



# Hidden Costs in Benefit Contracts: What You Don't Know May Cost You

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### Know the Contract Currently In Place

- What are the services
- What are the protections for you the Employer
- Who/what stands behind obligations/guarantees
- What are the indemnification terms
- What all is included in the pricing terms
- What are you actually receiving
  - Fiduciary protection
  - Data protections

Pricing assurances

# Establish List of Needs and Objectives

- What is primary objective(s)
  - Increased offerings
  - Better services
  - Lower pricing

- Greater fiduciary protection
- Greater administrative savings

# Seek Referrals from Other Similarly Situated Employers

- Industry
- Size
- Benefit Plan Offerings



#### **Request Sample Contract for Review**

- Ensure contract is for services being contracted for and not generic contract for services unrelated or bundled services
- Have legal counsel review for "market terms"



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### Perform Request for Proposal

- Create Spreadsheet of Services
- Material Contract Terms
- Pricing
- Limitations of Liability
- Indemnification

# **Question All Assumptions in Pricing**

- Drill down on all charges
- Unbundle services and fees
- Engage legal counsel to review and revise contract as well as negotiate all materials terms'
  - Pricing

- Data ownership
- Data privacy
- Performance Guarantees

#### Push Service Provider on Structure

- Just because it has been done this way in the past does not mean it has to continue
- Get creative to establish a platform tailored for your and your employees needs
- Double check their math and their conclusions



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### Direct Contracting – Case Study

- Connect directly to local hospitals
- Connect directly to specialized providers (e.g. cancer treatment centers) and provide medical travel
- Cuts out middleman TPAs and saves money
- May sacrifice population health management

#### Hybrid Plans – Case Study

- Combination of self insured and fully insured beyond stop loss
- Significant cost savings
- Not subject to HIT

