



Benefits Briefing: How Employers are Combating the Opioid Epidemic

Thursday, August 2, 2-3:30 p.m. ET

The American Benefits Council, in partnership with the Midwest Business Group on Health (MBGH), will host a webinar on **Thursday, August 2, from 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern Time**, to discuss innovative approaches that employers are taking to address the opioid epidemic as it continues to affect workers and families across the country. Public policy actions that would help employers continue to provide high-quality coverage to employees will also be discussed.

Kathryn Wilber, American Benefits Council senior counsel, health policy, and **Cheryl Larson**, MBGH president and CEO, will moderate the webinar. They will be joined by:

- [Dr. William Lopez](#), senior medical director-behavioral health, Cigna Healthcare
- [Jason Parrott](#), manager of healthcare strategy & policy, The Boeing Company
- [Sarah Bassler Millar](#), partner, Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP

The U.S. surgeon general has called on employers to "step up" to combat the opioid epidemic. This comes at a time when the costs to treat workers and their families for opioid addiction is more than \$2.6 billion per year. Learn what your company can do today. At this webinar attendees will:

- Identify ways to collaborate with health plans to impact provider prescribing patterns to address over-reliance on opioids
- Determine how to use data to identify the problem in your workforce
- Target plan design that maintain quality of care while ensuring tighter controls for dosing and quantity limits
- Ensure effective treatment is in place for those already addicted with a focus on avoiding further negative social issues and positive medical outcomes
- Gain access to an online, no-cost employer toolkit that includes ways to create the business case, efficiently manage costs (especially those related to productivity) and get recommendations on plan design, worksite policies/procedures and addiction recovery treatment
- Learn about legal issues, state laws and the impact of medical marijuana in the workplace

We will solicit feedback and take questions from webinar participants throughout the session. Members are encouraged to [submit questions for the webinar in advance](#).

A recording of this session will be sent to all registrants. Even if you will not be able to attend in person, please register to receive a digital playback of the webinar automatically.

NOTE: Participation in Council webinars may be used toward continuing education/renewal requirements for many professional accreditation programs, but only by means of self-certification. Descriptions of past programs are available by [clicking here](#). Please retain your registration confirmation for your verification records.

For questions related to registration – If you have colleagues at your organization who would like to participate in this session, but do not regularly receive Council materials, please contact [Deanna Johnson](#), senior director, membership, [Sondra Williams](#), manager, member and staff engagement, or [Mary Lindsay](#), receptionist, at (202) 289-6700.

The American Benefits Council is the national trade association for companies concerned about federal legislation and regulations affecting all aspects of the employee benefits system. The Council's members represent the entire spectrum of the private employee benefits community and either sponsor directly or administer retirement and health plans covering more than 100 million Americans.

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