



Barry Buckingham, *OPEN MINDS* Executive Medical Economist, brings over twenty five years of health care experience in both public and private sectors with a focus on fiscal and financial analysis to *OPEN MINDS* clients. Mr. Buckingham has extensive professional experience in health plan cost management, physician practice management, data analysis, and business process optimization.

Most recently, Mr. Buckingham has served as the Senior Medical Economist at the Office of Medical Assistance Programs in the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. In that role, Mr. Buckingham is responsible for Medicaid health plan cost management, including the return-on-investment analysis of current and proposed benefits and cost management proposals. He leads the operating unit that tracks medical cost trends and the plans cost containment strategies, and training peers in delivery of business objectives. In addition, Mr. Buckingham works with the clinical professionals on the Medicaid program staff to review clinical performance data and review business practices.

Professional Highlights

- Senior Medical Economist, Office of Medical Assistance Programs, Department of Public Welfare, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- Senior Team Lead , Aetna, Inc. Mid-Atlantic Medical Economics Unit
- Manager of University Physicians at The Milton S. Hershey Medical Center of the Pennsylvania State University

Previously, Mr. Buckingham served as the senior consultant and senior team lead for Aetna’s Mid-Atlantic Medical Economics Unit. In this role, Mr. Buckingham was responsible for data analysis of Aetna plan experience including utilization and cost trends by geography, service type, provider, place of service, and other factors. He lead Aetna’s Mid-Atlantic initiative to determine optimal approaches to performance improvement and conducted cost benefit analyses to project the impact of new provider contracts on capitation rates. During this engagement, Mr. Buckingham led a cross departmental team that analyzed costs related to hospital-based care and related outcomes.

Areas of Expertise

- Rate setting, trend monitoring, and data analysis for health plans
- Design, development, and return-on-investment analysis of cost management strategies for health plans
- Practice management for service delivery systems
- Budgeting and budget management

Mr. Buckingham was previously the manager of the University Physicians at The Milton S. Hershey Medical Center of the Pennsylvania State University. In this role, he supervised the business operations of more than 100 physicians. In his role as manager, he was responsible for the recruitment, training, and performance evaluation for all practice support staff. He also developed and managed the practice’s budgets and developed and implemented practice policies and procedures (including it

quality improvement programs). During his work with the University Physicians, Mr. Buckingham initiated billing improvements that increased revenue by over \$2 million annually and chaired a task force for expense reduction that resulted in operating budget reductions of 17%.

Mr. Buckingham has also worked as Paramedic Coordinator for three Advanced Life Support units and LIFE LION helicopter service; an emergency dispatcher with the Dauphin county emergency medical service in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and a paramedic for the Hershey (Pennsylvania) Fire Department. He has also been an instructor for The Pennsylvania State University Hospitals system. He received his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pennsylvania and his Masters in Public Administration-Health Care Emphasis from Pennsylvania State University.