



## Surgery Decision Support™ (SDS)

*Surgery Decision Support™ (SDS)* is a highly targeted program focused on addressing specific medical conditions and associated surgical procedures where two or more medically acceptable treatment options exist and where patients have legitimate choices. Often surgery is recommended when alternative, less invasive options have not been exhausted first. **Our experience is that 24% of certain “high variation” procedures are unnecessary.**<sup>1</sup>

This highly-targeted decision-support program has the potential to reduce your total annual medical expenses by 3%. For example, an employer with 30,000 employees can potentially save \$6.4M in direct savings through SDS. Our results have been verified independently by actuaries and we believe, offer the most effective program available in the marketplace today, with respect to direct savings, quality improvements and overall satisfaction.

Our Tier 1 program includes five procedures that will **maximize** savings and return on investment for you while providing significant quality improvements and high satisfaction.

### *Tier 1 SDS procedures include:*

- Low back surgery
- Hysterectomy
- Knee replacement
- Hip replacement
- Obesity surgery

We also support three additional surgical procedures that offer **moderate** savings and return on investment as well as significant quality improvements.

### *Tier 2 SDS procedures include:*

- Coronary artery bypass graft (CABG)
- Lumpectomy/Mastectomy
- Prostatectomy

For those requiring surgery, we help them choose the best hospitals and providers by using our doctor and hospital selection resources. We also help patients prepare for planned surgical procedures by making interactive tutorials and online patient coping resources available.

**SDS is an integral component of the MDS program or is also available as an option to purchase on a stand-alone basis.**

(1) Source: CMR Outcomes: 2005-2009



## *SDS Features:*

- ▶ ***In-depth, objective, personalized, information and high-touch support*** on specific medical conditions, associated surgical procedures and treatment alternatives.
- ▶ ***Assistance with physician, hospital selection, interactive tutorials and online patient coping resources*** for those requiring surgery.
- ▶ ***Ongoing support and follow up for as long as requested.*** This helps employees address new questions or needs that arise as their medical situation changes.

## *SDS Program Impact and Outcomes<sup>2</sup>*

- ▶ ***Financial Savings***
  - **24%** reduction in surgical rates
  - One customer realized **\$1.7M** in direct savings with only 62 cases
- ▶ ***Quality and Clinical Improvements***
  - **40%** of patients switched to best practice treatment
  - **97%** reported improved quality of life
  - **79%** participants reported improved wellness and treatment compliance

(2) Source: SDS Program Results 2006 - 2009

**For more information about our services, contact [marketing@consumersmedical.com](mailto:marketing@consumersmedical.com) or call 1-877-229-7780.**