



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Minnesota Health Action Group hosts 10th Annual Employer Leadership Summit

Employers, health care experts, and health care organizations will focus on putting the affordable back into health care

BLOOMINGTON, MN (April 3, 2017) — With nearly one-fifth of America's economy currently spent on health care, it is more important than ever to shine a spotlight on rising costs and identify innovative strategies to make health care affordable again. Those topics will take center stage at the [Minnesota Health Action Group's](#) May 19 conference, the [10th annual Employer Leadership Summit](#).

The Summit has become the premiere employer health care event in Minnesota. The event, which will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Westin Edina Galleria in Edina, MN, draws more than 200 Minnesota employers, health care experts, and health care companies looking to discuss today's most pressing health care issues. Topics include health plan performance, negotiating the uncertain waters of the Affordable Care Act, eliminating health care waste, and finding real-world solutions to stop chronic conditions, such as diabetes.

"Health care costs continue to be a significant concern for employers and individuals who purchase health care, and this needs to be addressed quickly," said Carolyn Pare, president and CEO of The Action Group. "The Summit brings together some of the brightest minds in health care with visionary business leaders and entrepreneurs to discuss how to keep Minnesota moving forward and improving health care for people in all corners of our state."

The Summit fosters important discussions for employers of all sizes, as well as corporate leaders, benefits professionals, health care policy leaders, health plan executives, and health care providers. The event features thought-provoking presentations from expert speakers and panelists, including:

- Andy Slavitt, most recently acting administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) under President Obama (2015-2017);
- Helen Darling, interim president and CEO, National Quality Forum;
- Dr. Steve Parente, Minnesota Insurance Industry chair of health finance, Carlson School of Management;
- Ken Horstman, senior director of total compensation, University of Minnesota;
- Dom Lorusso, director of health partnerships, Consumer Reports;
- Keith Cook, vice president, MedImpact Direct Specialty;

- Stefan Gildemeister, state health economist and health economics program director, Minnesota Department of Health; and
- Macaran Baird, M.D., M.S., professor and head, University of Minnesota Department of Family Medicine and Community Health.

In addition to the full lineup of speakers, the popular Innovators' Showcase will return this year to highlight unique new health care solutions from some of the field's most creative minds. Registration for Minnesota Health Action Group members is \$99 before April 21 and \$199 thereafter. The cost for non-members is \$199 before April 21 and \$299 thereafter.

This year's Summit is sponsored by: Aetna, Aon Hewitt, Best Doctors, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, Diplomat, GeoBlue, Grand Rounds, Healthstat, Livongo, Medica, MedImpact Healthcare Systems, Minnesota Community Measurement, Optum Rx, PreferredOne, Prime Therapeutics, RetraceHealth, RxTE Health, Smart Choice MRI, Solera Health, Trivida Health, Twin Cities Orthopedics, and WeCare TLC.

For more information or to register visit www.actiongroupsummit.com.

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About the Minnesota Health Action Group

The Minnesota Health Action Group is a coalition of public and private purchasers whose sole purpose is to represent the collective voice of those who write the checks for health care in Minnesota. Action Group members collaborate with community stakeholders to drive innovations that support high-quality health care, create engaged consumers, and ensure the economic vitality of all Minnesota communities. Based in Bloomington, MN, the Minnesota Health Action Group was formed in 1988 as the Buyers Health Care Action Group. To learn more, visit MNHealthActionGroup.org. Follow on LinkedIn and Twitter: @actiongroupmn.

For more information:

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