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# Update

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FROM THE CWHP BLOG

## CDC Worksite Health Tools Assist with Business Case-Making



**CENTERS FOR DISEASE  
CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

The CDC has an assessment tool for worksites, the **CDC Worksite Health ScoreCard (HSC)** (<http://www.cdc.gov/workplacehealthpromotion/initiatives/healthscorecard/index.html>), freely available to employers interested in getting a snapshot of how their organization measures up against evidence-based health promotion and protection practices across several

disease states. The tool comes with **helpful instructions and tutorials** (<http://www.cdc.gov/workplacehealthpromotion/initiatives/healthscorecard/usingscorecard.html>) on how to use the tool and its results toward the goal of employee health improvement. The tool covers a range of organizational health policies including paid time off, flexible work scheduling, workplace safety and other policies that stretch beyond, but include, more typical offerings so common in many organizations.

The tool provides a reasonable starting point for an organization

to begin assessing their company's approach to worksite wellness, particularly in the disease areas covered by the tool. Depending on the prevalence of specific medical conditions in a workforce, employers may also find useful information in the systematic reviews of evidence assembled as part of **The Community Guide** (<http://www.thecommunityguide.org/index.html>) on what works to promote health.

The CDC's efforts in these areas and with one of its newest initiatives, Total Worker Health, are beginning to build better evidence and tools to help employers make the business case (<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/twh/business.html>) for employee health investment.

If you have ideas or expertise in this area or would like to be considered as a guest blogger we would love to hear about it. (<http://www.tcwhp.org/workforce-health-and-performance-bright-ideas-survey>)

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**The Center for Workforce Health and Performance (CWHP)** is an information hub that may be used to support evidence-based policies and practices for a healthier, happier and high-performing workforce, a healthier economy and, in turn, healthier and more productive communities. CWHP develops knowledge around workforce health and performance improvement and disseminates it widely through scientific and educational forums.



## NEWS & EVENTS

### Dr. Jinnett presents The Value of Employee Health for Organizational Health

The Department of Mental Health and the Institute for Health and Productivity Studies at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, in conjunction with The Luv u Project, Inc., is hosting a public health summit on workplace

mental health to be held on October 20th in Baltimore. Dr. Jinnett will present on The Value of Employee Health for Organizational Health: Connecting Mental Health, Productivity and Business Value. Event link: <http://www.jhsph.edu/departments/mental-health/events/mental-health-in-the-workplace.html>



## RESEARCH & REPORTS

### Consumerism, Self-Care Trends and the Broader Value of Health



A new CWHP report on Consumerism, Self-Care Trends and the Broader Value of Health suggests

the importance of education and tools to assist individuals in making smart treatment decisions -- whether in the formal treatment system or through self-care alternatives. To hold down the costs of healthcare benefits, employers are exploring a variety of strategies aimed at making consumers more aware of the costs of their care in order to influence utilization of that care. Consumer guidance can help employees navigate to appropriate

care, whether it is provided through the formal treatment system or through self-care including OTC alternatives. Broader work-related benefits including improved attendance and job performance and less work disability are associated with improved employee health. In light of the consumerism shift in health decision-making, consumer education and decision-support tools may support better choices resulting in improved outcomes for both employees and employers.

More information at:

<http://www.tcwhp.org/consumerism-self-care-trends-and-broader-value-health>



## ENGAGEMENT

### Workforce Health and Performance — Bright Ideas Survey



Take the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TWLW87T>

The Center for Workforce Health and Performance wants your Bright Ideas. We will feature these ideas, select guest bloggers, delve deeply on topics and inform research and practice by spreading these Bright Ideas.

For our first Bright Ideas survey we would like to know your thoughts on the best ways to support workforce health and performance.

Our challenge — can you do it in 20 words or less?