

NHP Pharmacy Programs:

Improving Cost Management and Quality

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nhp.org

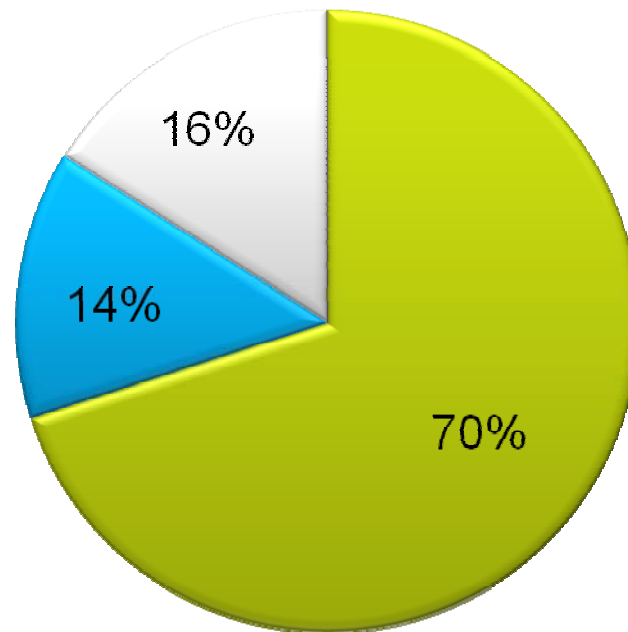


**Neighborhood
Health Plan™**

Your health. Our promise.

Neighborhood Health Plan

200,000 Total Members in Massachusetts



■ Medicaid ■ Commercial ■ CommonwealthCare

Neighborhood Health Plan

- NCQA certification achieved with excellent rating for Medicaid & Commercial lines of business
- Ranked by *US News & World Report/NCQA* as one of top 5 Medicaid health plans nationally 2008-09 & 2009-10
- 60% of enrollees get their care in CHCs

Mandatory Generics

- Member must have tried & failed generic before brand name drug is covered
- Requires letter of medical necessity from prescribing clinician
- NHP generic fill rate is 81% for MassHealth members

Step Therapy Programs

- Automated form of prior authorization based on point of service review of claims data
- Applied to most significant therapeutic classes except antipsychotics
- Lack of pharmacy claims data for new members a drawback
- Identification & outreach to members turned away has begun

Example of Step Therapy

HMG-CoA Reductase Inhibitors Step Therapy Program

Medications	First-Line Drugs	Second-Line Drugs	Third-Line Drugs and Brand Name Drugs
	lovastatin pravastatin simvastatin	Atoprev Crestor Lescol/XL	Lipitor Vytorin

Quantity Limits: Dose Consolidation Program

- Medications often are not priced by strength
 - Example: **Abilify**
 - 10mg tablet priced at \$16.16
 - 5mg tablet priced at \$16.16
 - Savings \$16.16 per dose
- Limits the number of units dispensed per month to ensure safe & appropriate use

Over the Counter Coverage

- NHP covers OTC medications for cough, cold, allergy, and stomach acid
- Less expensive and equally effective as prescription alternative
- Examples: Prilosec OTC, Claritin OTC, Zyrtec OTC, and (soon) Prevacid OTC
- Improves step therapy automation because OTC via documentation in pharmacy claims system

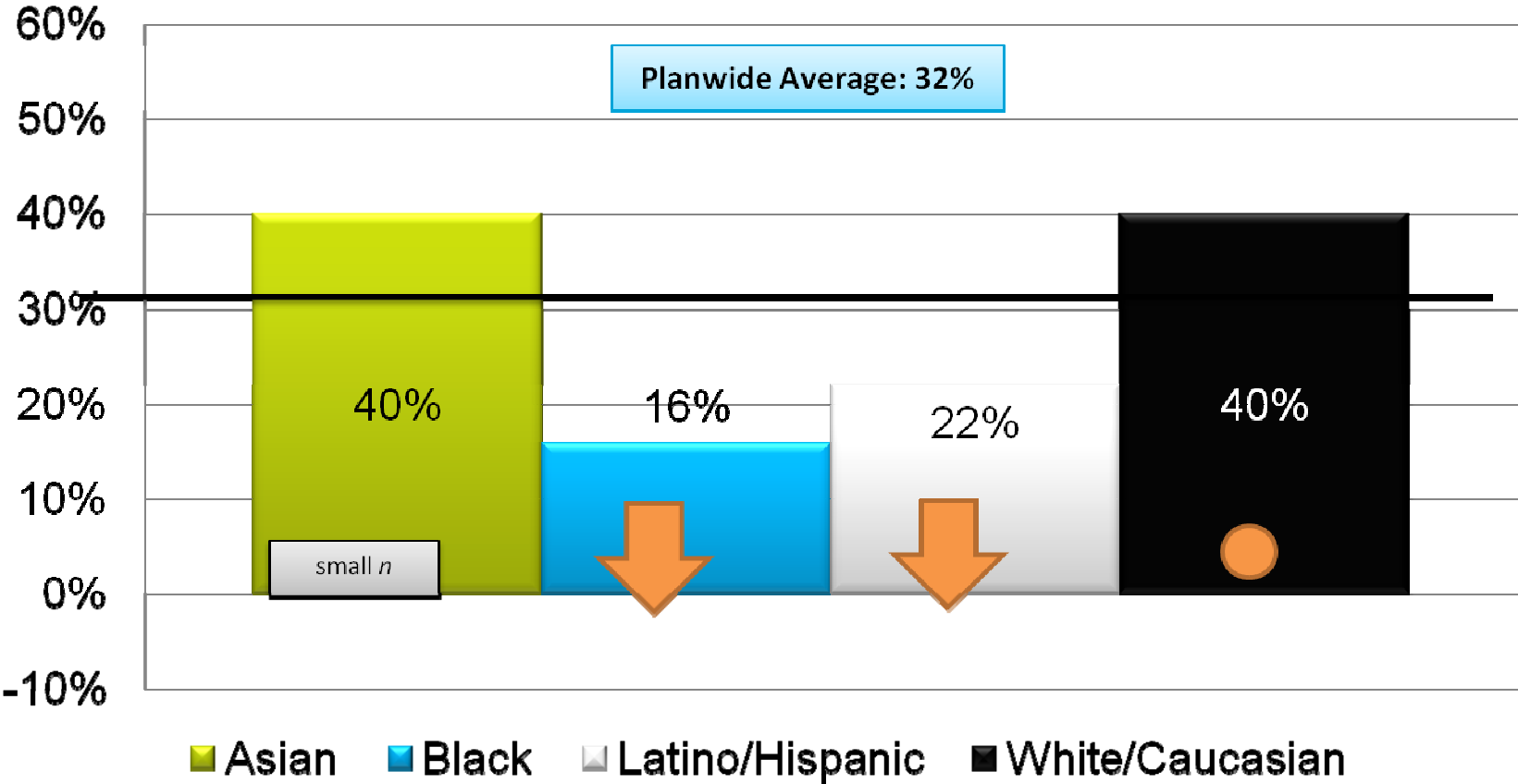
Specialty Pharmacy: Injectable Contracting

- High cost medications, mostly injectables
- Expertise in administration and side effect counseling
- Improves compliance with refill reminders
- Increased support for members via 24/7 specialized nursing and pharmacist support
- Selective contracting, e.g. growth hormone: 40% cost reduction via use of 2 preferred products

Synagis (Palivizumab) Program

- PA based on nationally published guidelines
- Strict use of guidelines for doses and length of season results in annual savings of greater than \$750,000
- NHP undertakes an annual review of approvals and denials including potentially related medical costs from RSV infection

Antidepressant Medication Management: Continuation Phase by Race/Ethnicity



Psychotropic Drug Intervention Program

- Patient safety & quality of care initiative
- Collaboration between Pharmacy & Behavioral Health teams to improve prescribing practices and member compliance
- Targeting antipsychotics, antidepressants & ADHD drugs
- Outreach to members when poor refill compliance identified
- Outreach to prescribers when multiple medications in same class or conflicting medications are evident
- Often multiple prescribers are unaware of other prescriptions issued

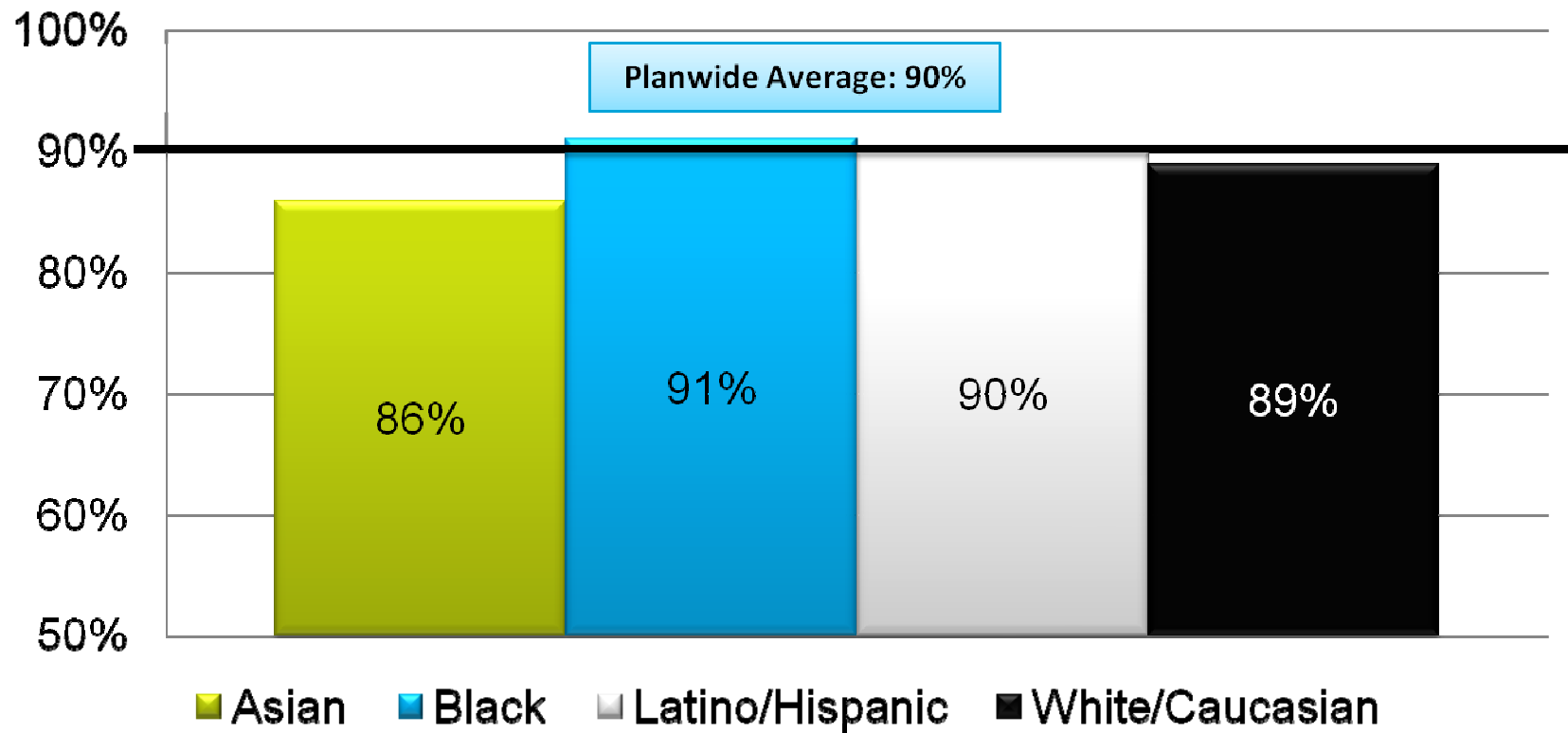
Preferred Glucometer Program

- NHP spending \$1.5 million on blood glucose test strips & glucometers through pharmacy & DME benefit
- Selected a single vendor for glucometers & test strips
- Administered now exclusively via pharmacy benefit
- Annual savings expected to be approximately \$600,000 by increasing rebates
- Complexity associated with reaching, training & switching all existing diabetics

Retrospective Drug Utilization Review

- Allows NHP to provide feedback to PCPs or prescribers about medication utilization by specific members
- Psychoactive medications in pediatric members
- High utilizers of controlled substances
- Asthma rescue vs. controller medications

Use of Appropriate Medications for Asthma by Race/Ethnicity



Access 90

- Mail order rates at retail pharmacies
- Allows 90 day supply of maintenance medications at selected network retail pharmacies
- Negotiated lower pharmacy reimbursement rates similar to mail order pharmacy

Thank you