



## Healthcare Revolution – The Patient is The New Payer

**Positioning your revenue cycle for success**

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### Learning Objectives

- ☐ Closely examine the patient as a payer, through their eyes, and identify the challenges we face in transparency, consumerism, and affordability
- ☐ Grasp the evolution of the revenue cycle and articulate the barriers and opportunities in meeting the patient as a payer
- ☐ Explore what is next for the U.S. healthcare market and discuss some necessary changes in legislation, delivery, and funding in order to meet patients where they are as consumers





Revenue leakage market forces		TransUnion
	<b>May the legislative force(s) be with you...</b> ACA "reconciliation", CMS waivers, block grants, proposed Medicaid cuts, Tax reform, 501r and state transparency laws will all have major implications	
	<b>Diluting reimbursement:</b> Reimbursement Rates from all payers are continuing to decline putting financial stress on providers. Hospital Bad Debt is projected to exceed \$50 Billion by 2025.	
	<b>Revenue Leakage:</b> Revenue leakage is a pervasive and urgent problem for healthcare providers. Timely filling denials and inefficiencies in the eligibility verification process contribute to lost revenue and cash	
	<b>Pay me now or pay me later, but please pay:</b> Revenue leakage cannot occur in a value-based care world. 1% to 5% of all uncompensated care accounts have billable third party coverage unknown to the hospital or its vendors	
	<b>Data Integrity Issues:</b> Insufficient, inaccurate, disparate and missing data in either the Hospital or Payer databases, prevents optimized collections of earned revenue.	

Source: TransUnion, Paul Kaiser, AHA UC Stat sheet, TriZetto - Health Management Technology

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## Healthcare Revolution: The Patient is the New Payer™

- How we got here
- Where are we now
- What happens next
- The Patient is the New Payer™
- Industry best practices for world class revenue cycle performance



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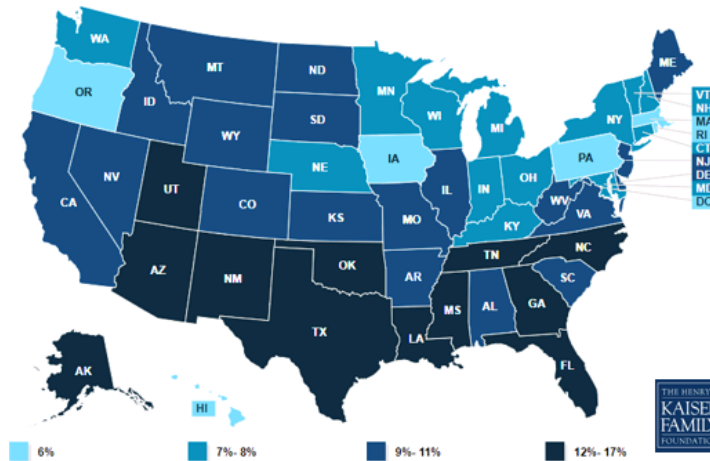
## The Patient is the New Payer<sup>SM</sup>

How we got here





## Uninsured rates by State 2016



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## Chronic disease represents 90% of healthcare costs

*From Chapter 2: Unhealthy Nation*

“ Commit these numbers to memory: **half** of American adults have **one chronic disease**, and **one in four** have **two or more conditions**, representing almost **90% of all U.S. healthcare costs** (ninety percent, people!) ”

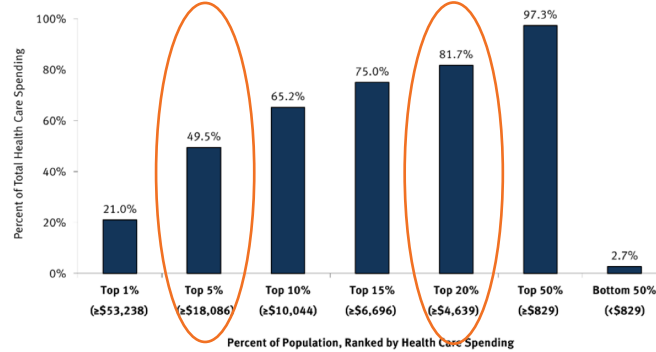
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**5% of U.S. population represents 50% of cost; 20% represents 80% of cost**



### Concentration of Health Care Spending in the U.S. Population, 2010



NOTE: Dollar amounts in parentheses are the annual expenses per person in each percentile. Population is the civilian noninstitutionalized population, including those without any health care spending. Health care spending is total payments from all sources (including direct payments from individuals and families, private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, and miscellaneous other sources) to hospitals, physicians, other providers (including dental care), and pharmacies; health insurance premiums are not included. SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation calculations using data from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), Household Component, 2010.



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## The Patient is the New Payer™

Where we are now

If food costs increased at the same rate as healthcare costs...

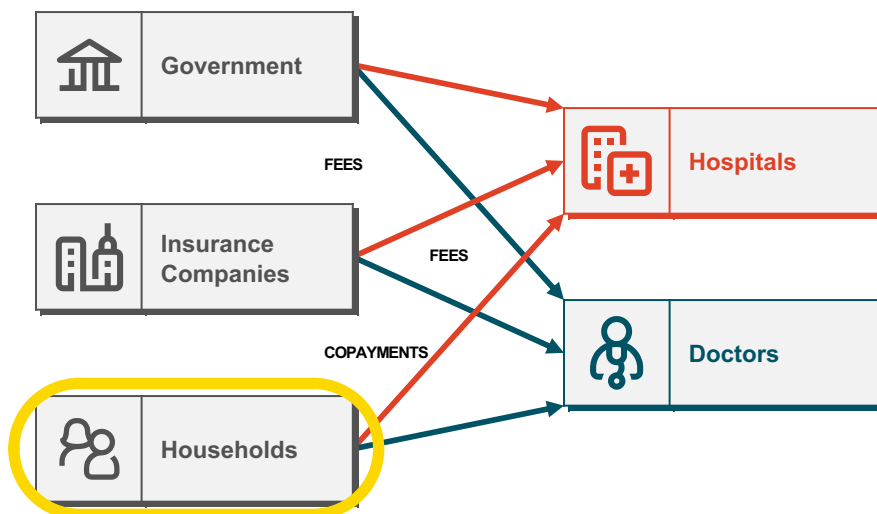


Source: NHE; Source: Adapted from IOM Report, "Best care at Lower Cost" <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/13444/best-care-at-lower-cost-the-path-to-continuous-learning>

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Consumers are not engaged in the costs of healthcare



Source: Cooper, R. & John, A. (2011). Microeconomics: Theory Through Applications. The Saylor Foundation. [Ch. 15.1 Supply and Demand in Health-Care Markets]  
<https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/BookDetail.aspx?bookId=28> see also Jonathan's original url: [https://saylordotorg.github.io/text\\_microeconomics-theory-through-applications/s19-01-supply-and-demand-in-health-ca.html](https://saylordotorg.github.io/text_microeconomics-theory-through-applications/s19-01-supply-and-demand-in-health-ca.html)

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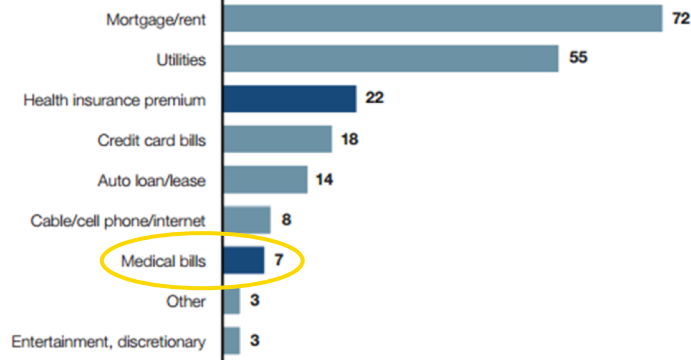
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## Healthcare bills rank lower than other bills

Consumers prioritize paying their health insurance premiums, but not their medical bills

Percent of customers ranking the following expenses in their top two choices



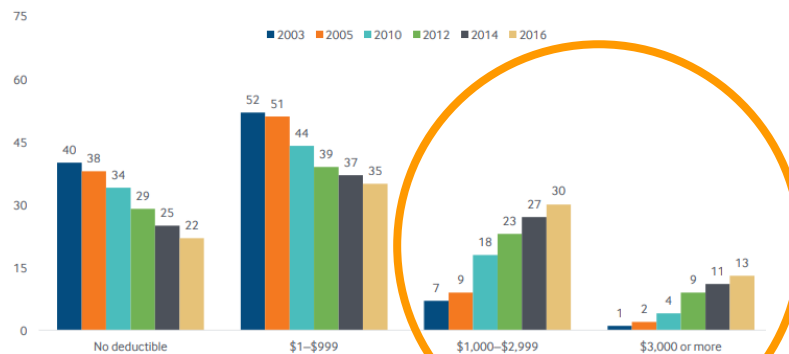
Source: McKinsey Retail Healthcare Consumer Survey, 2009

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## A migration to high deductible health plans is growing considerably

Percent adults ages 19–64 with private coverage\*



\* Base is those who specified deductible.

Data: The Commonwealth Fund Biennial Health Insurance Surveys (2003, 2005, 2010, 2012, 2014, and 2016).

Source: Commonwealth Fund

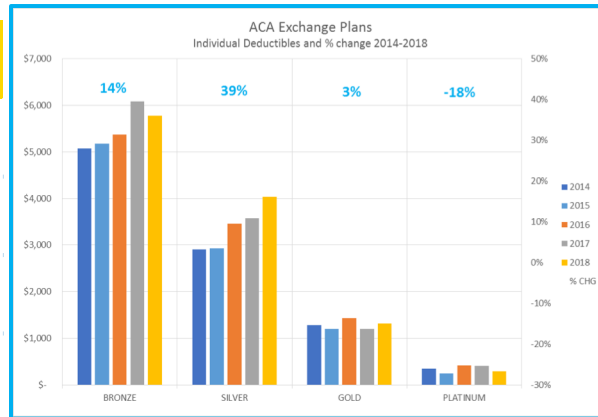
[https://www.commonwealthfund.org/sites/default/files/documents/\\_\\_\\_media\\_files\\_publications\\_issue\\_brief\\_2017\\_oct\\_collins\\_underinsured\\_biennial\\_ib.pdf](https://www.commonwealthfund.org/sites/default/files/documents/___media_files_publications_issue_brief_2017_oct_collins_underinsured_biennial_ib.pdf)

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## ACA exchange plan deductibles are resulting in more funding gaps for patients in 2018



PLAN	DEDUCTIBLE
Bronze	\$5,800
Silver	\$4,000
Gold	\$1,300
Platinum	\$300



Source: Healthpocket

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## But... do patients typically look for costs in advance of care?



### JAMA :

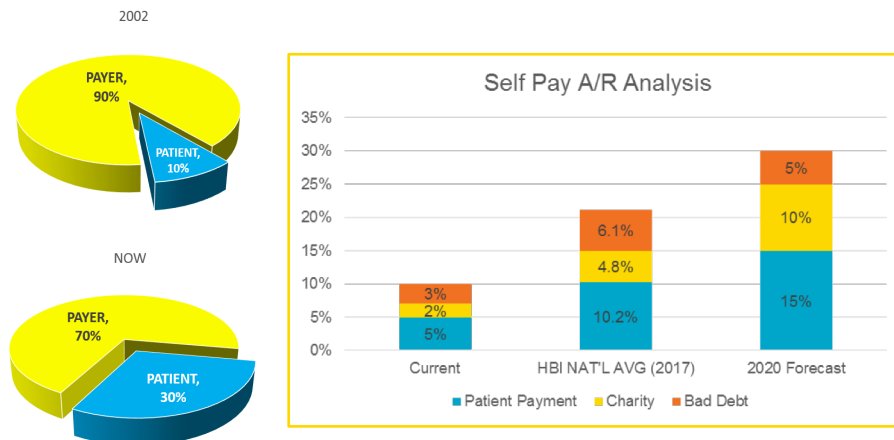
- Compared behavior of consumers in high-deductible plans to traditional plans. The researchers found only one percentage point difference in either group to chose on price
- "High-deductible health plan enrollment is associated with lower health care spending"
- However...these savings are primarily owing to decreased use of care and not because HDHP enrollees are switching to lower-cost provider

Source: JAMA - <http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamainternalmedicine/fullarticle/2482348> ; California health care Foundation: <http://www.chcf.org/articles/2016/03/why-dont-patient-price-shop>

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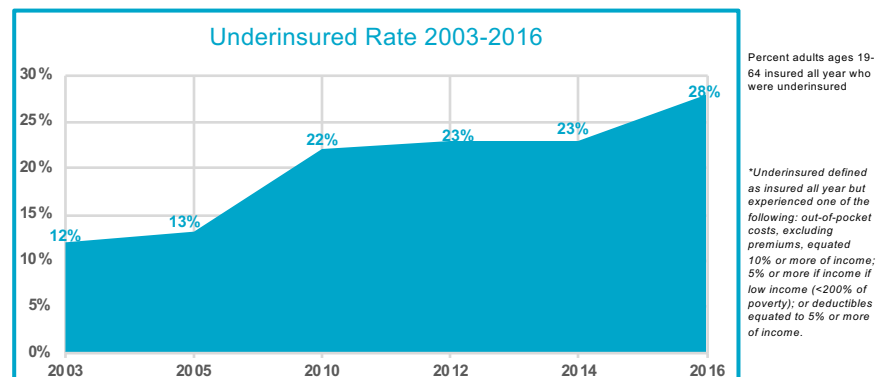
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## Patients are The New Payer™, and the yield of patient revenue is at significant risk...



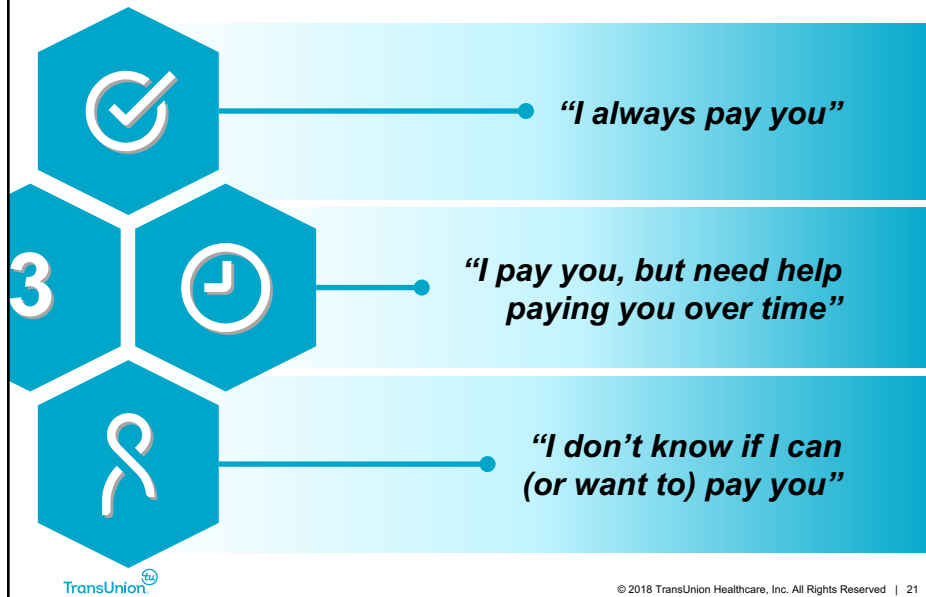
Sources: HFMA: <https://www.hfma.org/Content.aspx?cid=45784>; Advisory Board: <https://www.hfma.org/Content.aspx?cid=45784>; DarkDaily: <https://www.darkdaily.com/records-of-expanded-numbers-of-patients-with-high-deductible-health-plans-patients-are-now-responsible-for-30-of-hospital-revenues-200/>; VisiPayer: <https://www.visipayer.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/visipayer-report-2017-2018.pdf>

## More than **one in four** of adults who were insured all year were underinsured\* in 2016

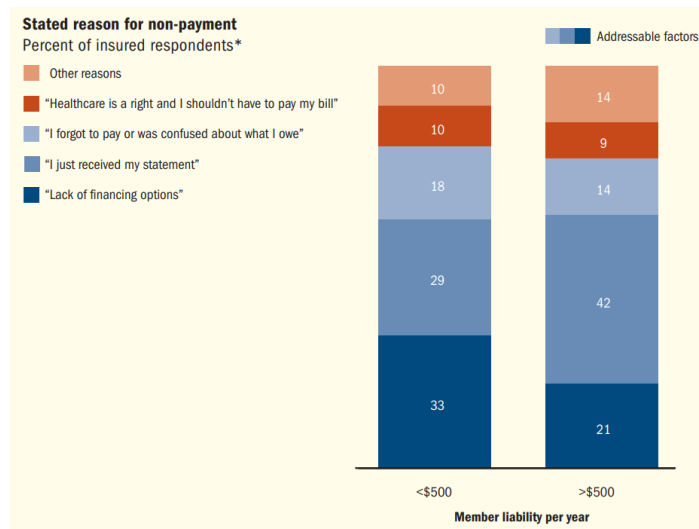


Source: Commonwealth Fund [https://www.commonwealthfund.org/sites/default/files/documents/media\\_files/publications/issue\\_brief/2017\\_oct\\_collins\\_underinsured\\_brief\\_1b.pdf](https://www.commonwealthfund.org/sites/default/files/documents/media_files/publications/issue_brief/2017_oct_collins_underinsured_brief_1b.pdf)

### Three types of patients...



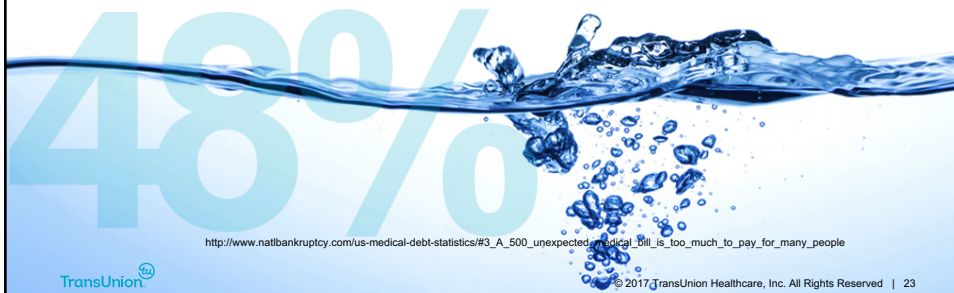
### Patients have LOTS of reasons to not pay a bill later...



## A \$500 unexpected medical bill is too much to pay for many people.



According to a Kaiser Health Tracking Poll in 2017, **45%** of Americans said they'd have a difficult time paying an **unexpected \$500 medical bill**. About **19%** wouldn't be able to pay it at all, while **20%** would put it on a credit card and pay it over time. Others said they'd need to borrow money from a friend, a family member, a bank, or a payday lender. This is reinforced by a federal reserve study that found that only **48%** of Americans would be able to completely cover a hypothetical emergency expense costing \$400 without selling something or borrowing money."



Is healthcare affordable?				TransUnion
HOW FAR DOES \$400 TAKE A PATIENT?				
Scenario	Average Cost	Relevant Coverage	Patient Responsibility	Amount Underwater: Patient Responsibility minus \$400
Physician Office Visit	\$402	\$25 copay	\$25 copay	\$0 underwater
CT Scan	\$828	\$1,500 deductible	\$828 out of pocket	\$428 underwater
ER Visit	\$2,483	\$250 copay + 20% coinsurance	\$697 out of pocket	\$297 underwater
Birth (Vaginal Delivery)	\$9,625	\$1,500 deductible + 20% coinsurance	\$3,125 out of pocket	\$2,725 underwater
Appendectomy (General Surgery, outpatient)	\$13,589	\$1,500 deductible + 20% coinsurance	\$3,918 out of pocket	\$3,518 underwater
Hip Replacement inpatient stay	\$32,994	\$1,500 deductible + 20% coinsurance	\$7,799 out of pocket	\$7,399 underwater

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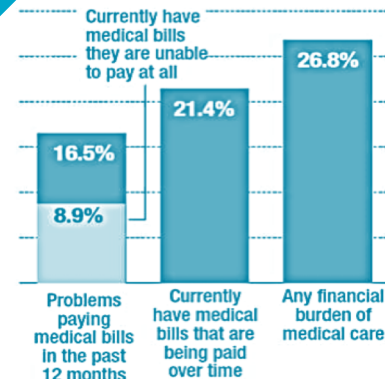
## Medical bills are a scary problem for families



*"I can't afford this and why is no one helping me?!"...*

- 25%** 1 in 4 have an unpaid health care bill
- 20%** 1 in 5 are paying a medical bill over time
- 10%** Almost 1 in 10 have a bill that they cannot pay at all

### Problems paying medical bills (Percentage of all families)



Source: National Center for Health Statistics

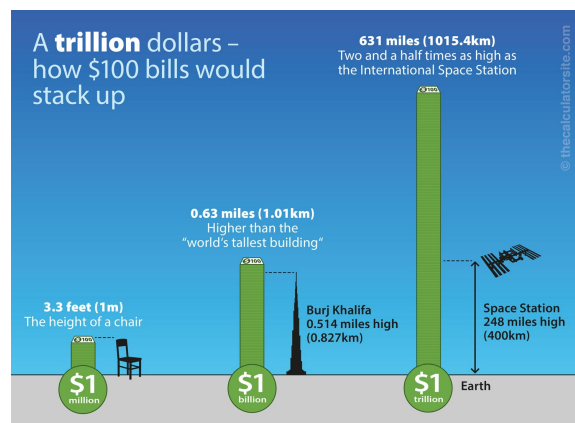
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## 1 in 4 have an unpaid medical bill, let's do the math...



- $\frac{1}{4}$  of US population = 250M \* 25% = **62.5M**
- Average OOP cost (conservative) = \$50  
\*62.5M = **\$3.1B dollars**
- This is a LOT of money **WAITING** to be paid by the patient consumer!
- A billion....  
→ In 50 years, could spend \$540 thousand dollars every day of your life and still have a few thousand bucks in bank

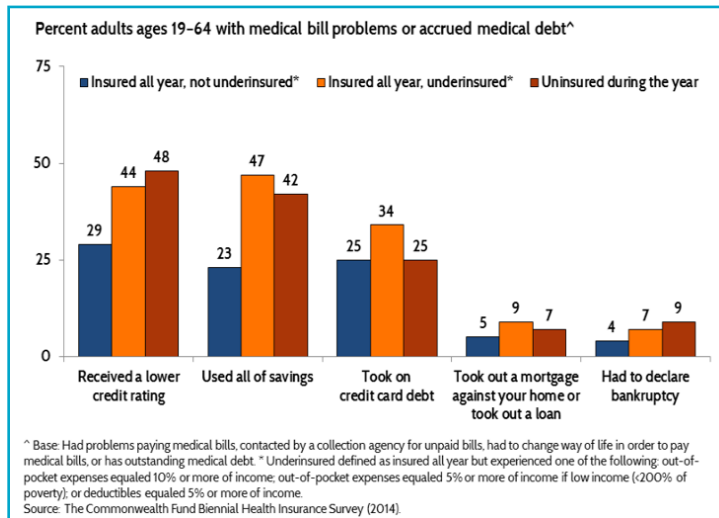


<https://datacenter.kidspot.org/data/tables/99-total-population-by-child-and-adult#detailed/1/any/false/870.573.869.36.868.867.133.38.35.18/39.40.41/416.417>  
<https://www.debt.org/medical/doctor-visit-costs/>, <https://www.foxbusiness.com/features/how-much-is-a-trillion-dollars-what-a-trillion-can-buy>

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## Adults with medical bills had lingering financial problems

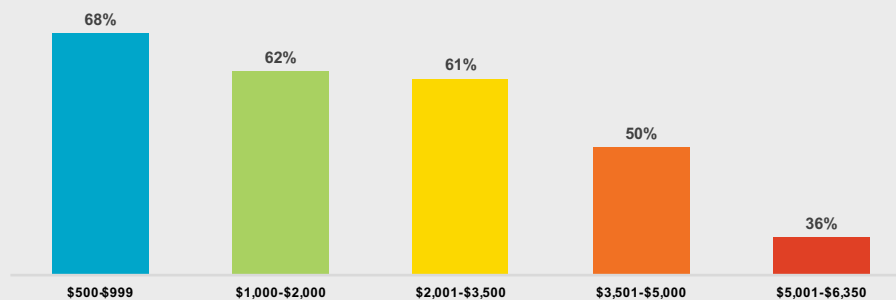


Source: Commonwealth Fund – The problem of underinsurance and how rising deductibles make it worse

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## Only 68% of patients pay bills fully, and just over 1 in 3 pay if the bill is over \$5000...



“

As patient payments increase a percentage of net patient revenue, the ability to optimize patient collections and drive payments earlier in the process, will take on even greater importance. ”

Source: JP Morgan Chase Bank: Patient Payment Optimization. March 2016

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And collecting patient payments adds cost to the providers



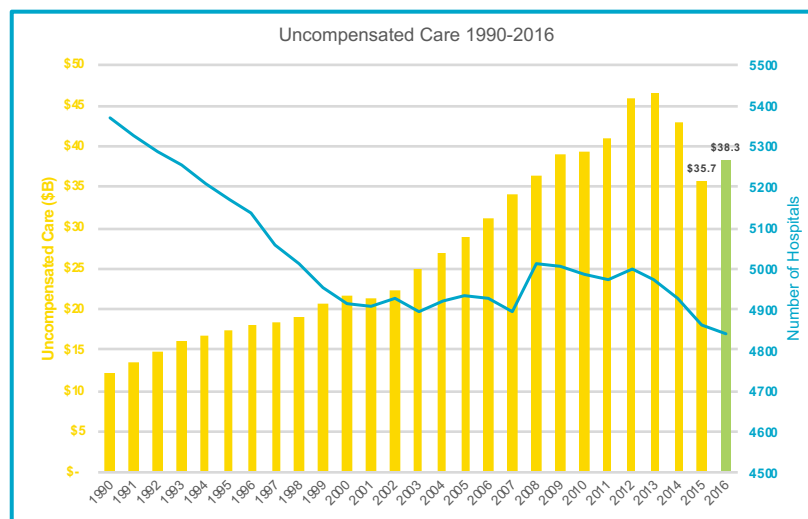
**3X** “Moreover, costs are likely to be significantly higher when collecting from individual patients on a per-transaction basis than when collecting from payers (as much as three times higher).”

**2X** “On average, healthcare consumers pay more than twice as slowly as commercial payers.”

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Source: McKinsey - Hospital revenue cycle operations: Opportunities created by the ACA. May 2013.  
[http://healthcare.mckinsey.com/sites/default/files/793544\\_Hospital\\_Revenue\\_Cycle\\_Operations.pdf](http://healthcare.mckinsey.com/sites/default/files/793544_Hospital_Revenue_Cycle_Operations.pdf)  
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For the first time since 2013, uncompensated care **increased** by \$2.6B in 2016



Source: AHA Dec 2017 Uncompensated Care Report

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## The Patient is the New Payer™

Positioning your revenue cycle for success



### Getting the patients engaged...

**63%** of healthcare providers are having trouble providing sufficient price transparency for patients facing a growing financial responsibility

#### Three steps:

1. Assess **eligibility** to determine coverage and benefits
2. Educate the patient to the financial policy, payment options and financial assistance programs
3. Offer cost estimates and push for full price transparency - increasing price transparency can improve patient satisfaction and help patients with bill pay.

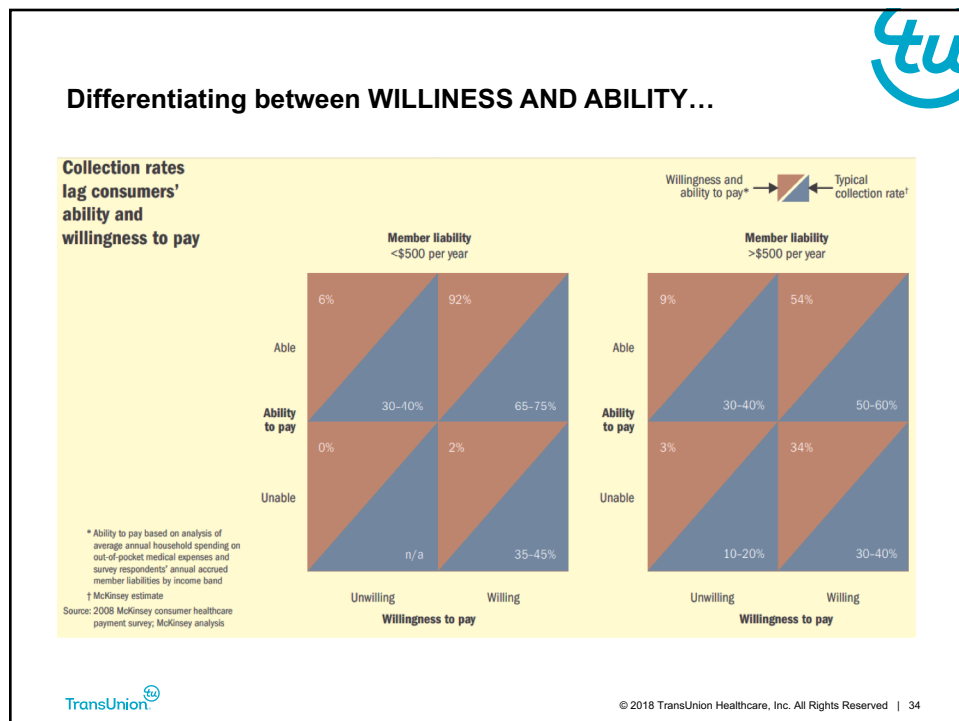
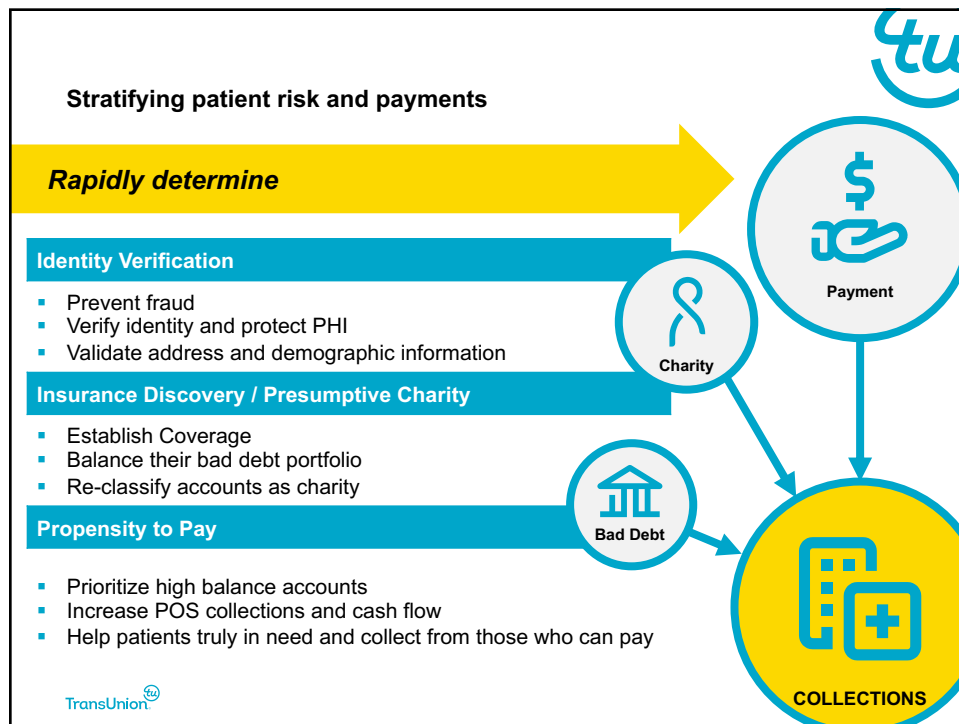
*"By ensuring patients fully **understand their financial responsibility**, they can better equip them to make decisions about care access. Ultimately, this may help more patients get access to care that they can afford..."*

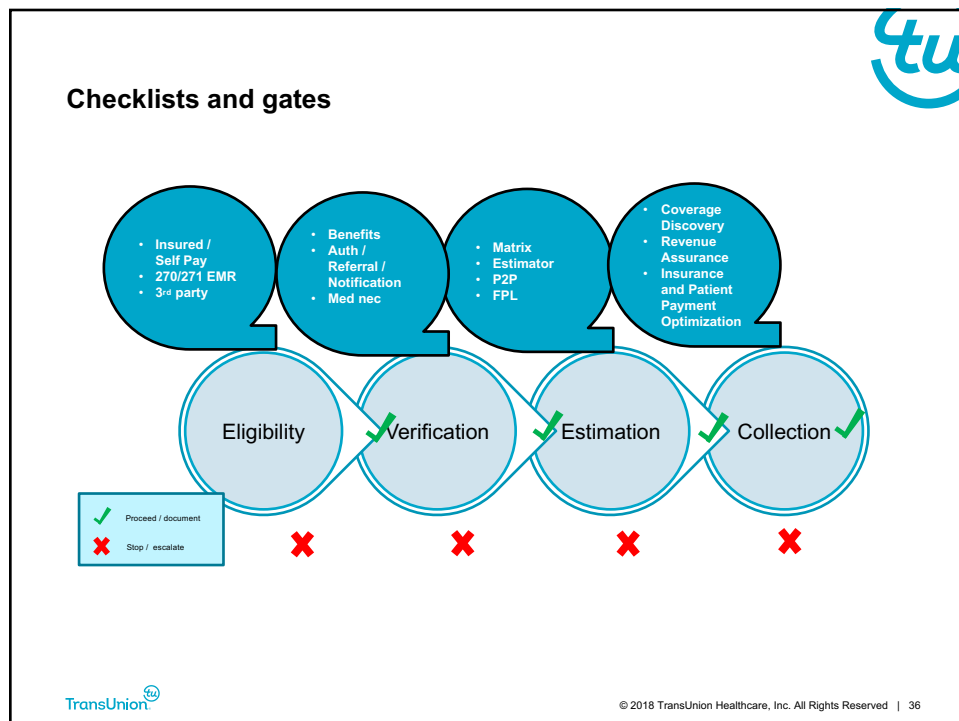
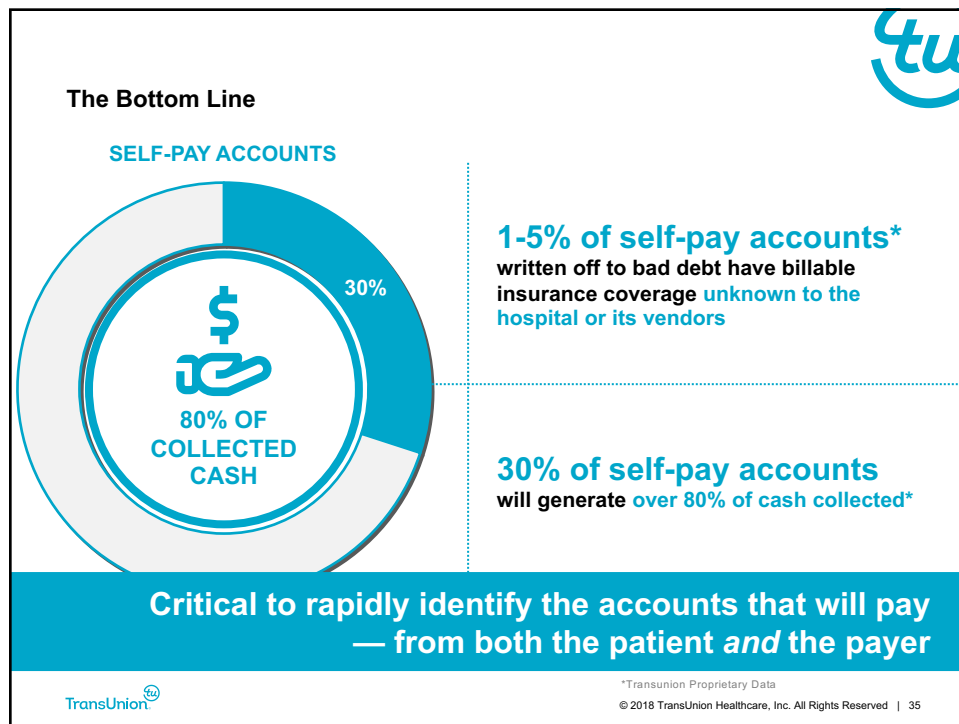
*Healthcare organizations need to invest more time with patients in the front office, estimating their cost of care and payment options in order to reduce questions and delays in collecting post service"*



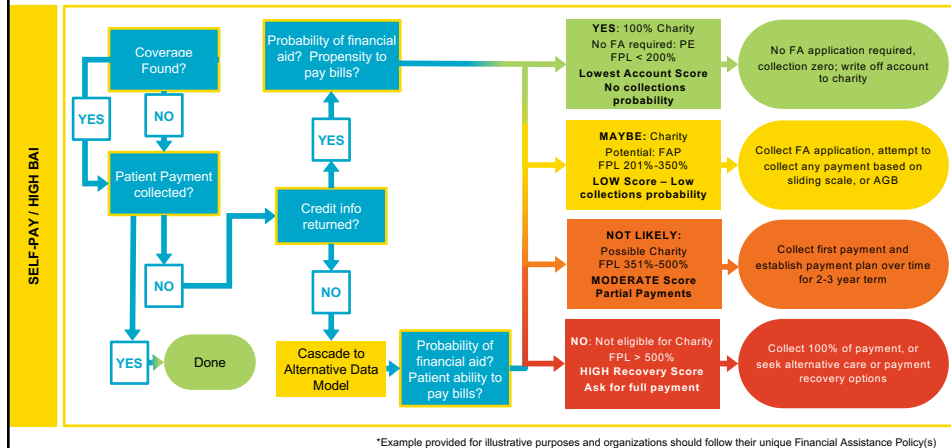
Source: Porter research, Waystar <https://patientengagementhill.com/news/providers-struggle-with-patient-price-transparency-responsibility>

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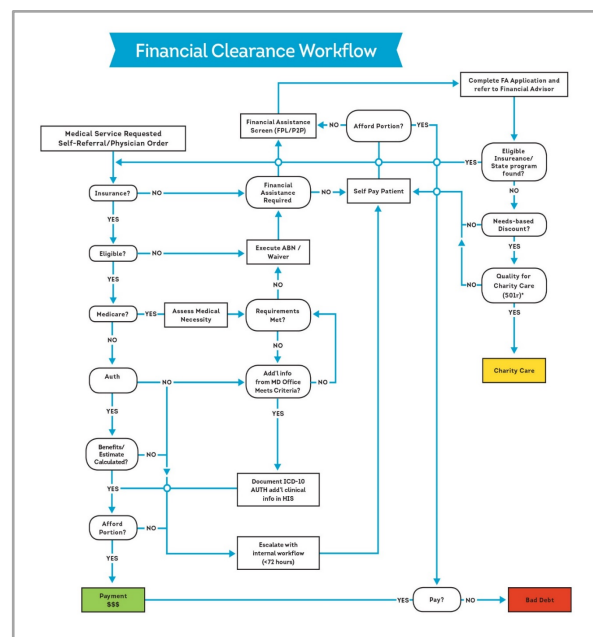
## Example Workflow – Self-Pay / High BAI After Discharge



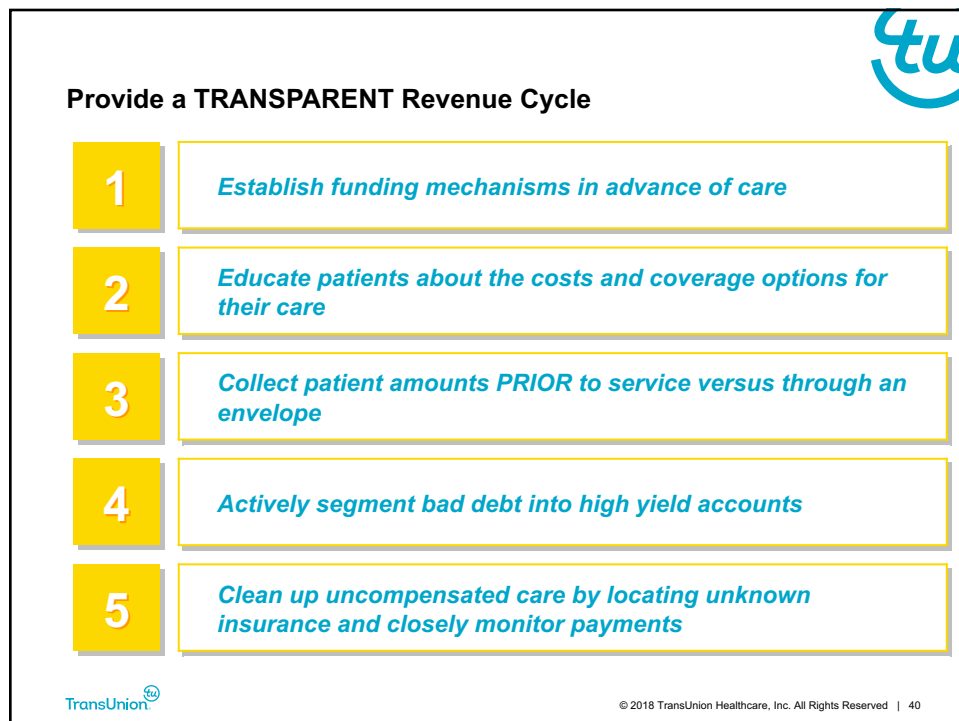
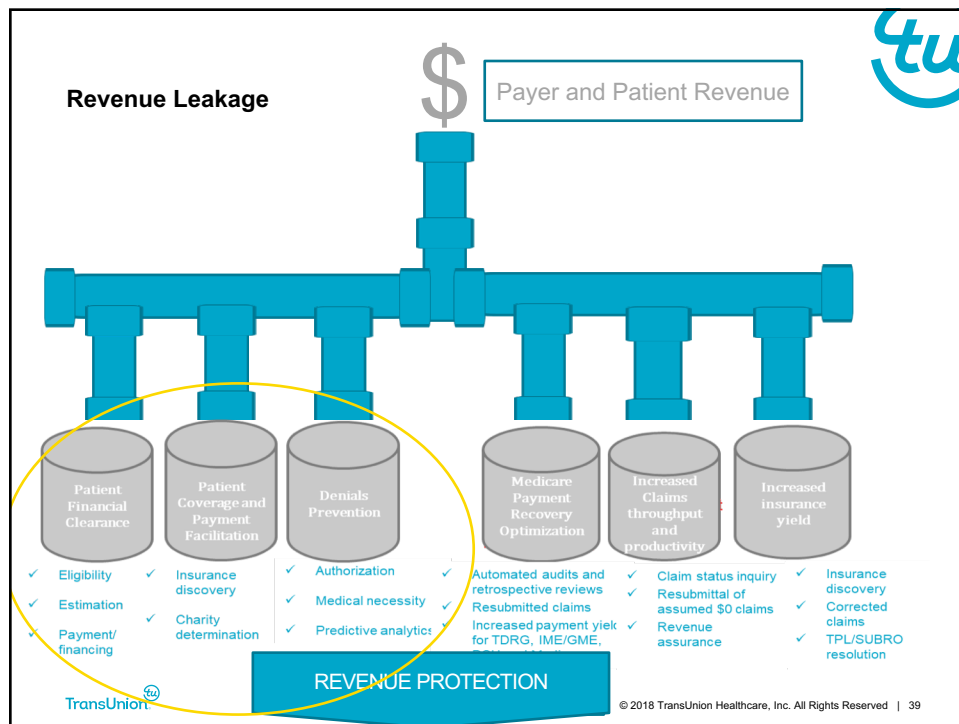
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## Financial Clearance Workflow



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## Revenue cycle transformation in a consumer's market

"Traditional"	"Innovative"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Healthcare service "shoplifting"</li> <li>Statements on a 90-120 day cycle</li> <li>Downstream billing / Bad debt risk</li> <li>Slowed payment by snail mail</li> <li>Inquiry Payments (how much can you afford)?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patient financial clearance</li> <li>Employer plan education</li> <li>Pre-service estimates</li> <li>Propensity to pay leveraging Credit and alternative data models</li> <li>Pre-established payment plans / Interest-free loans</li> <li>POS collections</li> <li>Consolidated bills</li> <li>Guarantor balance/portfolio</li> <li>Retail/ transparency/ consumerism</li> <li>Mobile payments</li> <li>Bad debt segmentation/ automation</li> </ul>

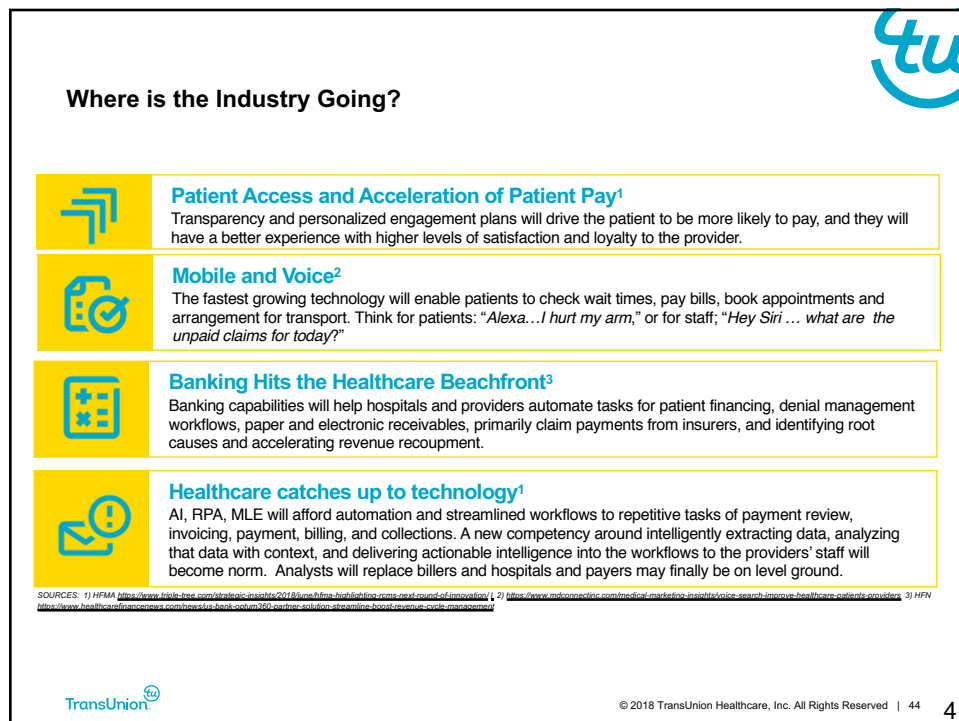
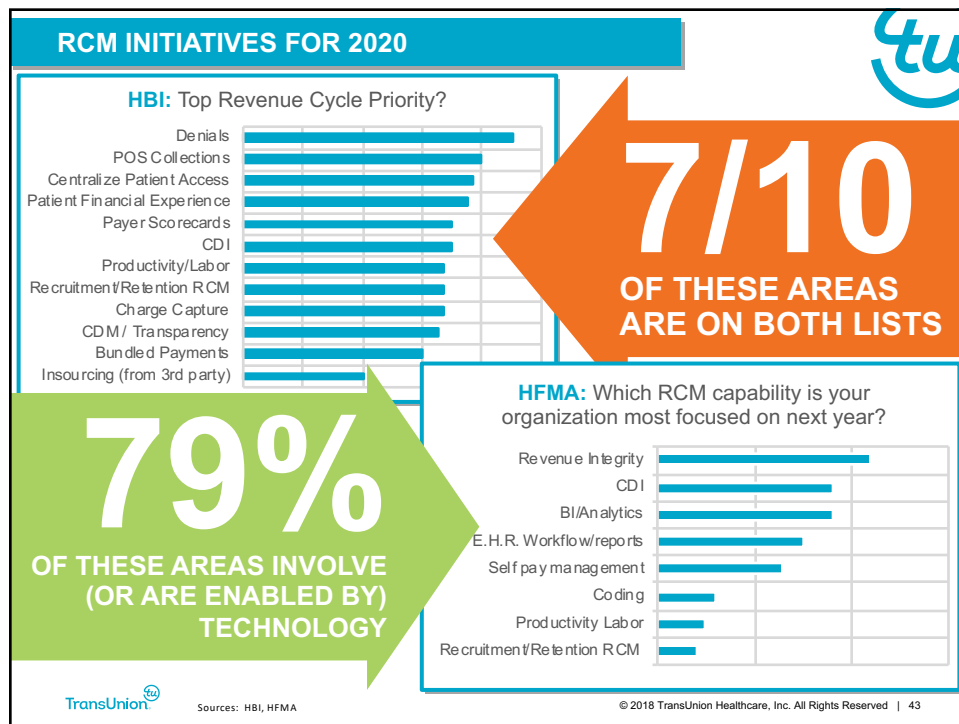
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## The Patient is the New Payer™

What happens next



### Examples of Health System M&A Activity

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### Non-Traditional Mergers & Acquisitions are Disrupting the Hospital Market

Who moves next?

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## Voice...



**Patient:** "What medical bills do I have to pay?"

**SMARTSPEAKER:** "You have three bills from County Health totaling \$345.34. Would you like to pay them?"

**Patient:** "Yes. Pay them all using my primary account."



**Biller:** "What claims are not paid for Medicare?"

**SMARTSPEAKER:** "You 14 unpaid Medicare bills that are over 45 days from discharge. Would you like to put them in an email?"

**Biller:** "Yes. Please put them in an email for me and call the provider rep."

**Patient:** "I have a fever"

**SMARTSPEAKER:** "What temperature and how long have you had it?"

**Patient:** "9 days, 103 degrees"

**SMARTSPEAKER:** "I contacted your primary care doctor and they will contact you. If you do not hear from them today there is an urgent care 5.3 miles from here that is in network for your plan and has a \$20 copay. Would you like me to schedule a ride for you?"

**Patient :** "Yes, thank you."

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## Banking hits the healthcare beachfront



Banks are partnering hospitals to deliver customized payment solutions that will help providers to:

- Enhance cash flow through faster payment receipt
- Increase efficiencies by linking remittance data to each payment

Payments processing services will be customized or integrated into EMRs. For example:

- Mobile payment solutions (wallets)
- Healthcare bills electronically routed to online banking profiles and bill-pay portals
- Commercial B2B payment systems formerly used in online travel (e.g., Orbitz, Trivago, Hotwire) will be formatted as a way for health plans to pay providers
- Promotion of customizable patient payment plans
- Billing and collection of the patient portion by the payer
- Others?

Source: HIMSS <https://www.himss.org/news/healthcare-banking-reform-driven-healthcare-world>



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Why is it so hard for a consumer to pay for healthcare?



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## HiMSS Patient Financial Experience of the Future



	PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN	URGENT CARE	EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT
	\$	\$\$	\$\$\$
	\$25.00	\$150.00	\$564.23
	5.1 mi	2.8 mi	11.3mi
	2 day	No Wait	1 hour

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Robotic Process Automation applications to revenue cycle

### Claims / Denials Management

Robotic programming can be prepared in accordance with COB/ Eligibility rules to replicate the human resolution process

### Financial Clearance

Robots can be positioned to verify / flag the necessary financial clearance-related tasks for a patient and then access a variety of websites or applications to complete them

### Credit Balances

Credit balance reversal through automated transaction posting can eliminate thousands of transactions over time, helping to reduce costs and reallocate staff to higher value activities

### Accounts Payable

RPA affords automation and streamlined workflows by managing the receipt, accrual and payment according to contract terms

Source: HFMA <https://www.hfma.org/Content.aspx?id=55353>

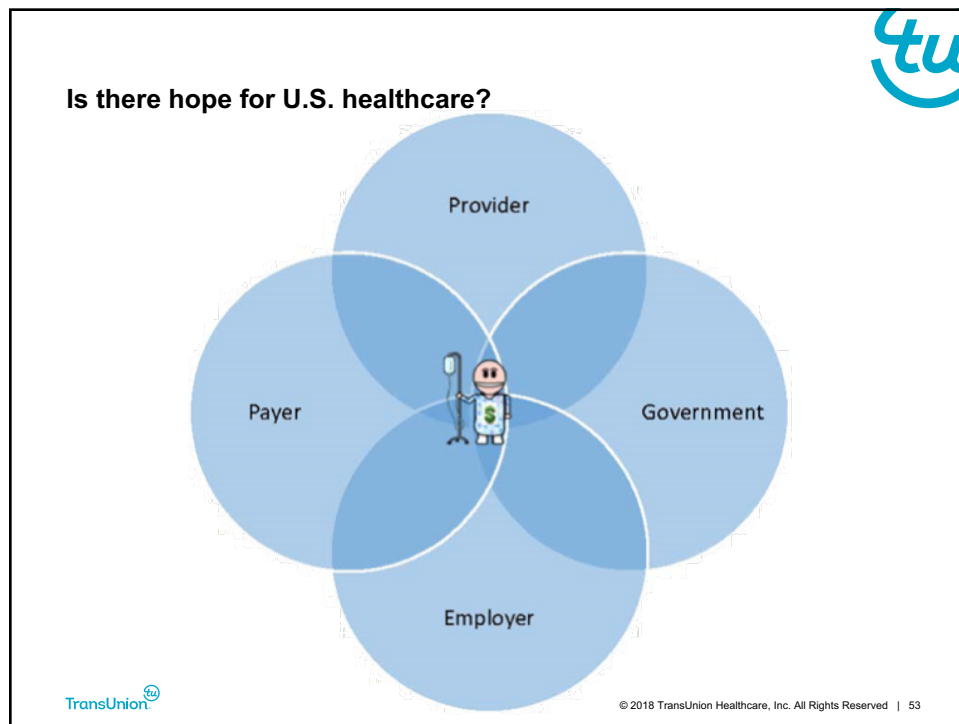
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## BI Maturity Curve

	STAGE 1 DATA ANALYSIS	STAGE 2 INVESTIGATIVE ANALYTICS	STAGE 3 BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE	STAGE 4 PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS	STAGE 5 PRESCRIPTIVE ANALYTICS	STAGE 6 CONTINUOUS LEARNING ACTION
	What happened yesterday?	Why did it happen yesterday?	What is happening now?	What will happen tomorrow?	How do we influence tomorrow?	Action-step optimization
PATIENT ACCESS	I can see that yesterday's First Pass Denial Rate was 30% of claims.	I can see that the majority of denials are related to authorization & eligibility issues.	Today we have X% of pre-authorizations obtained prior to service.	Because we are currently running a low percentage of pre-authorizations prior to service, we can expect X% higher rates of first pass denials related to authorizations in the next 90 days.	I get work queues of accounts that have been identified as high opportunity & are missing pre-auth so that they can be addressed before services are performed.	Patient Access staff gets visibility into the downstream impact of low authorization percentages along with daily reporting of Patient Access KPIs to help mitigate this issue in the long run.
REVENUE INTEGRITY	I can see that the prior period's discharges had an Actual LOS to Expected LOS ratio of 1.1.	I can see that 15% of discharges associated with 3 DRG codes are being delayed primarily due to patient status & DME waitlist issues.	Expected LOS projections for currently in-house patients with those same diagnosis codes match the projections for those that had a 15% discharge rate from the prior period.	Projections show that we will continue to run at a ratio of 1.1 or higher for the current & future periods.	Automated forensics produces worklists of accounts to investigate where there has been a recent change in the typical mix of procedure codes associated with these DRGs.  — I get reports & alerts on DME usage, status & wait-times.	Clinical staff provided with daily visibility into downstream impact of clinical procedure changes.  — System recommends an audit of the DME inventory & recommends reviewing /revising the expected LOS for these DRGs.
PF/BUSINESS OFFICE	A/R turnover rate is declining.	I can see that my collector team's daily average for number of closed accounts has fallen by 6%.	# of Touches Per Account Until Conclusion is higher than the rolling 90-day average.  — % of Touches Within Follow up Guidelines is greater than the 90-day average.	A/R Days projected to increase by 2-3 days within 45 days.  — Cost to Collect projected to increase 4% by end of current month	Automated forensic analysis looks for statistically meaningful commonalities on accounts with higher than average number of touches (DRG, Assignee, CARC/RARC, Etc.), findings reported to stakeholders with recommended actions.	Collections staff is provided visibility into key performance metrics & alerted to declining performance trends.  — System provides organizational transparency (how much is coming vs how much is going out) so that every department can see if they are ahead or falling behind.

Source: HFMA Central PA: Visiquito – Waller and Blinn

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**QUESTIONS?**

**THANK YOU!**

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