



INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND PRODUCTIVITY MANAGEMENT

Press Release

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Contact

Sean Sullivan, JD, President and CEO, IHPM: 480-607-2660
Thomas Wilson, PhD, CEO, PHI Institute: 513-289-3743

IHPM Expands Award to PHI Institute in Conformity With Brandeis Grant
ROI Evaluation Models in Work-Site Health Programs Subject of Study

PHOENIX, Ariz., August 23, 2005 – The Institute for Health and Productivity Management (IHPM) has increased its earlier unrestricted research grant to the Population Health Impact (PHI) Institute, an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to sound, credible – and “transparent” – evaluation of programs to improve the health of defined populations. This expanded grant funds the PHI Institute to review methodologies used in peer-reviewed articles about employer-based health management programs where financial results have been analyzed and reported (the original grant funded the literature search itself).

“Our expanded grant raises the PHI Institute’s work to a new level of significance for employer/purchasers of health management services” says Sean Sullivan, President and CEO of IHPM. “This review now will conform to the evaluation framework in a competitive grant recently awarded to the PHI Institute by Brandeis University’s Health Industry Forum.” Sullivan added, “Adopting the process supported by a leading academic health services research institution like Brandeis will help pave the way toward a much needed standardized approach to evaluating the return-on-investment for all kinds of defined population health improvement programs, for all purchasers.”

Under the Brandeis grant, the PHI Institute will examine methods used to evaluate commercial health plan disease management programs published in the peer-reviewed literature; the expanded IHPM grant applies the same review process to a wide range of employer-based health promotion, wellness, and disease management programs. The Brandeis grant also will result in a "Users Guide" to disease management evaluation for non-technical (e.g., business) users.

“The evaluation principles used by the PHI Institute are, as Einstein said of all good scientific principles, ‘simple, but not too simple,’” Sullivan observed. These principles – data quality, equivalence, statistical quality, causality, generalizability -- will be used by expert “Delphi” panels to score the articles reviewed under both grants.

About the Institute for Health and Productivity Management

The nonprofit Institute for Health and Productivity Management (IHPM) is a global enterprise created in 1997 to establish the full value of employee health and maximize its impact on business performance -- by identifying the total cost impact of employee health on productivity, testing programs to reduce that total cost impact, and measuring the results. www.ihpm.org

About the Health Industry Forum

The Health Industry Forum at Brandeis University is devoted to developing practical, market-oriented strategies to improve the quality and value of the U.S. healthcare system through research and consensus building activities involving key stakeholders from industry, academia and government. The Forum is chaired by Professor Stuart Altman and directed by Robert Mechanic <mechanic@brandeis.edu>. www.healthindustryforum.org

About the PHI Institute

The nonprofit Population Health Impact (PHI) Institute provides independent evaluations of defined population health management programs through impact studies, education, research, and benchmarking services for both public and private sector organizations. www.PHIinstitute.org

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