

CONSULTANT *Connection*

News to help you grow your business

December 2016

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- **Extension for Individual 1095 Forms Related to 6055 and 6056 Reporting**
- **United Health Foundation Releases *America's Health Rankings Health of Those Who Have Served Report***
- **Section 1557: How Eligibility Impacts Gender Identification, Transition**
- **IRS Announces 2017 Inflation Adjustments for FSA, Transportation Services**

UnitedHealthcare Launches New Value-Based Care Payment to Help Improve Outcomes and Reduce Costs for Musculoskeletal Procedures



The Spine and Joint Solution is currently available to employers nationwide with self-funded health plans. The program offers cost-effective care for musculoskeletal procedures and provides access to surgeons and facilities that qualify as UnitedHealthcare Centers of Excellence.

UnitedHealthcare Addresses Increased Opioid Use and Dependence



UnitedHealthcare has been investing in reducing the abuse of opioids and other controlled prescription drugs using a combination of retrospective programs designed to identify and change prescribing behaviors related to non-evidence-based prescribing of opioids, coupled with proactive interventions that prevent drug misuse and dependence.

Message from Brian Luehne, VP, Consultant Relations



As we conclude a successful 2016 and enter into a new year, we remain as committed as ever to helping people live healthier lives and making the health system work better for everyone. In this issue, see how our **Spine and Joint value-based care payment model** is helping expand access to high-quality, cost-effective care, and improve health outcomes and lower costs for members needing spine and joint procedures.

In addition, read about how UnitedHealthcare is addressing the growing national health issue of **increased opioid use and dependence**, while ensuring our members continue to receive safe and effective treatment.

Wishing you a joyful Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year!



■ **Substance Use Disorder Epidemic**

Only about 10 percent of Americans receive treatment for their substance use disorder. At UnitedHealthcare and Optum, we are addressing this public health epidemic on several levels.

■ **New Study Links Vision Benefits to Healthier Eye Care Habits**

The National Association of Vision Plans (NAVCP) has released a study that highlights the benefits of managed vision care, showing that Americans with vision benefits have healthier eye care habits.

■ **Annual Member Notice to Fully Insured Subscribers; ASO Customer Template Available Nov. 28**

The Annual Member Notice (formerly *Annual Rights and Resource Disclosure*) was distributed to fully insured medical plan subscribers the week of Nov. 28.

Catch up on 2016 News

Access the Consultant Connection [news archive](#) for articles you may have missed.

Consultant Webinar Replays Available

Be sure to check out the [Encore Webinar Presentations](#) section on the Consultant portal to access playbacks. Topics include: Behavioral Health Strategies, Trends in Employer-Based Health Benefits, Real Appeal, Big Data, Going Global, and Delivering Network Value.