

# MNASCA MEMBER FORUM

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*DECEMBER 6, 2024*

# AGENDA

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- Employer market perspective
- BCBS ASC payment methodology- brief history and future goals
- Discussion & feedback

# EMPLOYER MARKET PERSPECTIVE

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Recent insights from industry employer consultants:

- Projecting 6% to 8% health plan cost increases in 2025 (highest in 13 years)
- Trends caused by a confluence of factors, including:
  - Medical & prescription drugs
  - Supply of healthcare workers vs. demand for services
  - Provider consolidation & price transparency
- Employers are taking more dramatic steps to manage their own budgets and health plan costs.
- Approximately 80% of BCBS MN commercial members are from self-funded employer groups

# ASC HYBRID METHODOLOGY

- History - BCBS sunset of EAPG's
- ASC business models vs. hospitals
- Ongoing goals with ASC methodology
  - Balanced margins & economic incentives
  - Local ASC feedback to methodology
  - Continued evaluation of ideas— bundles, surgeon incentives, etc.
  - Sustainable balance of stakeholder interests

## 2023 Flashback

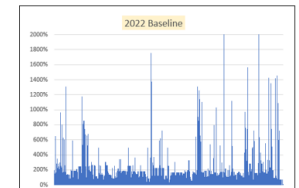
### ASC HYBRID METHODOLOGY

- BCBS MN has been sunsetting EAPGs for the past few years
  - Administrative ease, transparency, price stability, local input

- Outpatient methodology: ASCs vs Hospitals
  - More specialization & price sensitivity

- Historic commercial pricing to Medicare
  - Free of correlation

- Future Goals
  - more balanced margins
  - address economic limitations in pricing
  - ASC feedback in pricing development
  - continue to encourage ASC utilization – bundles, surgeon fees, others?
  - sustainable balance of stakeholder interests



# DISCUSSION

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- Feedback from MN ASC's is important to methodology development
  - 2024: Spinal cord stimulator, implants, & coding
  - 2023: Orthopedic surgeries, more gradual alignment to CMS
- Open mic – let us know your thoughts!