

Survey Highlights and a Discussion of Today's Healthcare Cost Trends

October 5, 2023



## Today's Presenters



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PharmD, BCPS, Senior
Consultant

## Agenda

**What Drives Trend?** 

Results of 2024 Segal Health Plan Cost Trend Survey

**Survey Top Five Cost-Management Strategies** 

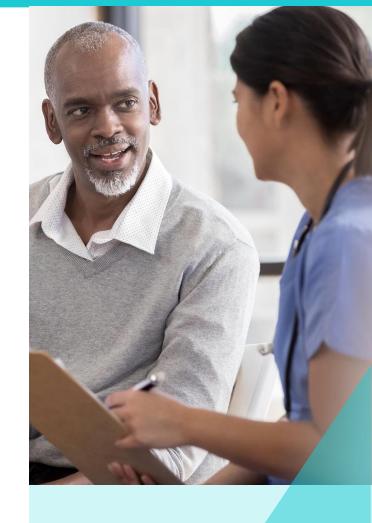
**Medical Cost Management Strategies** 

**Rx** Cost Management Strategies

**Questions?** 

#### What Drives Health Plan Trend?

- Medical inflation, Health Provider price increases
- New technologies for testing, prevention and treatment
- Increased morbidity from aging populations and rise in obesity
- Fee for Service Payment System
- Defensive medicine (e.g., excessive testing)
- Health Provider Consolidation increases costs
- Provider cost shifting from reduced payments by Medicare and Medicaid
- Erosion effect of fixed deductibles and copayments<sup>1</sup>



# Plan Sponsors' Experience May Differ from Projections

Prevalence of high cost, catastrophic claim events



Investment and use of effective cost management programs



Choice of Provider
Networks –
Non-competitive
pricing terms

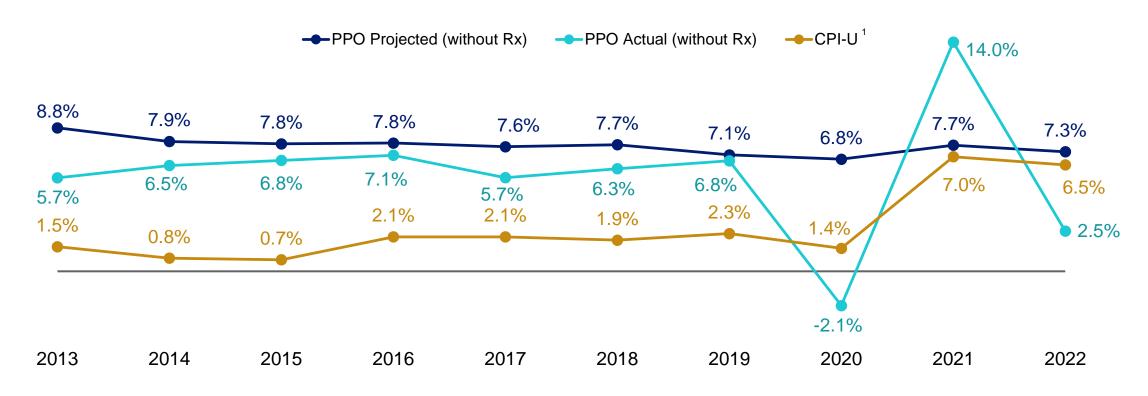


Appropriate plan design features that support effective use of lower cost treatments and providers



## Comparison of Projected to Actual PPO Trends

Comparison of Projected to Actual Trends for PPOs *For Actives and Non-Medicare Retirees*: 2013–2022

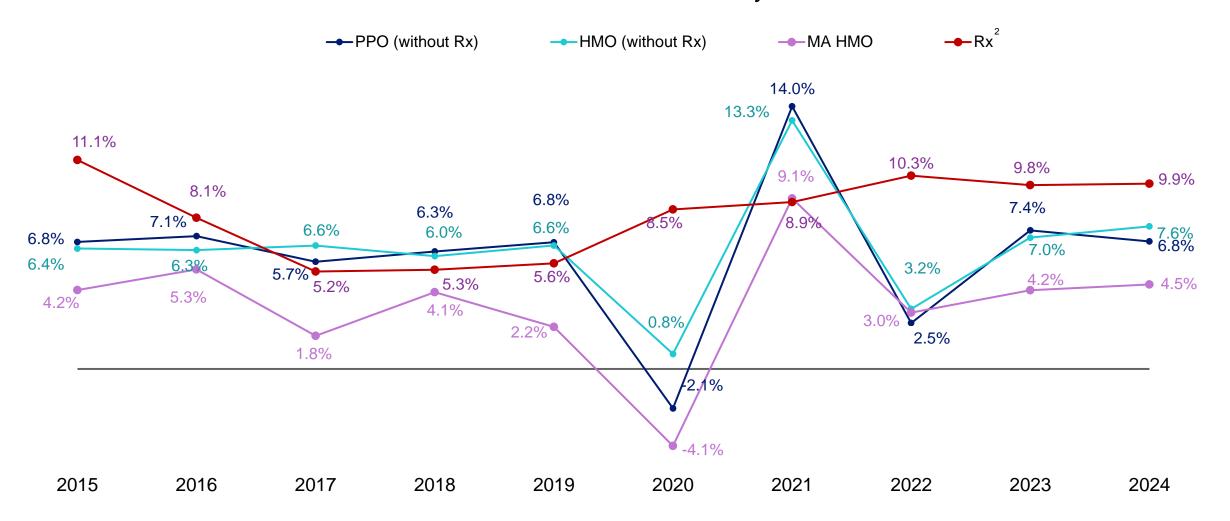


#### Results based on annual survey of Health Insurers, HMOs and TPAs.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics. (n.d.). Consumer Price Index - Historical Data. Retrieved from https://www.bls.gov/regions/mid-atlantic/data/consumerpriceindexhistorical\_us\_table.htm. CPI-U shown is as of December for each year.

## Ten-Year Summary of Selected Medical and Prescription Drug: 2015–2022 Actual and 2023 and 2024 Projected<sup>1</sup>

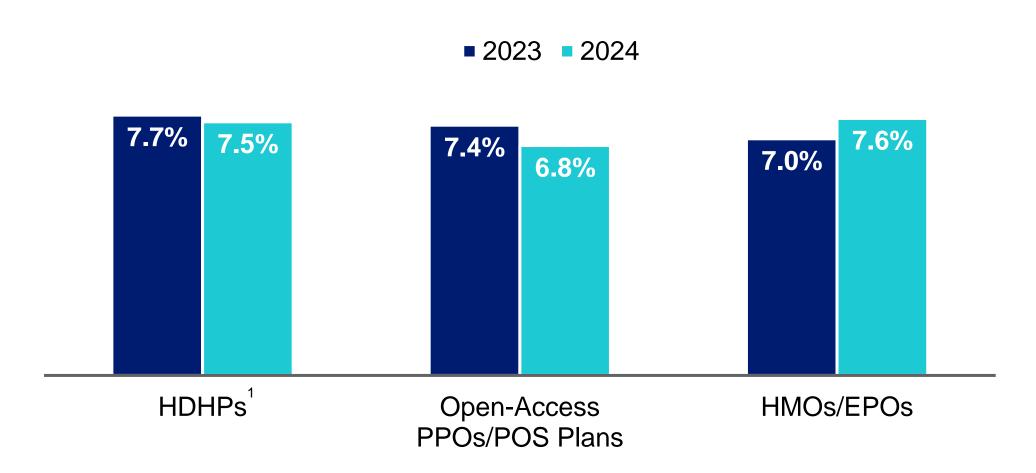




<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All trends are illustrated for actives and non-Medicare retirees, except for MA HMOs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Prescription drug trend is combined for retail and mail order delivery channels.

# Projected Medical Trends for Actives and Non-Medicare Retirees: 2023 and 2024

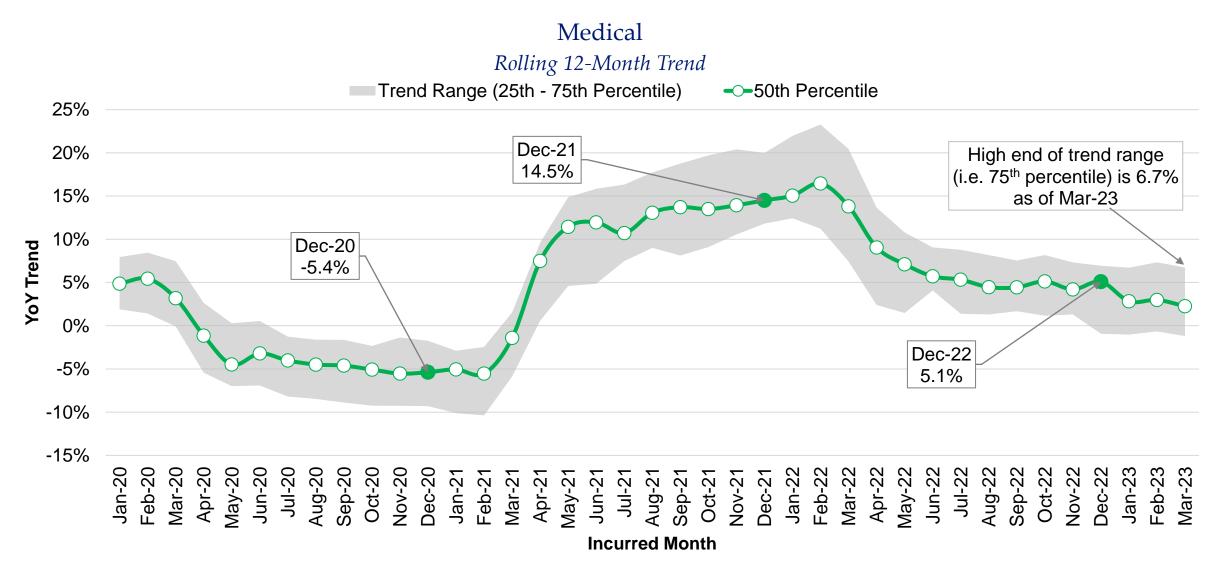




<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> HDHPs with an employee-directed, tax-advantaged health account — a health savings account (HSA) or a health reimbursement account (HRA) — are referred to as account-based health plans and are designed to encourage consumer engagement, resulting in more efficient use of health care services.

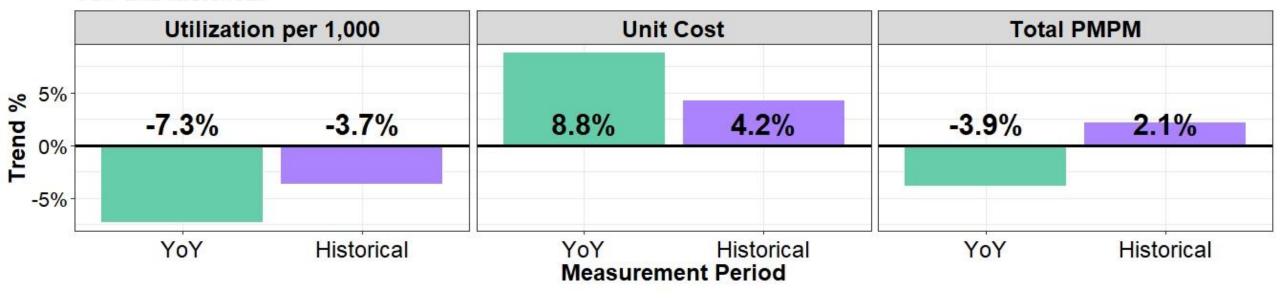
### Medical Trend Summary

% Change in Allowed PMPM



## Medical Trend Summary — Inpatient

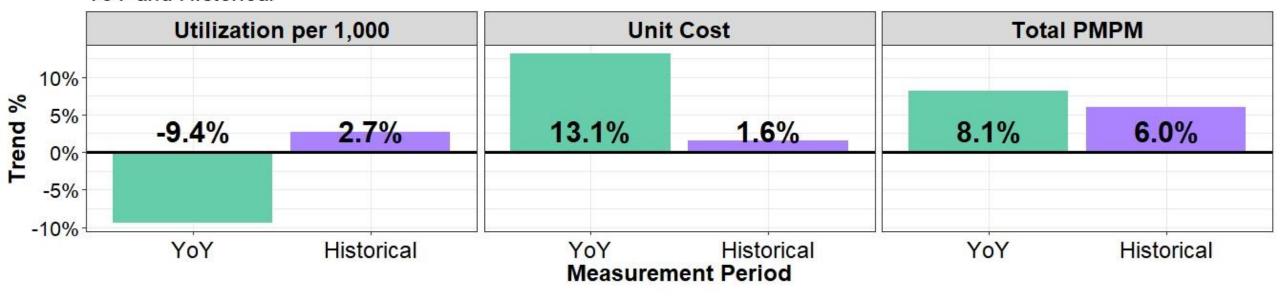
#### Inpatient Trends



- Inpatient hospital trends are being driven by unit cost increases, primarily for treatments related to cancer, heart disease, and liver disease.
- Overall costs have decreased year-over-year due to fewer admissions, primarily related to COVID-19 and musculoskeletal surgeries.

## Medical Trend Summary — Outpatient

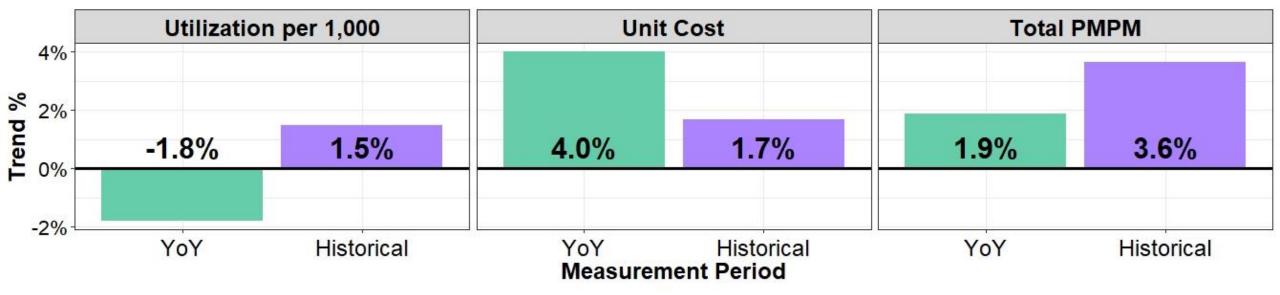
#### **Outpatient Trends**



- Outpatient hospital trends are being driven by unit cost increases, primarily for treatments related to cancer, as well as musculoskeletal surgeries.
- Utilization trends have decreased year-over-year primarily due to fewer services for treating COVID-19 and opioid-related disorders.

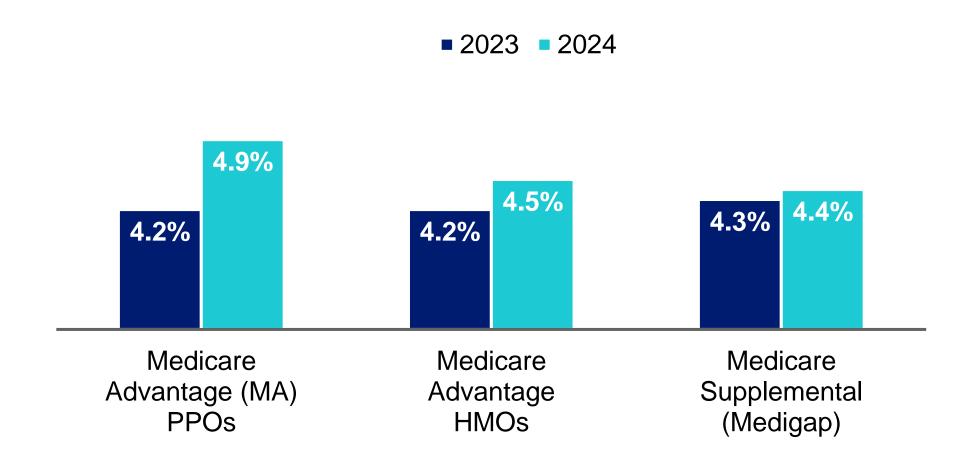
## Medical Trend Summary — Professional

#### **Professional Trends**

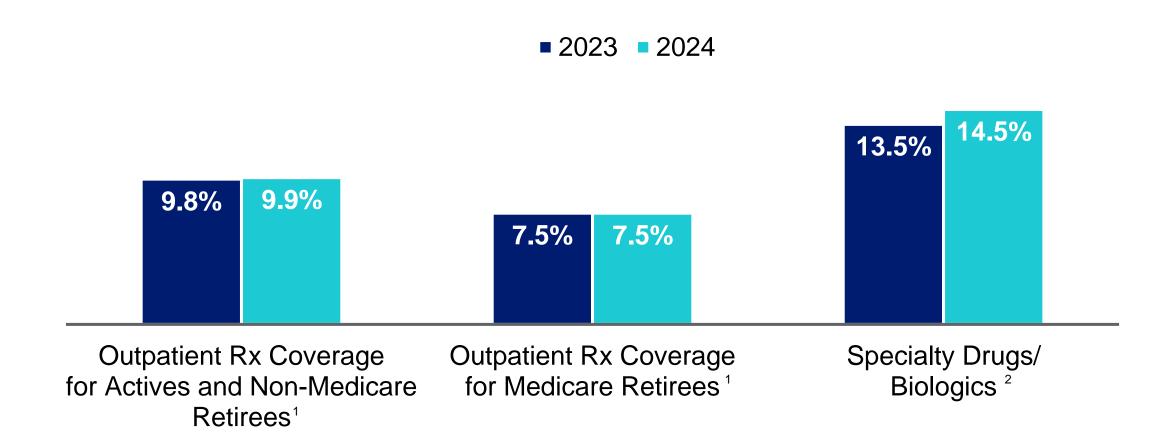


- Professional trends are being driven by unit cost increases, primarily for treatments related to cancer, communicable diseases (excluding COVID-19), and behavioral health-related conditions.
- Utilization trends have decreased year-over-year primarily due to fewer services for treating COVID-19.

# Projected Medical Trends for Medicare Retirees: 2023 and 2024



## Projected Prescription Drug Trends: 2023 and 2024

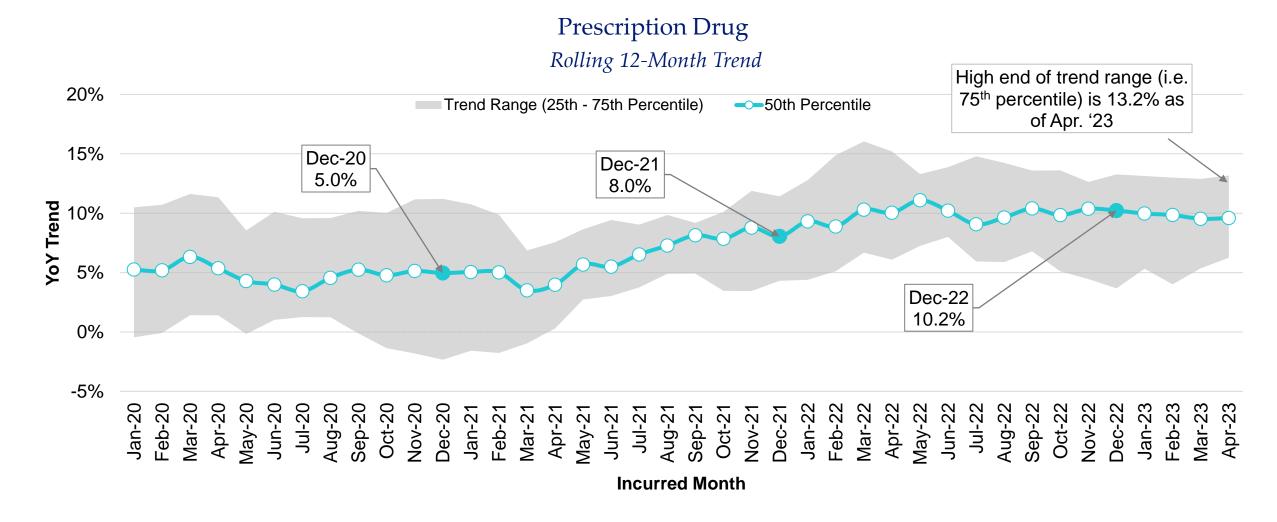


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Outpatient Rx trend is for all prescription drugs (non-specialty and specialty drugs combined) for employer sponsored plans before PBM rebates.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Specialty drug/biologics trend is for outpatient specialty coverage. This data is for all coverage of specialty drugs for participants of all ages.

## Prescription Drug Trend Summary

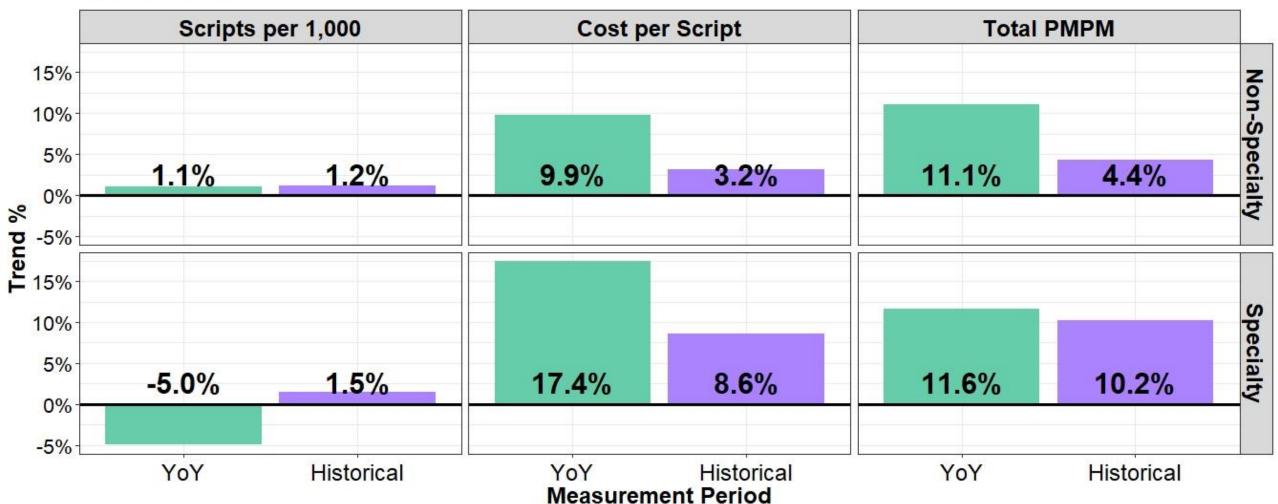
% Change in Allowed PMPM



### Prescription Drug Trend Summary

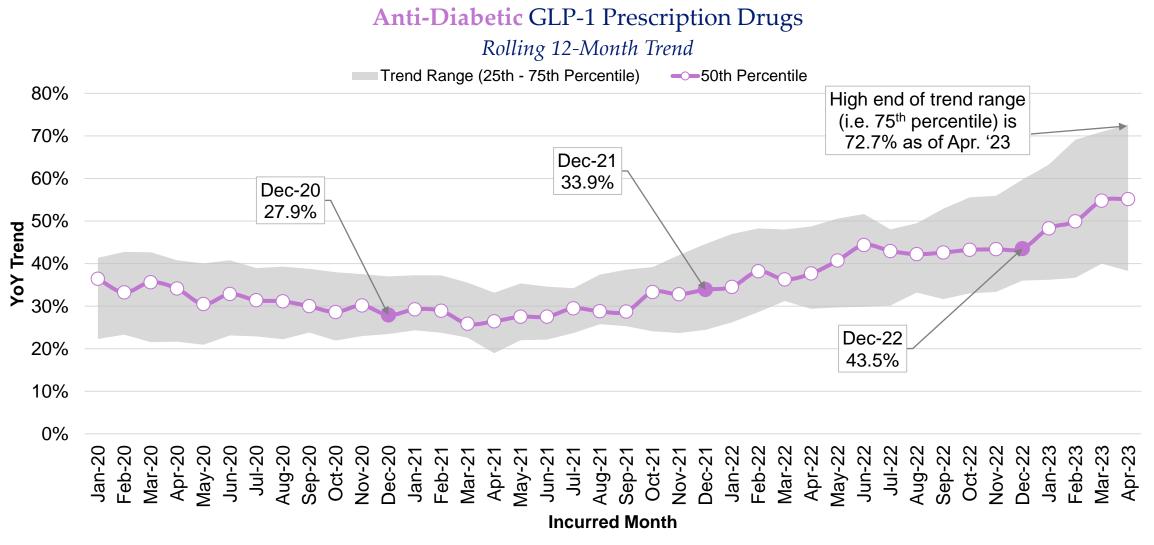
Specialty vs. Non-Specialty

#### **Prescription Drug Trends**



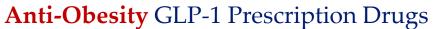
### Prescription Drug Trend Summary – GLP -1s

% Change in Allowed PMPM

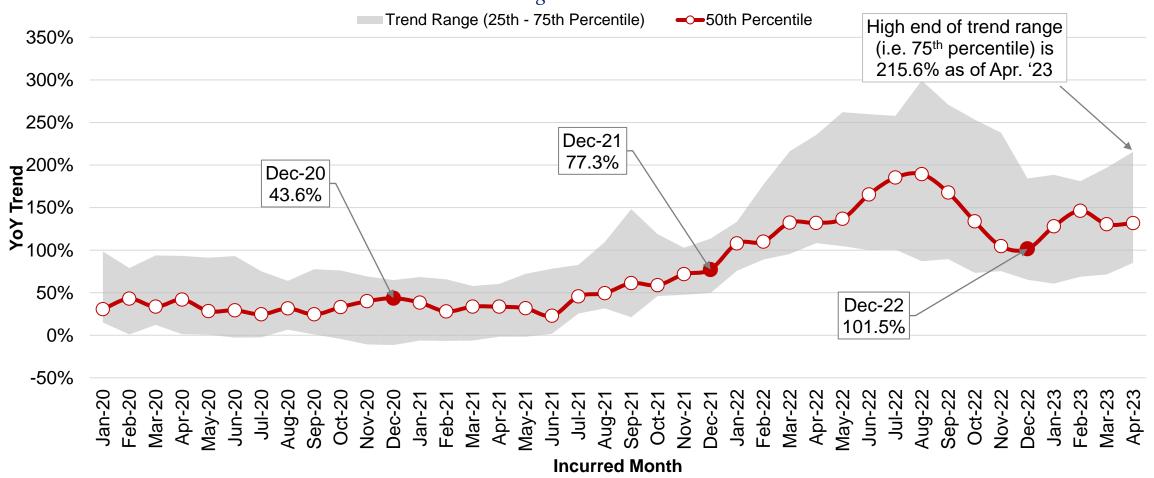


### Prescription Drug Trend Summary – GLP -1s

% Change in Allowed PMPM



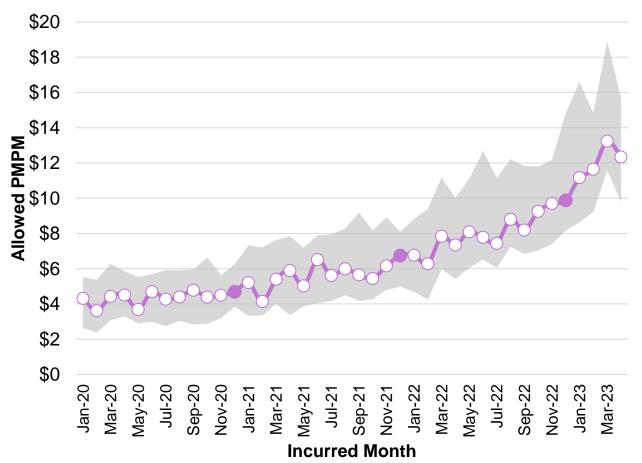
Rolling 12-Month Trend



### Prescription Drug Trend Summary – GLP -1s

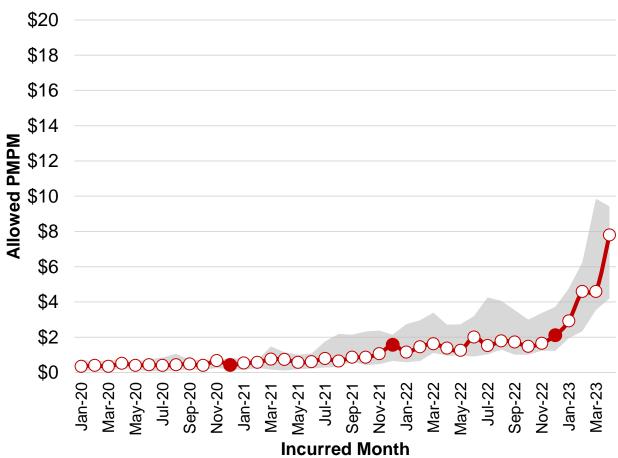
Allowed PMPM





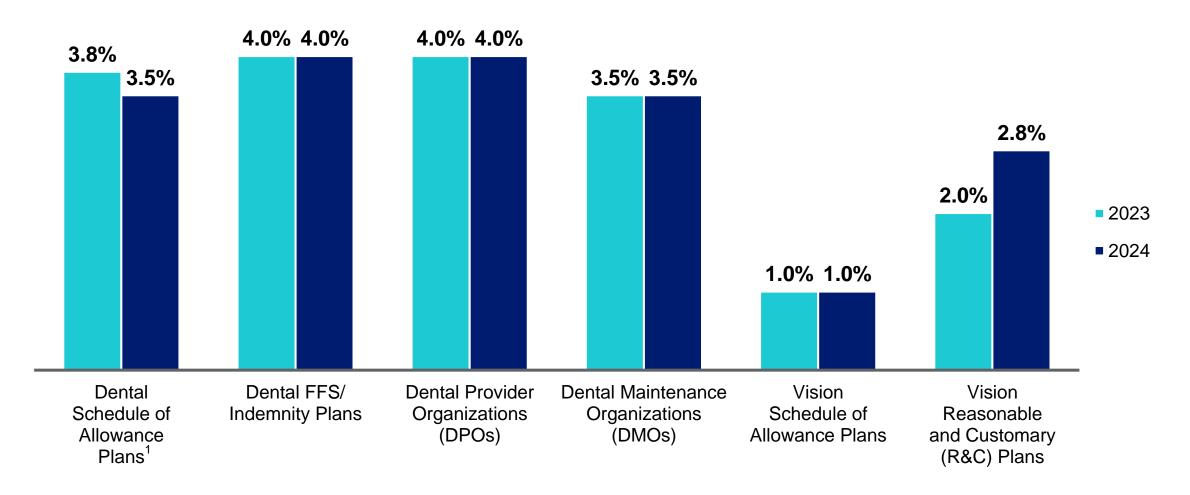
#### **Anti-Obesity** GLP-1 Prescription Drugs

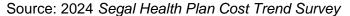
Allowed per Member per Month



**X** Segal

# Projected Dental and Vision Trends: 2023 and 2024





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A schedule of allowance plan is a plan with a list of covered services with a fixed-dollar amount that represents the total obligation of the plan.

## Survey Top 5 Cost-Management Strategies

- Adopt a high-deductible health plan
- 2 Use healthcare navigator or health advocate service
- Promote use of wellness program (e.g., offering financial incentives)
- Adopt custom or narrow drug formulary
  - Implement virtual physical consultation for primary care



Plan sponsors continue to implement various cost management strategies to help mitigate increasing health plan costs while maintaining high-quality access to care.

## Medical Cost-Management Strategies

Revisit Plan Design



Revisit Network Strategies



**Competitive Bidding** 



Enhance Behavioral Health



**Enhancing High-Cost Claimant Case Management** 



## Rx Cost Management Strategies



Plan Benefit Design









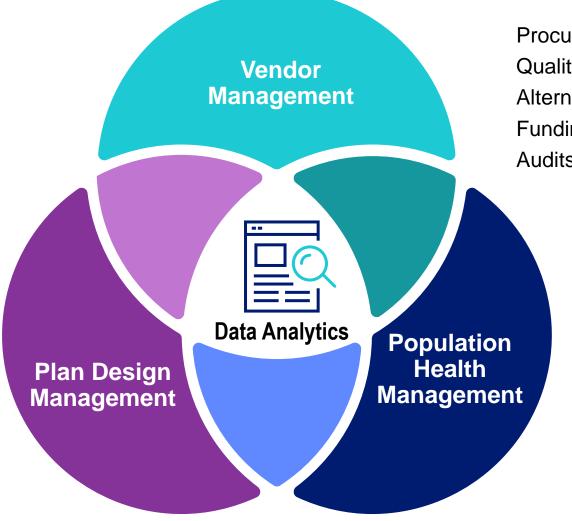
## Obesity Management Strategies

- Assess and reevaluate current obesity treatments under the medical benefit.
- Update patient education and access to lifestyle weight-loss programs
- Offer access to low-cost fitness programs
- Implement UM guidelines for all AOMs
- Require patients to be in a behavioral health management program



## Segal's Health Consulting Approach

Efficient Plan Design
Participant Choice
Eligibility Provisions
Employee Contributions
Benchmarking to Peer
Groups



Procurement/Contracting
Quality Provider Networks
Alternative Delivery Models
Funding Arrangements
Audits/Ongoing Monitoring

Culture Change
Individual Behavior
Modification/Incentives
Digital Therapeutics
Virtual Primary Care
Communications
Health Status Metrics

Data → Insight → Action

## Questions?





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