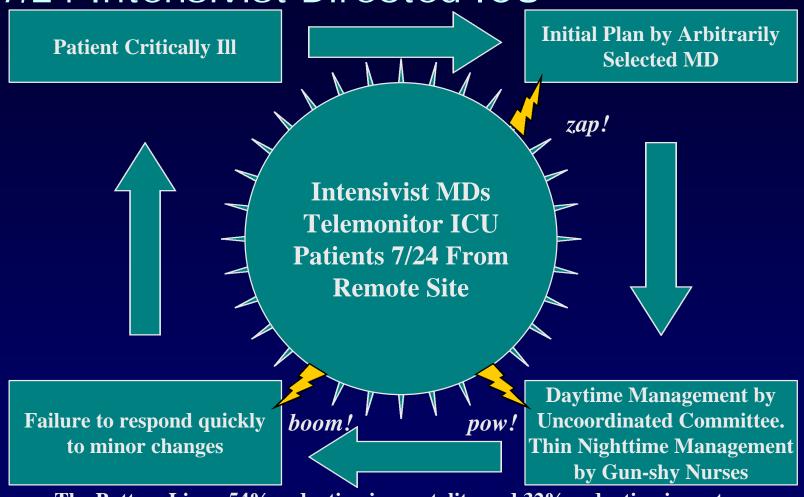
# More Selective MD Specialist Network: Union Carbide in Charleston

- Episode-based profiling of physician efficiency across total cost of care
- **■** Identification of most efficient specialists
- Consult with PCPs to verify quality of efficient specialists
- Educate and incent PCPs to improve and selectively refer
- 12% reduction v/v insurance trend in yr 1;
- X% reduction v/v insurance trend in yr 2

### What Can Be Done to Improve Value Later?

- Reengineered care processes(>15% PMPM savings and expanding)
- Activated consumerism(TBD and instrumental to reengineering gains)

# Reengineered Care Processes: 7/24 Intensivist-Directed ICU



The Bottom Line: 54% reduction in mortality and 32% reduction in costs

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## Reengineered Care Processes: Rebuilt Ophthalmology Visit Results

• Before

"we're doing everything we can think of... we need more money!"

• After

"we're doing what we didn't know about before... we need less money!"

Traditional model
1 assistant/MD
Staff poorly trained
2 rooms/MD



22 patients/day/MD

3 month wait for consult

Patient Satisfaction = 63%

Provider Satisfaction = 90%

\$60 per visit

\$22.31 pmpy

**Engineered model** 

3 assistants/MD

Staff highly trained

4 rooms/MD



50 patients/day/MD

No wait for consult

Patient Satisfaction = 85%

Provider Satisfaction = 94%

\$43 per visit

\$14.91 pmpy

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# Reengineered Processes: Leapfrog Standards



### ■ An Rx for Rx

- **♦** Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE)
- ♦ 85% serious drug errors prevented
- **♦** Net cost savings

### **■ Practice Makes Perfect**

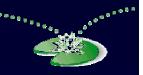
- **♦** Evidence-based Hospital Referral (EHR)
- ♦ > 20% mortality reduction for 7 complex treatments

### ■ Sick People Need Special Care

- **♦ ICU Staffing with CCM Trained M.D.**
- ♦ > 10% mortality reduction
- **♦** Net cost savings

### **■ Future MD Office Standard**

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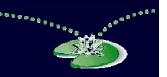


### What are the Three Leaps Worth?

### **Annual Gain Projected by Dartmouth:**

- $\downarrow$  550,000 serious med errors
- $\blacksquare$   $\downarrow$  60,000 deaths
- $\downarrow$  ~300,000 disabilities

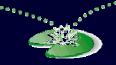
(if implemented in U.S. urban hospitals)



## Early Leapfrog Adopters (first 60 days)

- Private sector (Boeing, GM, GE, 3M, etc.)
- Jumbo government (OPM, state govs, etc.)
- Large unions (IAM, AFT, etc.)
- Coalitions (PBGH, BHCAG, Gateway, etc.)
- 30 million covered lives and increasing
- **CEO to CEO recruitment via BRT**





■ Preventable deaths per 100,000 per year: 25 (IOM midpoint estimate)

**■** General Motors preventable deaths

per year: 349

per day: **1.0** 

■ General Motors preventable disabilities (Harvard Medical Practice Study ratio)

per year: 1,745

per day: <u>5.0</u>

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## Activated Consumerism: Key Considerations

- Scientific research evidence justifies optimism and caution
- The theory of the case
  - ♦ Consumer "ownership" of their health benefit activates their prudent buyer skills
  - **♦** The internet supplies 24/7 performance comparisons (plans, providers, treatments and self-care methods) and decision support tools.
  - ♦ Informed and activated consumers accelerate high-value process re-engineering by providers and plans.

# Activated Consumerism: What Hurdles Must Be Jumped?

■ 96% of big employers reject immediate DC (3Q 2000 Mercer Management Consulting survey)



- 78% of employees reluctant re employer exit (2Q 2000 EBRI survey)
- **■** Few valid sources of provider ratings
- Embryonic products and lukewarm DC pioneers
- Tax disincentives for consumer "ownership"

## Closing Thoughts

- Big opportunities for improving value remain
- They are more nuanced than managed care
- Many options can win union support
- **■** Care process reengineering
  - + engaged consumers
  - = core ingredients