



EVOLVING NETWORK SOLUTIONS*

A QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

What network solution or combination of solutions is right for your business? Use this guide to gain a high-level understanding of how they work.

Centers of Excellence



WHAT:

Centers of Excellence (COEs) give your employees access to providers with excellent performance in delivering care for complex conditions and procedures.



WHY:

COEs deliver better outcomes for your employees and reduce the cost of care.

COEs ARE USED BY **88%**
OF LARGE EMPLOYERS¹



KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- How extensive is the historical performance data?
- What quality standards are applied?
- How significant are the cost differences for each specialty?

Tiered Networks



BEST

BETTER

GOOD

WHAT:

Providers in these networks are tiered by performance. Top-tier providers deliver better outcomes at a lower cost.



WHY:

Guiding employees to top-tier providers promotes quality and reduces total cost of care.

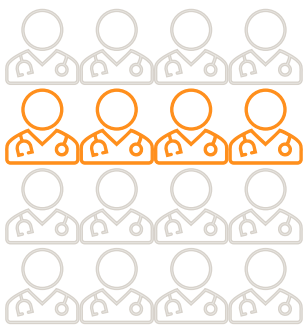
TIERED NETWORKS ARE USED BY **17%**
OF MIDSIZE TO LARGE EMPLOYERS²



KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- Are both cost and quality standards consistently applied?
- What utilization assumptions were used to project savings?
- Are the tiers overly restrictive?
- Are incentives strong enough to encourage selection of top-tier providers?

Narrow Networks



WHAT:

Narrow networks limit participation to providers who've agreed to lower fees in return for patient volume and/or who've shown to deliver care at lower costs.



WHY:

Contracting lower per unit costs and limiting employee access to select in-network providers can generate substantial savings.

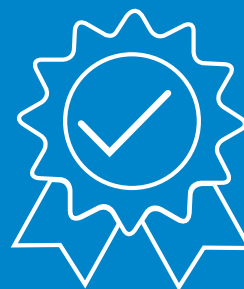
NARROW NETWORKS ARE USED BY **28%**
OF LARGE EMPLOYERS²



KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- Is quality of care appropriately emphasized?
- How many employees will be impacted by reducing in-network providers?
- Are you prepared to handle employee feedback and/or dissatisfaction in these cases?

High-Performance Networks



WHAT:

These networks limit access to, and/or promote providers who achieve quality outcomes at a lower cost compared with other providers.



WHY:

Ensures your employees are seeing high-quality providers while also reducing total cost of care.

HIGH-PERFORMANCE NETWORKS ARE USED BY **16%**
OF LARGE EMPLOYERS³



KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- Are there well-defined and rigorous quality standards, using sufficient data, applied across all providers?
- Are you offering side-by-side with a PPO which may negate effectiveness due to self-selection?

Have questions about value-based care? Capital BlueCross is here to help you get the most value from these programs.

* For illustrative purposes only. Not intended to reflect any specific network. Network features and purpose will vary.

1. National Business Group on Health, 2019 Large Employers' Health Care Strategy and Plan Design Survey
2. Kaiser Family Foundation Employer Health Benefits 2018 Annual Survey
3. Willis Towers Watson 23rd Annual Best Practices in Health Care Employer Survey

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