

Private Health Insurance Basics 2016

Fact sheet overviews

Fact sheet

1

Overview of private health insurance coverage (4 pages)

- What is health insurance?
- Private health insurance coverage
- Health coverage landscape in Ohio
- What does it mean to be uninsured?
- How does health insurance work?

What is health insurance?

Health insurance is a contract between an individual or group and a health insurance issuer (i.e. health plan issuer), where premium payments are made to the issuer in exchange for the issuer's payment of healthcare expenses for individuals covered by the issuer's health plan (also referred to as covered individuals or health plan enrollees).

Fact sheet

2

Private health insurance regulation (2 pages)

- State regulation of private health insurance
- Federal regulation of private health insurance

State regulation of private health insurance

Health insurance is primarily regulated at the state level. State regulations address issues including health insurance issuer licensing, business practices, market conduct, rate review, benefit mandates and consumer protections. However, the breadth and scope of health insurance regulations vary by state.

Fact sheet

3

Summary of Affordable Care Act (ACA) reforms (4 pages)

- Overview of the ACA
- ACA reforms on obtaining/maintaining coverage
- ACA reforms on premium rate setting
- ACA reforms on covered services and cost-sharing limits
- ACA reforms on consumer protections

Overview of the ACA

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, enacted in 2010, established a series of minimum federal standards governing the issuance of and access to private health insurance coverage, health plan benefit structures and outlining consumer protections. The majority of the ACA health insurance reforms took effect on Jan. 1, 2014.

Fact sheet

4

Non-group (individual/family) coverage and the Affordable Care Act health insurance marketplace (8 pages)

- Non-group (individual/family) coverage
- Individual mandate (individual shared responsibility provision)
- ACA health insurance marketplace

Non-group (individual/family) coverage

Individuals and families can purchase non-group health insurance coverage from:

- A private health insurance issuer
- An insurance agent, broker or online
- A private exchange
- The federally mandated ACA health insurance marketplace (exchange)

Fact sheet
5

Employer-sponsored health insurance (ESI) (4 pages)

- Employer-sponsored health insurance coverage
- Fully insured vs. self-insured coverage
- Employer-sponsored health insurance trends
- Employer shared responsibility provision (employer mandate)
- Small business health options program
- Cadillac tax

Employer-sponsored health insurance coverage

Employer-sponsored health insurance is offered by employers to their employees and sometimes their spouse and dependents as part of an employee's compensation package.

Fact sheet
6

Current policy issues impacting the private health insurance market (8 pages)

- Policy issues overview
- Proliferation of high deductible health plans
- Consumer price and quality tools
- Paying for value
- Value-based insurance design
- Ensuring network adequacy and transparency
- Three R's of the Affordable Care Act
- Mergers and consolidations across health insurers and providers

Policy issues overview

Policy issues related to health insurance coverage and affordability are primarily driven by rising healthcare costs, changes in market competition and implementation of ACA reforms. This fact sheet outlines policy issues impacting the private health insurance market, including affordability and access to coverage.



Glossary and resources (4 pages)

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Acknowledgments

HPIO acknowledges **Doug Anderson** of Bailey Cavalieri LLC for his contributions to the fact sheets.

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