## How COVID-19 Impacts Your Employee Benefits Strategy What Employers Need to Know



## Kevin Davis

Senior Benefits Consultant & Vice President, Univest Insurance



Kevin has more than 20 years of experience in benefit sales and consulting. Kevin is known for his diligent service and dedication to being an industry expert. He provides expertise in the areas of compliance, strategic planning, employee engagement and communications.

He is a member of the National Association of Health Underwriters and serves on the Lehigh Valley Business Coalition on Healthcare Education and Wellness Committee and Life Sciences PA Human Capital Innovations Alliance.

Kevin earned his bachelors degree from St. Joseph's. He also holds the Certificate of Healthcare Reform Studies from The American College and is presently pursuing his Chartered Healthcare Consultant designation.

An active member in his local community, Kevin is a supporter for PBS39, LifePath and ArtsQuest and is a board member of Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley. In addition to being a devoted husband and father to three daughters, Kevin is an avid music collector with more than 10,000 albums.



## Ken Bertka, MD, FAAFP, CPHMS

Vice President of Clinical Integration, St. Luke's Care Network



Dr. Bertka, a family physician and clinical informaticist, is Vice President of Clinical Integration for St. Luke's Care Network - a clinically integrated network consisting of 10 hospitals, 300+ practices, 1,900 physicians/providers and several post-acute facilities across 10 counties in eastern Pennsylvania and western New Jersey.

Previously, Dr. Bertka was Chief Medical Officer of Integrated Health Network of Wisconsin, a multi-health system clinically integrated network. He held positions with Mercy Health in Ohio including Chief Medical Officer of Mercy Health Physicians and Mercy's Clinically Integrated Network in northwest Ohio, and Chief Medical Information Officer for the Northern Division of Catholic Health Partners.

Dr. Bertka spent 20 years in a five-physician family medicine practice, which he founded. He is immediate past president of the Council of Medical Specialty Societies, a past president of the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians (OAFP) and a past member of the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

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## **Tiffany Williams**

Healthcare Navigation, Alight Solutions



Tiffany Williams is the National Healthcare Navigation Specialist for small to mid-market companies in the sub 500 market with Alight Solutions. She is passionate about changing the healthcare landscape, and has spent the last 8 years in the healthcare navigation space. Tiffany started her career at Compass Professional Health Services as a Health Professional.



**5** Statewide, COVID-related hospital losses could exceed \$10 billion, according to a recent report from the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP). Even with an expected \$3.1 billion from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, HAP said, the losses could still exceed \$7 billion.

## — The Philadelphia Inquirer

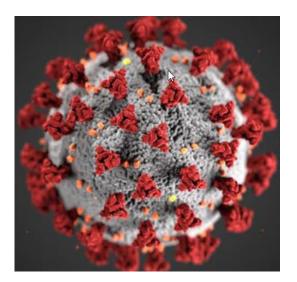
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## **COVID-19 Clinical Update:** *Care Avoidance and Delay*

June 22, 2020



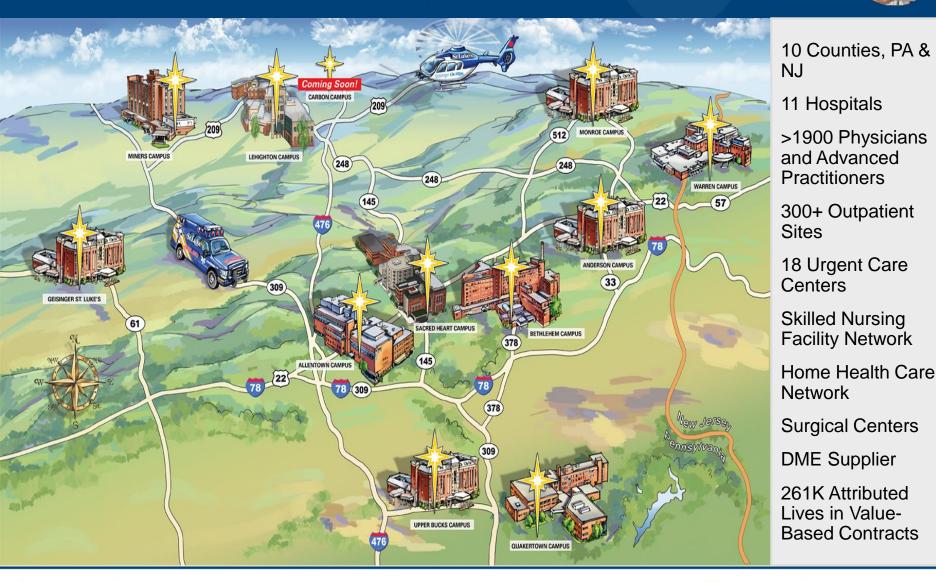
## Ken Bertka, MD, FAAFP, CPHIMS

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## St. Luke's Care Network



St. Luke's Care Network

Quality • Efficiency • Experience 7





## Urgent Care $\downarrow$ 61% Emergency Department $\downarrow$ 53%

Lab ↓64% MRI ↓80% CT ↓71%





## Inpatient Surgery $\downarrow$ 55% Outpatient Surgery $\downarrow$ 82%



## **Physician Office Visits and Preventive Care**



Primary Care Visits - ↓46% Specialist Visits - ↓43%

## At COVID-19 Peak – $\uparrow$ 75% of visits were virtual





More than 100,000

Provided by St. Luke's!

Orders for Cologuard<sup>©</sup> for colorectal cancer screening -  $\sqrt{99\%}$ 

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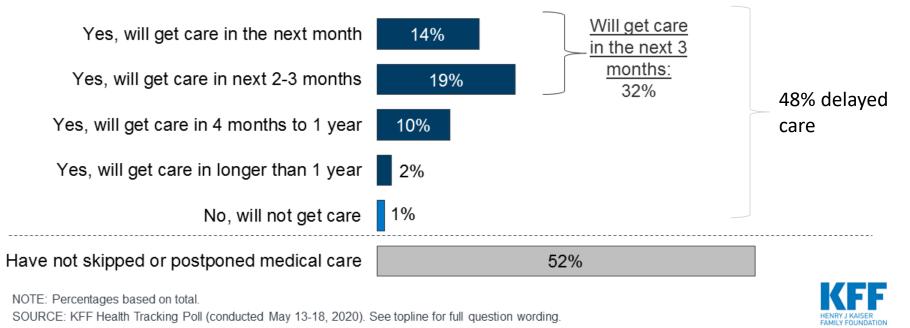
Kaiser Family Foundation Poll – 48% Delayed Care Majority of Those Plan to Make Up the Care Delayed



Figure 2

## About A Third Say They Skipped Or Postponed Medical Care Due To The Coronavirus But Will Get Needed Care In Next Few Months

<u>ASKED OF THE 48% WHO SKIPPED OR POSTPONED MEDICAL CARE:</u> Thinking about the care you or your family member skipped or postponed, do you think you will eventually get this care, or not? IF YES: Will that be in the next month, within two to three months, within four months to one year, or longer than that?

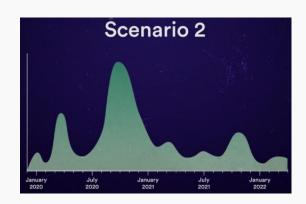


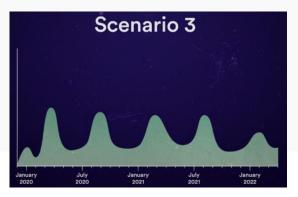
#### St. Luke's Care Network

#### Quality • Efficiency • Experience <sup>10</sup>









Source: Michael Osterholm, University of Minnesota

State News, https://www.statnews.com/2020/05/01/three-potential-futures-for-covid-19/

### COVID-19 has disrupted healthcare delivery



Measles immunizations in South Dakota 29%

of Americans have avoided care out of **fear**  35% ↓

Atrial Fibrillation hospitalizations



Access to Chronic Condition Rx is diminished

Delayed "Elective" MSK procedures risk opioid use



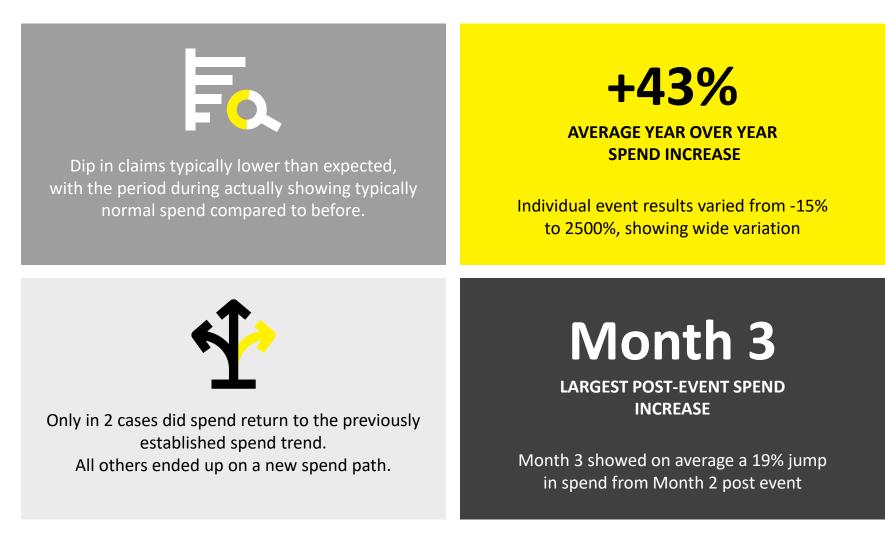
Delayed Cancer Screenings risk more severe cases



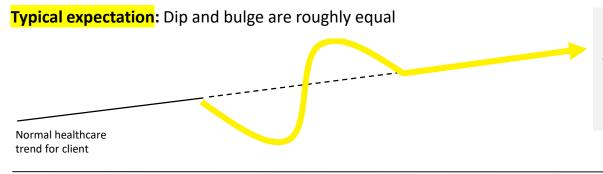
Cost effective care options will be closed the longest



### Key findings across 17 studied US disasters

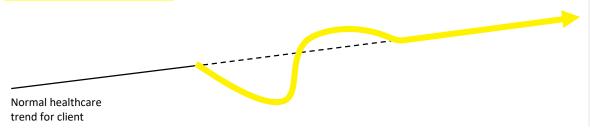


### COVID-19 healthcare spend impact study



**Explanation**: Elective procedures decrease during the pandemic, but the procedures are just delayed. The pandemic induces additional costs, but enough elective procedures are avoided to offset. As such, costs balance and return to normal within the year.

#### **Optimistic expectation**: Dip is larger than bulge

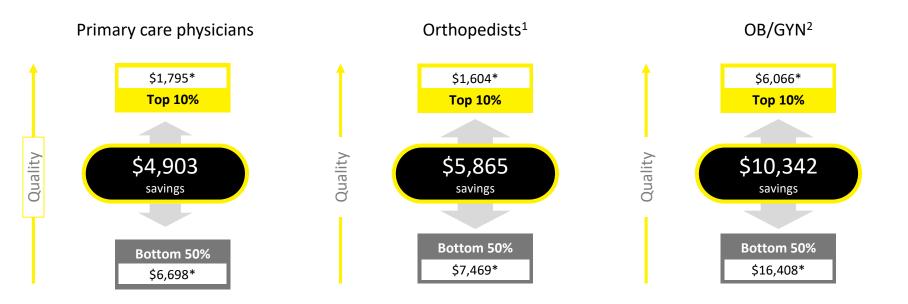


**Explanation**: Elective procedures decrease during the pandemic, and many elective procedures are avoided entirely. A smaller set of patients still do need care, but they hit the system over several months as their own financial constraints ease. As such, costs return to normal within the year and the overall plan year is lower than expected.

Most likely scenario: Bulge is larger than dip and new normal trend is set **Explanation**: Elective procedures decrease during the pandemic, but the pandemic costs offset the majority of the dip. Patients manage their care poorly during the pandemic and delayed care / treatment causes a larger surge. Limited access to cost effective care causes much of the care to be more expensive on a unit cost as well. Poor management of care resets a higher trend and new slope to the trend.

## alight

## Care path decisions unleash massive value



#### Top cost / quality drivers

- Excessive specialist referrals
- Low preventive care compliance
- Chronic population gaps-in-care
- Medication adherence gaps
- Unnecessary screenings (e.g. carotid ultrasounds)
- High ER/UC Visits

\*Total health care cost per patient per year

#### Top cost / quality drivers

- High surgery vs. therapy rates
- Subsequent Surgeries
- High facility infection rates
- Established record of doing high volumes of this procedure
- High cost facility relationships
- Excessive high cost imaging

<sup>1</sup>Cost are for Orthopedists treating arthropathies

#### Top cost / quality drivers

- High C-section rates
- Referrals to fertility specialists associated with multiple births
- Maternal / newborn mortality rates
- High cost facility relationships
- Excessive brand drug scripts
- High cost in-office labs

<sup>2</sup>Cost are for OB/GYNs performing normal deliveries



## Improving specialist care through healthcare navigation





Complex care support

Supporting you in maintaining a healthy lifestyle when facing a major health event.

Medication support

Providing medication advise and understanding through our staff pharmacists and nurses.

Helping you transition from the hospital or care facility to a home

setting.



**One Alight** 

## Three Steps to Success: A Return to Work Approach for Employers



#### **Develop Policies and Procedures**

- Consultations
- Workplace Assessments

#### **Strengthen Medical Partnership**

- On-Site Monitoring (COVID Screening)
- Return to Work Physicals (Re-Assess + Re-Condition)

#### **Adopt Wellness Solutions**

- Mental Health Services
- Dietary Support
- Fitness Guidance
- Preventative Physicals



## **Worksite Prevention and Wellness Programming**

#### **Injury Prevention**

- Customized warm-up and recovery programming
- Ergonomic assessments and solutions
- On-site injury assessment and intervention

#### <u>Wellness</u>

- Hydration and heat illness prevention
- Physical conditioning
- Work hardening







## We're Here for YOU!

To inquire about Services, including the Return to Work Program:

**Christie Polito** Account Representative St. Luke's Occupational Medicine

Christie.Polito@sluhn.org

To inquire about On-Site Prevention Programming, including COVID Screenings:

**Kyra Dodson, MS, LAT-ATC, CEAS** Worksite Injury Prevention Coordinator St. Luke's Occupational Medicine

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## **QUESTIONS?**



Insurance products are offered through Univest Insurance, LLC. and are obligations of the issuing insurance companies, are not obligations or deposits of or guaranteed by any bank and are not insured by the FDIC or any other agency of the United States. Insurance products are not a condition to any bank loan, product or service. Univest Insurance, LLC. is a licensed subsidiary of Univest Financial Corporation.

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# Thank you!

If you have additional questions, please feel free to reach out to Kevin at DavisK@univest.net

