

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 31, 2016

Contact: Kara Jones
(202) 375-5012

kjones@americanhealthpolicy.org

Study Reveals Large Employers' Top Challenges in Providing Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance

American Health Policy Institute Outlines Top Concerns of CHRO Offering Health Benefits to Employees

Washington, D.C. – Today, the American Health Policy Institute (AHPI) releases its new study, “State of Employer-Sponsored Health Care, Part 1: Top Concerns of CHROs and Their Teams,” which analyzes chief human resource officers’ (CHROs) most pressing concerns regarding the employer-sponsored health care system.

Dr. Tevi Troy, CEO of AHPI said, “After passage of the Affordable Care Act, many experts predicted that employers would opt out of offering health insurance and focus instead on providing defined contributions and directing employees to individual health insurance and the public marketplace. So far, these predictions have not coming to fruition. The majority of Americans still get coverage via their employer: about 54 percent of U.S. residents with health insurance—or 169 million people. However, as the study demonstrates, critical changes are needed to ensure employees receive the best care and to protect them from spiraling cost hikes.”

AHPI interviewed 25 CHROs and senior benefit managers from some of the largest companies in America, including Marriott, Shell, International Paper and Michelin, to discover their thoughts on employer-sponsored health insurance (ESI). The vast majority of these representatives of large employers indicate that they are committed to maintaining ESI as an essential benefit for employees. These experts voiced many concerns, but at the same time expressed many more exciting opportunities for innovation.

“It is clear from this series of interviews that the employer based health care system is unlikely to disappear at any point in the foreseeable future. Moreover, the interviews reveal that senior executives remain committed to the employer based health system for a variety of reasons,” said Dr. Troy.

At the same time, it is also evident that CHROs and their teams have significant concerns about cost, quality, and levels of consumer engagement among their employees. Furthermore, senior human resource executives also worry about the policy environment, and what might be coming down the pike to complicate their efforts. In addition, technology is seen a significant potential game changer, albeit one that has not yet been fully realized. In sum, employers are committed to the ESI system but also that they recognize changes need to be made if that commitment is to continue.

Press Release

The second installment of “State of Employer-Sponsored Health Care” will explore the steps employers are actively taking to address the problems defined in Part 1, and what the future holds for ESI.

To view the full study, please visit the following link:

http://www.americanhealthpolicy.org/Content/documents/resources/ESI_CHRO_Concerns_2016.pdf

a16-03

###

American Health Policy Institute (AHPI) is a non-partisan 501(c)(3) think tank, established to examine the impact of health policy on large employers, and to explore and propose policies that will help bolster the ability of large employers to provide quality, affordable health care to employees and their dependents. The Affordable Care Act has catalyzed a national debate about the future of health care in the United States, and AHPI serves to provide thought leadership grounded in the practical experience of America’s largest employers. -To learn more, visit americanhealthpolicy.org.