

# Don't Let Downside Risk Get You Down

Effectively right-sizing your risk exposure, Part 1



#### **Today's Presenters**



#### Scott Machut, CPA, FLMI

Vice President, Sales for Reinsurance and Provider Excess



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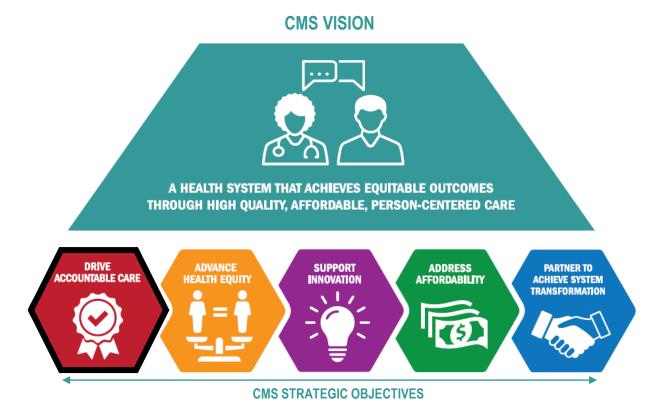
Vice President, Underwriting and Actuarial



### **Understanding the Risk**



# **CMS Vision and Objectives**



CMS expects all Medicare beneficiaries with Parts A and B to be in a care relationship with accountability for quality and total cost of care *by the end of the decade (2030)*.



# The Road to Risk-Bearing

**2016**: NextGen ACO moves select ACOs to greater risk bearing arrangements

**2012**: MSSP and Pioneer ACO models introduce providers to greater risks

**2021**: Direct Contracting model (transitioned to ACO REACH 1/1/23)

# **2023** MSSP performance year: 456 ACOs, 10.9M assigned beneficiaries

- One-sided
  - Basic track A&B 151 ACOs (33%)
- Two-sided
  - Basic Track C&D, 19 ACOs (4%)
  - Track E, 125 ACOs (28%)
  - Enhanced, 161 ACOs (35%)

#### 2023 REACH

- 132 participants
- Risk-sharing options
  - Professional (50% svgs/ losses)
  - Global (100% svgs/losses)



# **Types of Risk-taking Provider Organizations**

At-risk health care providers can include:

- Accountable care organizations (ACOs)
- Hospital systems
- Integrated delivery systems
- Independent physician organizations (IPOs)
- Physician groups
- Physician hospital organizations (PHOs)





# **Scope of Provider Risk-Taking**

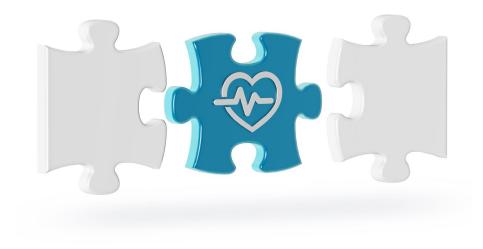
- Full/global risk
- Partial risk
  - Professional only
  - Hospital only
  - In-network only
  - Specific bundles/episodes
- Shared risk hospital(s) and physicians jointly enter a global risk arrangement, each with defined responsibility for certain services
- Any option may include carve-outs





# **Carve-outs: by Choice or by Design**

- Transplant
  - Still exists, but used to be more common when transplant risk was a major driver of large claims
- Gene Therapy
  - Stand-alone products not widely available to providers, but may be coming soon





# **Carve-outs: by Choice or by Design**

• Rx

- Often used when hospital and physician risk are split apart in the DOFR and Rx is retained by the payer
- Some Medicaid programs carve out Rx (or just gene therapy) from managed care, necessarily resulting in carve-out to provider
- Medicare Part D has historically covered most high dollar Rx claims, yet some insurers do put providers at risk for Rx.
  - Beginning in 2025, insurers will be at risk for 60% of catastrophic Part D Rx, not15%





#### **Financial Risk-Sharing: Alternative Payment Models**

- Payment models with no risk sharing
  - Fee for service
  - Pay for quality reporting (steppingstone to financial risk sharing)
- Payment models with risk sharing
  - 1-sided cost of care / upside only
  - 2-sided cost of care / upside & downside
  - Any option may also include financial incentives for quality outcomes

## **Alternative Payment Models (APMs)**

\$	Ø		
CATEGORY 1 FEE FOR SERVICE - NO LINK TO QUALITY & VALUE	CATEGORY 2 FEE FOR SERVICE - LINK TO QUALITY & VALUE	CATEGORY 3 APMS BUILT ON FEE-FOR-SERVICE ARCHITECTURE	CATEGORY 4 POPULATION - BASED PAYMENT
	А	А	А
	Foundational Payments for Infrastructure & Operations (e.g., care coordination fees and payments for HIT investments)	APMs with Shared Savings (e.g., shared savings with upside risk only) B	Condition-Specific Population-Based Payment (e.g., per member per month payments, payments for specialty services, such as oncology or mental bealth)
	B	APMs with Shared Savings and Downside Risk (e.g., episode-based payments for procedures and comprehensive payments with upside and downside risk)	В
	Pay for Reporting (e.g., bonuses for reporting data or penalties for not reporting data) C Pay-for-Performance		Comprehensive Population-Based Payment (e.g., global budgets or full/percent of premium payments)
	(e.g., bonuses for quality performance)		С
			Integrated Finance & Delivery System (e.g., global budgets or full/percent of premium payments in integrated systems)

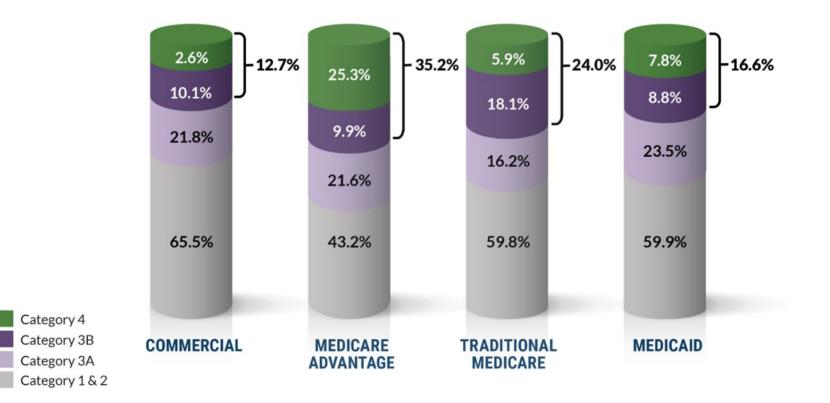
Credit: APM Measurement Health Care. Progress of Alternative Payment Models 2020 – 2021 Methodology Report HCP LAN



#### **Trends in Provider Risk-sharing**

In 2021,

**19.6%** of U.S. health care payments, flowed through Categories 3B-4 models. In each market, Categories 3B-4 payments accounted for:



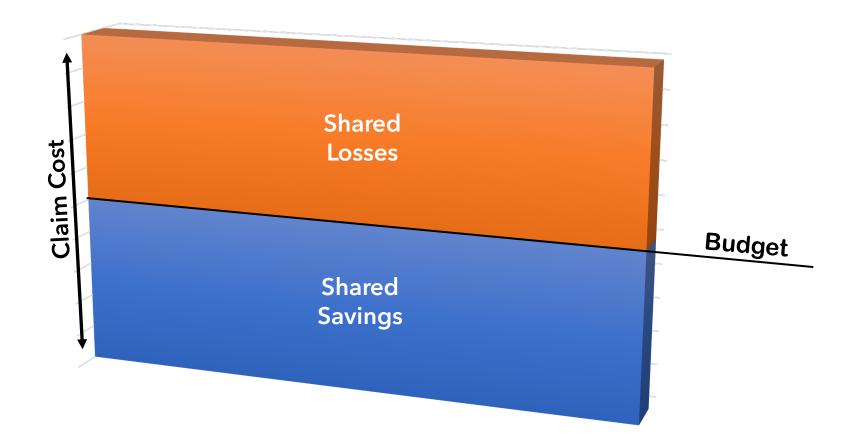
Credit: APM Measurement Health Care. Progress of Alternative Payment Models 2020 – 2021 Methodology Report HCP LAN



# How Did Claim Cost Compare to My Budget?

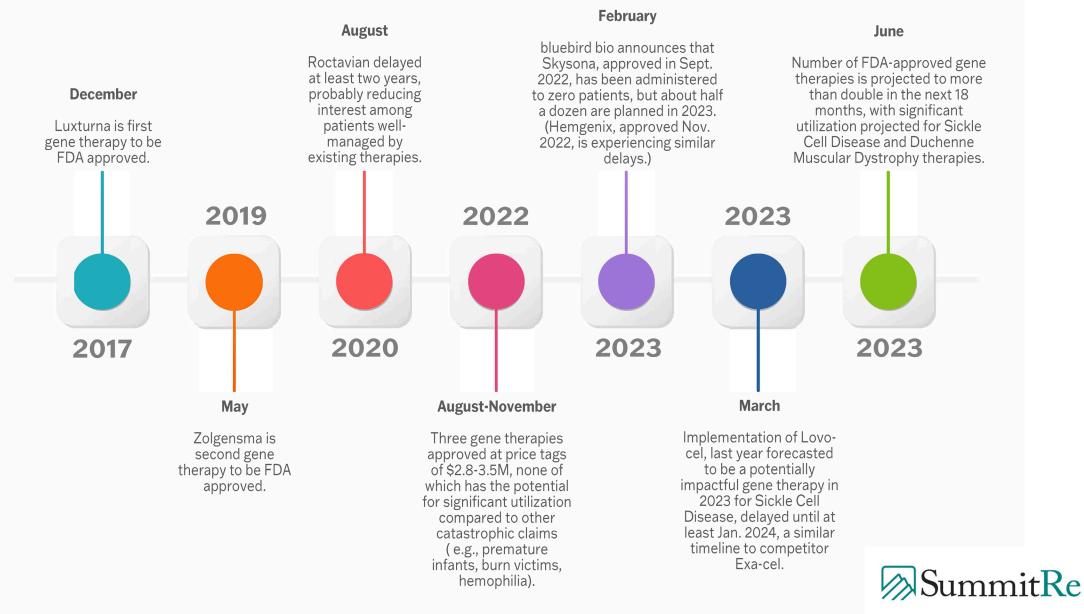
#### Risks

- Utilization
- Large claims
  - Complex cancer
  - Neonatal
  - Burns
  - Hemophilia
  - Gene therapies





#### Is the Gene Therapy Tsunami Real?



# **Poll: What Do You Think?**

- 1. The gene therapy tsunami is real: By 2028, gene therapies will lead to at least one major change in US health care financing.
- 2. The tsunami is real (but...): Gene therapies will continue to be approved and administered at an increasing rate, but our current health care financing system will absorb it without major changes.
- **3.** The tsunami isn't real: In 2028 only about 1x-3x as many gene therapies will be administered to patients as in 2023.
- 4. Not sure





# Cell & Gene Therapy Trends: \$2-4M Claims

- Commercial potentially significant but relatively low impact
  - There are currently many causes for million-dollar hospital stays
  - Gene therapies will continue to add to this mix



# Cell & Gene Therapy Trends: \$2-4M Claims

- Medicare moderate impact
  - Hospital payment rates are much lower than commercial, so million-dollar claims are relatively rare, but few gene therapies apply to seniors
  - Catastrophic claims are driven by specialty drug, particularly for cancer
  - CAR-T is contributing to this trend



# Cell & Gene Therapy Trends: \$2-4M Claims

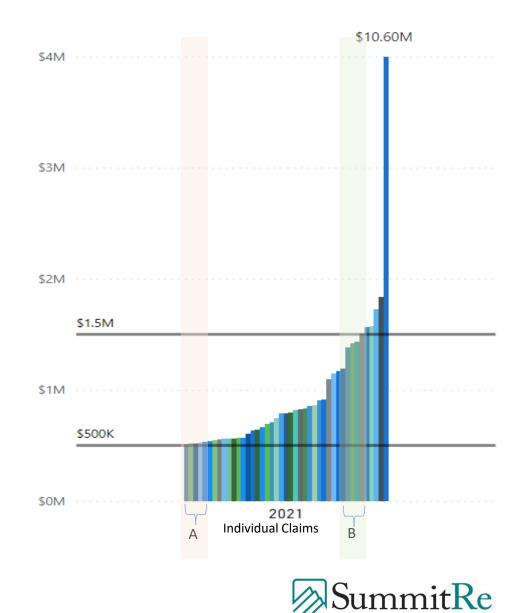
- Medicaid high impact
  - While payment rates are even lower than Medicare, million-dollar claims are much more common, primarily due to premature infants
  - Reinsurance deductibles tend to be high, so gene therapy is dramatically increasing rates, particularly for Medicaid child populations



# The Risk is Real: Large Claims

- A large claim for an insurance company is so rare, the risk may appear to be zero to a provider over many years of taking risk
- Meanwhile, a large claim for provider taking risk might not even register as unusual for an insurance company





# **Risk Appetite**

- How much risk do I have today?
  - Requirements (e.g. payer truncation, carve-outs)
- What is my risk tolerance?
- What are my options for the risk I need to mitigate?
  - Elect coverage from payer (CMS or insurer)
  - Explore third-party PXS coverage





# **PXS Coverage for Risk Protection**

- Aggregate coverage
  - Insurance policy pays out when claims for all covered members, in aggregate, exceed say 105% of expected claims
  - Example:
    - Expected claims are \$1,000 per member per month
    - 100,000 member months are covered
    - Expected annual claims are \$100 million
    - The policy might reimburse any claims above \$105 million
- Availability
  - A few insurers offer aggregate coverage to MSSP and REACH ACOs
  - PXS aggregate coverage is rarely available for other coverages





# **PXS Coverage for Risk Protection**

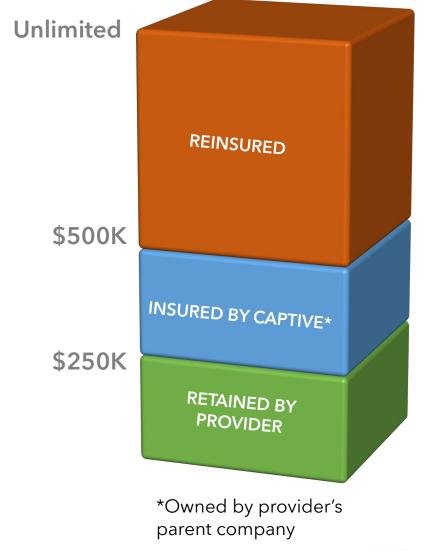
- Specific coverage (our focus today)
  - Insurance policy pays out when any member's total annual claims exceed the deductible
  - Example
    - Deductible is \$500k
    - 10,000 members are covered
    - 9,997 members have annual claims below \$500k
    - 3 members have claims of \$550k, \$750k, and \$1M
    - Insurance policy reimburses 50k + 250k + 500k = 800k
- Availability
  - Select insurers offer specific coverage in most jurisdictions
  - Some providers use captive insurance companies ("captives") to access the much larger reinsurance market for specific coverage





# **PXS Coverage Using a Captive**

- Example of specific excess coverage using a captive
- ACOs owned by health systems often have captives already place for hospital and professional liability (HPL) and/or medical malpractice





# Payer truncation vs. Commercial/3<sup>rd</sup> Party PXS

Program	Payer Truncation: Advantages	3 <sup>rd</sup> Party PXS: Advantages
All Programs	<ul> <li>Low cost when payer includes no expense margin</li> <li>When payer uses a pooled rate: favorable terms for higher-cost providers</li> <li>Simplicity: Integrated with risk-sharing arrangement</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>When payer uses a pooled rate: favorable terms for lower-cost providers</li> <li>Availability of higher deductibles to retain more risk/savings opportunity</li> <li>Customization such as domestic facility carve-outs</li> <li>Simplicity: Ability to combine multiple risk contracts</li> <li>Ability to use a captive to pool risk with other lines</li> <li>Experience refund</li> </ul>
Medicare REACH ACOs	<ul> <li>Low cost: No expense margin</li> <li>Cash flow: Year-end settlement instead of monthly premium payments</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Much simpler than CMS's risk-adjusted deductibles</li> <li>Availability of higher deductibles to retain more risk/savings opportunity</li> </ul>
Medicare Shared Savings Program	Required by CMS	• N/A



### Summary

- CMS continues to be the catalyst behind value-based care risk sharing.
  - Extends to all product lines
  - Has led to many types of risk-taking provider organizations
- Downside risk is real.
  - Cell and gene therapy costs introduce a new level of potential volatility
- Downside risk for provider organizations is insurable!
  - Specific: protection from single member's catastrophic loss
  - Aggregate: protection across entire membership
  - Both



# What Do I Do Now?

#### Don't Let Downside Risk Get You Down, Part 2 Thursday, October 5, 1pm EDT

- Understanding third-party provider excess (PXS) product
- How to determine an appropriate deductible
- Coinsurance, annual max, incurred, and paid: what they mean and why they matter
- Customization options and lasers
- Unique considerations for ACO REACH









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Thank you!

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