



Next Generation Healthcare™

20 Armory Lane
Milford, CT 06460-3361
Phone: (203) 876-1660
Toll Free: (800) 447-6689
Fax: (203) 877-9557

Employee Benefit News- March 2006

CDH could improve costs but not health

Most managers believe consumer-driven health programs will help contain costs, but few expect the plans to actually improve worker health.

An Online Benefits survey of 283 companies from 41 states reveals that 83% of CEOs, 78% of CFOs, 72% of HR execs and 65% of benefit managers say CDH will help contain health care costs.

Just 27% of all managers, however, think CDH will "improve employee health and wellness," according to the survey. Forty percent of benefit managers expect employee confusion over CDH -- which tends to result in low adoption. Just 22% of CFOs are concerned about the potential for employee confusion.

"It's not surprising to us that those closest to employee benefits delivery are most concerned about the ensuing confusion of CDH adoption," says Online Benefits CEO Alan Cohen.

Survey respondents report that health plan communication; medical claim tracking, plan comparison and HSA/HRA account tracking are critical. They also indicate that consumer education; disease management, financial planning, health and wellness incentives and health risk assessments are necessary to ensure CDH success.

At Stirling Benefits we believe that employers who provide effective tools that improve employee health will receive the greatest financial return when adopting CDHP options. Contact us for more information.