



Changing The Way Employers Buy Health Care

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Colorado Business Group on Health Awarded Two Grants for Diabetes Prevention

*-Centers for Disease Control grants will fund development of tool to assess economics of
Diabetes Prevention Program-*

DENVER, CO - June 5, 2015 - The [Colorado Business Group on Health](http://www.cbgh.org) (CBGH) has won two grants for a total of \$98,000 from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to aid diabetes prevention efforts. CBGH will use the grants to encourage employers to adopt a CDC-recognized Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) as a covered health benefit by developing an economic assessment tool to measure the program's value.

According to the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE), more than one-third of adult Coloradans are pre-diabetic, and in 2012 the number of diabetics soared to 7.4 % of all Coloradans. More than half of Coloradans with diabetes were diagnosed when they were 18-54 years of age and more than 100,000 could be unaware that they have diabetes.

The *Diabetes Prevention Program Employer Outreach and Economic Assessment Tool* will be developed in partnership with the University of Colorado. As part of the grants, CBGH will collaborate with five self-funded public employers who will use the DPP and test the tool's effectiveness in evaluating the program. The goal is for the CDPHE to use the completed tool to promote the DPP. Eventually, other employers could also apply the tool to analyze the value of the program.

"The key to making the Diabetes Prevention Program a sustainable initiative is to convince self-funded public employers to not only make the program a covered benefit, but to encourage their employees to participate. We hope our tool will help with that effort," said CBGH Associate Director Robert Smith. The tool should be complete by the end of June 2015.

About the Colorado Business Group on Health

The Colorado Business Group on Health (CBGH) is an innovative non-profit organization that aims to change the way employers buy health care. Since 1996, CBGH has been helping forward thinking Colorado employers get more value for their health care dollars, reduce the upward cost spiral and improve employee health. Through programs, pilot projects and studies, CBGH is the voice of market-based, employer driven approaches to lowering costs and improving quality.

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