

# A Legacy of Innovation and Influence

1988

## THE EARLY YEARS AND CHOICE PLUS

Originally focused on responding to health care benefits legislation, the coalition evolved help to employers *fundamentally change how health care works*. From this vision came the design and infrastructure for Choice Plus, a groundbreaking new health plan that empowered consumer choice and paid providers based on cost and quality measures.

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## MN BRIDGES TO EXCELLENCE (MNBTE)

This purchaser-led, pay-for-performance program rewarded clinics for meeting or exceeding strict care standards for patients with diabetes, vascular disease, and depression. Through MNBTE, measurement and public reporting grew, patient outcomes improved, and over \$6.5 million in reward payments were made by employers. MNBTE was distinguished by collaboration, high standards, simplicity, transparency, and continuous improvement.

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## INNOVATION AND NATIONAL COLLABORATION

The coalition cemented its position as a thought leader through:

- *eValue8: One of the founding “6-pack” for this quality assurance and transparency initiative.*
  - *Leapfrog Group: A “founding frog” in this hospital transparency initiative to improve safety and quality.*
  - *Key roles in the SmartBuy Alliance, Health Reform and QCare, Aligning Forces for Quality, MN Chartered Value Exchange, MN eHealth Initiative, NQF, Choosing Wisely, NDPP, Honoring Choices, and more.*
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## FOCUSED LEARNING AND ACTION

Employers united to understand high-cost, high-variability health care issues, including back pain and surgery, maternity and infertility, total joint replacement, specialty pharmacy, and mental health. This work delivered lasting market change through purchaser leverage. Through Guiding Coalitions, employers engaged other stakeholders to “*Get the 5 Rights, Right*” for specialty drugs and advance “*The Path Forward*” for Mental Health and Substance Use.

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## ENDURING LEGACY

The work can live on through:

- *Employers who continue to challenge the status quo and embrace the high standards that were fundamental to the coalition’s work.*
- *Organizations that were formed or strengthened by the coalition.*
- *Forward-thinking partners who believe purchasers can drive high-value, whole-person care.*

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