## Cost-Sharing Balance Plans

A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE SOLUTION

### THE COST-SHARING BALANCE APPROACH

- INNOVATIVE PLAN DESIGN
- · COST-CONSCIOUS BEHAVIOR
- VALUE-BASED BENEFITS
- MEMBER EDUCATION



In response to rising medical costs and group renewal rates, employers typically consider three approaches: (1) absorb the cost increase, (2) scale back health benefits and/or (3) increase employee contributions. There is another solution. Long Island Employee Benefits Group ("LIEBG") presents: the "Cost Sharing Balance" concept.

# A group health solution to rising medical costs

## What Is the Cost-Sharing Balance Concept?

The Cost-Sharing Balance concept is group health insurance coverage with two components: (1) a primary medical plan with aggressive cost-sharing exposure (i.e., high deductibles and coinsurance) for employees who utilize certain high-cost services and (2) a supplemental indemnity plan that "fills the gap" in the primary plan by paying cash benefits to the employees with cost-sharing exposure.

The Cost-Sharing Balance design shifts expenses from the employer to the small percentage of employees who utilize certain high-cost services, which reduces medical premiums and incentivizes cost-conscious behavior. The cost-sharing exposure is then offset by the custom-designed Cost-Sharing Balance product. The result is that both employer and employee costs are minimized, and benefit structure is maintained.

#### INNOVATIVE PLAN DESIGN

The Cost-Shifting Balance plan structure includes a cost-sharing, comprehensive medical plan and a supplemental indemnity plan custom-designed to "fill the gap" in coverage.

#### COST-CONSCIOUS BEHAVIOR

The Cost-Sharing Balance plan design incentivizes employees to assess the cost, quality and relative value of provider and service options.

#### **VALUE-BASED BENEFITS**

The value-based approach encourages the use of high value-services (e.g., generics and preventive care) and healthy lifestyles.

#### MEMBER EDUCATION

LIEBG works as your partner in incentivizing employee behavior and educates employees on how to maximize their benefits under the Cost-Sharing Balance approach.



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