

# The Health Insurer of the Future

**IAAHS Colloquium**

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Building a better  
working world

# Introduction

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- This talk is derived from intellectual capital developed by a global, multi-disciplinary, team at Ernst & Young
- Further background available online at:  
<http://www.ey.com/GL/en/Industries/Financial-Services/Insurance/ey-health-insurer-of-the-future>
- My purpose today is to stimulate discussion about potential directions of evolution of the health insurance industry, and what this might mean for the actuarial profession
- Jurisdiction-specific regulatory considerations are significant and will likely impact the extent to, and pace at, which evolution can occur

# Disruptive trends shaping healthcare



# A phenomenal opportunity within health insurance driven by a once-in-a-lifetime confluence of trends

## Six trends that are disrupting health insurance

New streams to supplement underwriting income

Offering that truly aligns incentives for long-run behavioral change

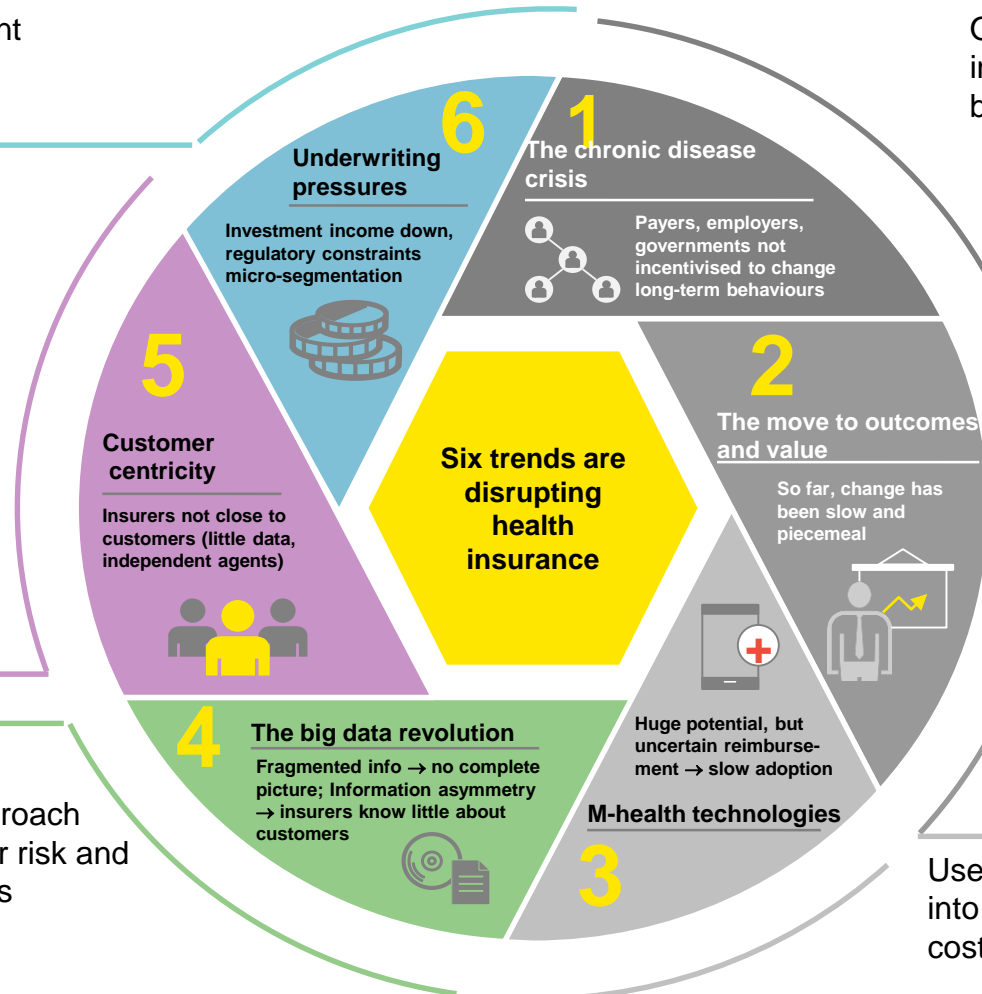
Use data, m-health to better understand customers

Make pay-for-performance the basis for new offering

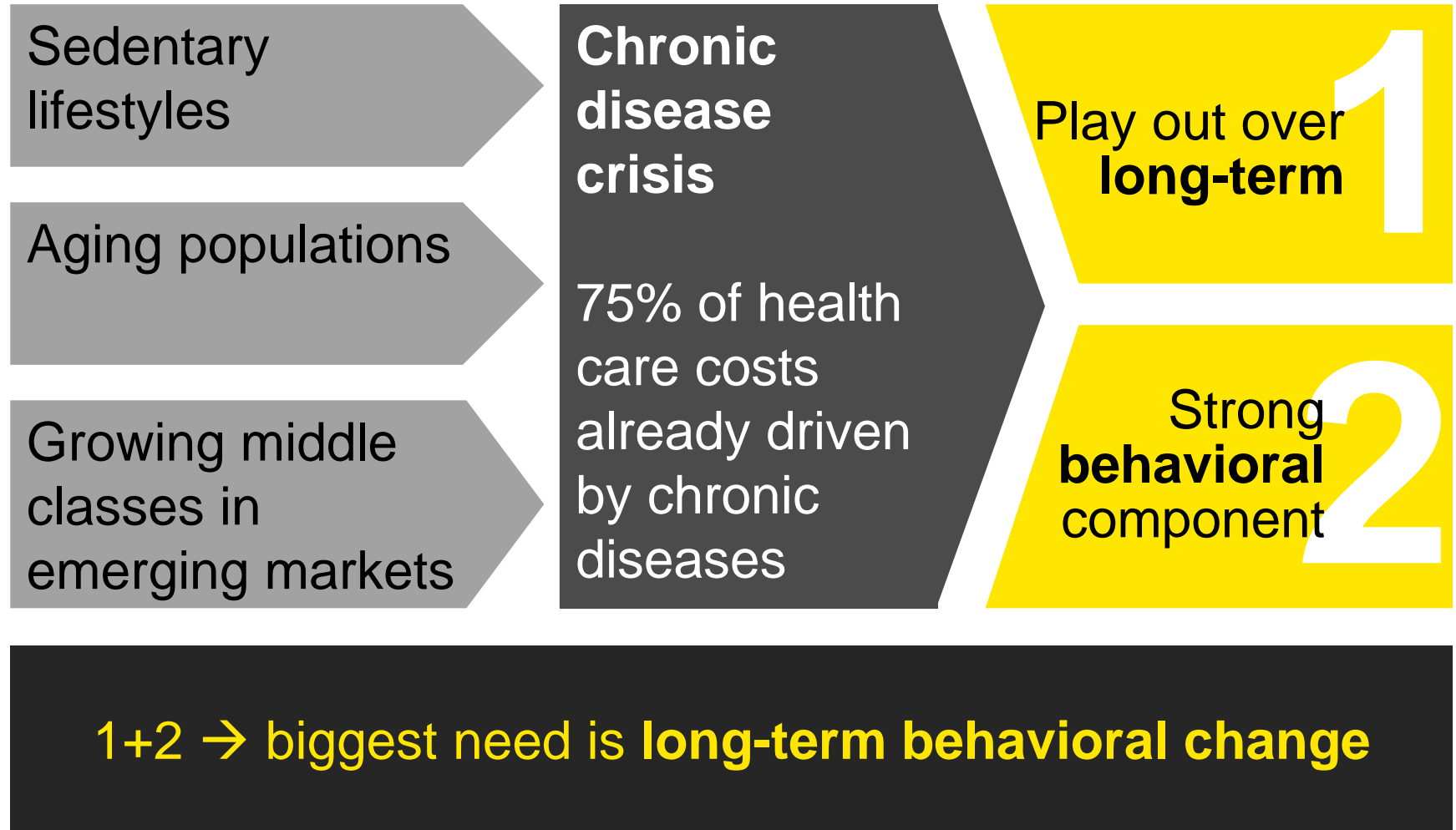
Transform the current disease care model and improve outcomes

Data core of new approach nudge behavior, lower risk and increase effectiveness

Use m-health to gain insights into behaviors, lower health costs



# We face a looming chronic disease crisis...



... but nobody is incentivized for long-term behavioral change

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**Patients:** behavioral biases (hyperbolic time discounting, hot vs. cold states)

**Employers:** employee churn

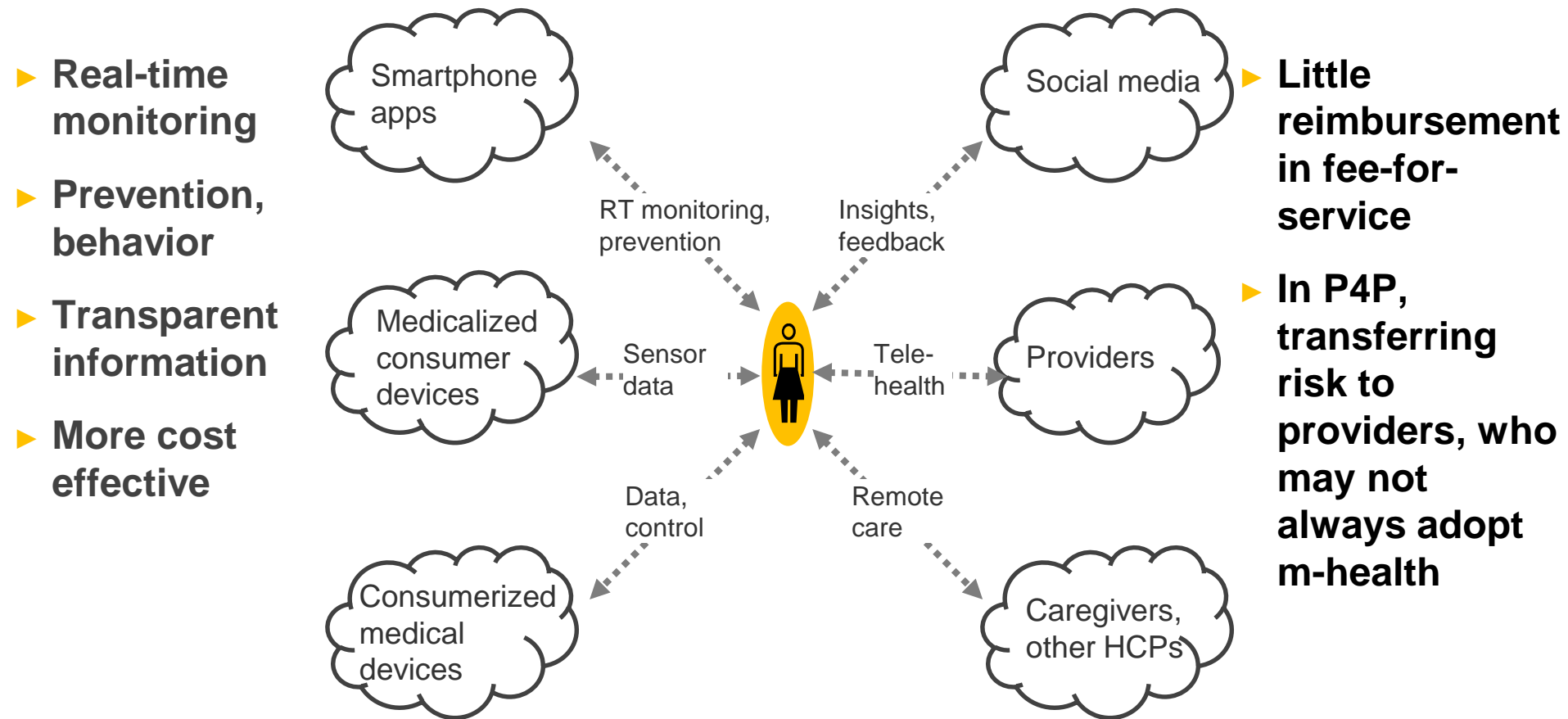
**Providers:** fee-for-service (or pay-for-performance with short-term metrics)

**Health insurers:** short-term contracts

**Governments:** short-term budgetary costs vs. long-term benefits; focus on election and budgetary cycles

**Disruptive idea: an offering that, for the first time, truly aligns incentives around long-term behavioral change**

# M-health has huge potential in chronic diseases... but limited adoption



**Disruptive idea: approach powered by m-health → greater insight, behavior change, lower costs**

# Big data has transformative potential, too... but insurers are in the dark

## Data fragmentation

- ▶ Organizational silos
- ▶ Privacy/security concerns
- ▶ Regulatory constraints

**Nobody has the  
“complete picture”**

## Information asymmetry

- ▶ Insurers underwrite with very little information on customers
- ▶ Imbalance exacerbated by personal genome sequencing, m-health, etc.

**Even as health care moves to  
big data and patients gain  
more information,  
insurers are in the dark**

**Disruptive idea: data a central component → complete picture,  
better understand and influence risk**



**Customers have higher expectations...**

- ▶ More information
- ▶ Freedom of choice
- ▶ Experiences elsewhere shaping expectations in health care, insurance

**... but insurers can't deliver**

- ▶ Not close to customers
- ▶ Cut off by independent agent model

**Disruptive idea: place customer in center → data to understand needs, m-health to build relationships, guide behavior**

## Underwriting pressures

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**Disruptive idea: new income sources to supplement core underwriting business**

## A customer centric value proposition



These give rise to a new model that brings all of the pieces together

**Customer-centric  
relationship**

**Driven by  
m-health technologies**

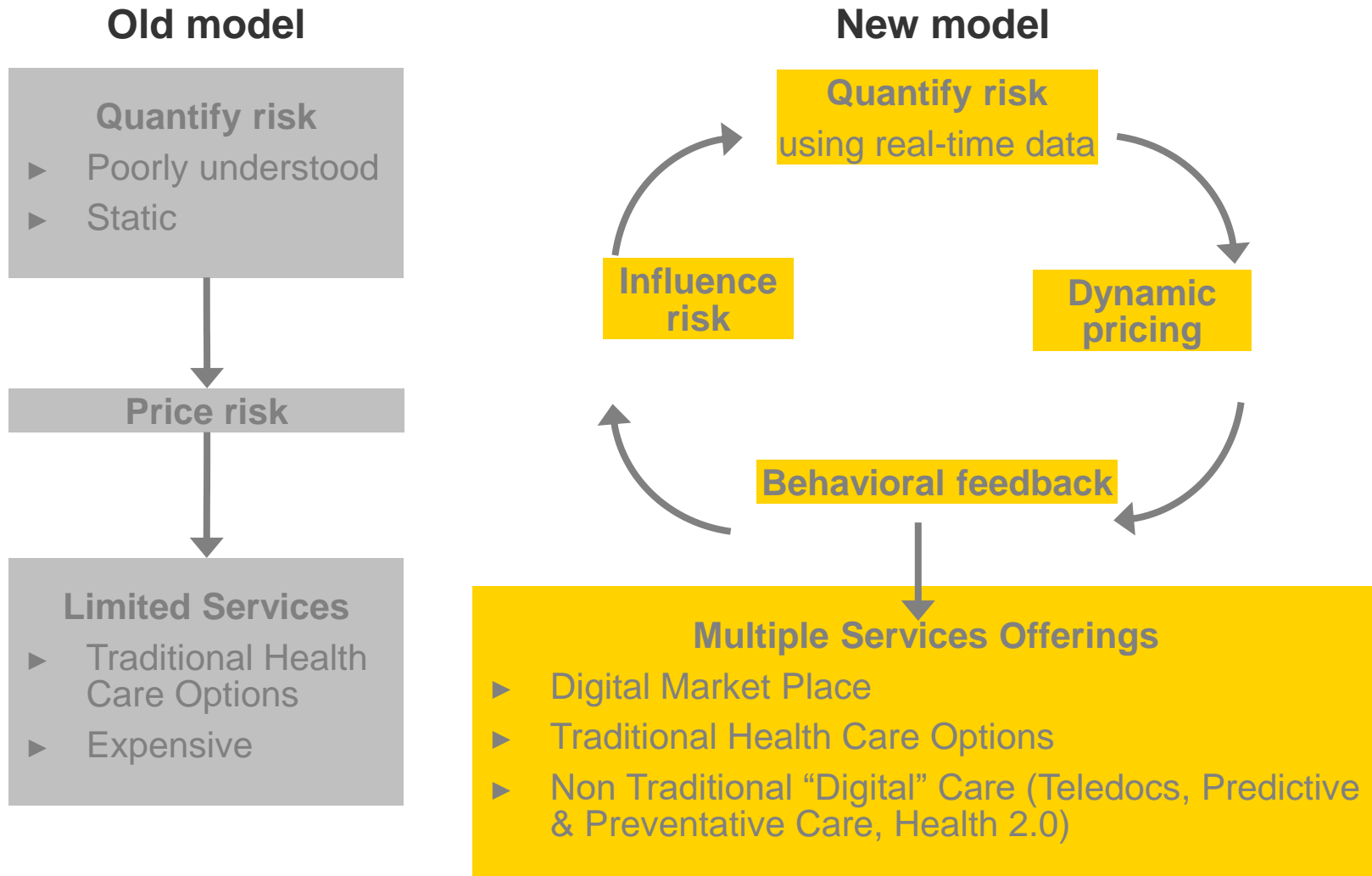
**Grounded in  
big data**

**Long-term behavioral  
change**

**Pay-for-performance  
foundation**

New sources of **income**

# ... in a completely different approach to health insurance, risk and services ...



## ... and a fundamentally different value proposition

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### Old value proposition

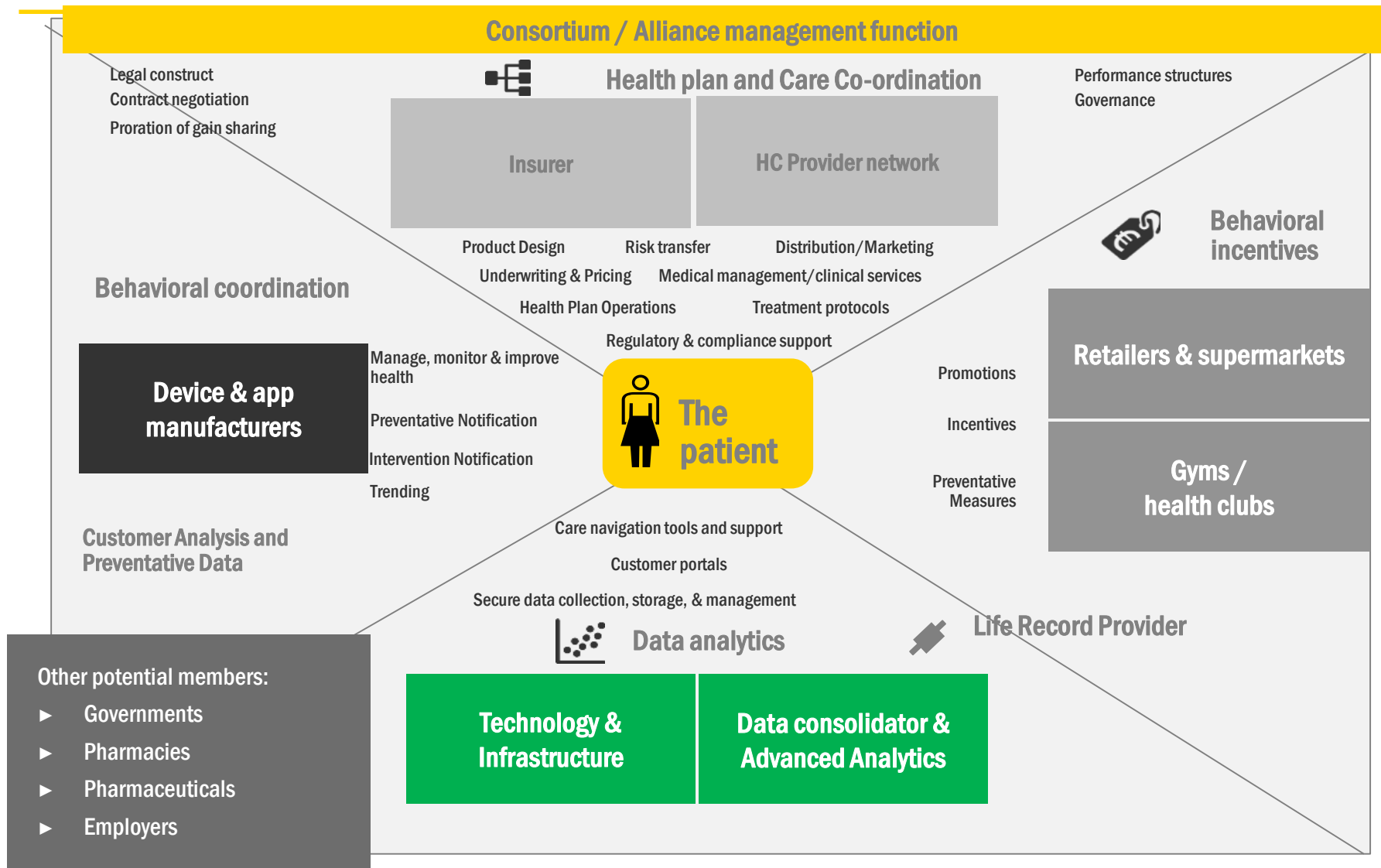
- ▶ Pay your premiums on time
- ▶ We'll cover you if you need medical care

### New value proposition

- ▶ We'll **partner** with you to keep you **healthy** for the rest of your life (or as long as you stay with us)
- ▶ You'll be **empowered** with apps, technology, data to manage your health
- ▶ Over time, your **premiums** will increase more **slowly** than average
- ▶ You could get **other benefits** for proactively managing your health

...delivered by a consortium where parties with complementary assets & skills, collaborate around a common objective

Consortium Delivery



The common objective may well be to .....

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**Lower claims**



**Behavioral change: prevention**



**Population and condition management**



**More efficient care delivery**



**Data monetization**





## Variations on the theme



# US individual market (post-ACA)

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- **The Affordable Care Act (ACA) introduced major changes to the US individual market, including:**
  - guaranteed-issue with no medical underwriting
  - expanded universe of market participants due to government premium subsidies
  - the introduction of Exchanges/Marketplaces
  - annual product filing / pricing / open enrollment cycle
  - pricing restrictions (e.g., gender-neutral, 3:1 age band limit)
  - prospectively risk-adjusted premiums
- **How do these regulatory conditions impact the viability of the core model?**
  - risk-adjustment tends to negate the impact on insurer profitability of attracting/retaining a lower-risk customer base
  - annual open enrollment cycle may make it harder to retain customer base for the long term
  - much of customer base are unaccustomed to private health insurance
  - payoff from prevention focus is limited due to risk adjustment and customer churn
  - technology-enabled model may be more attractive to younger consumers, which anecdotally have been difficult to attract to the Exchanges (hampered by age band considerations)
  - data monetization remains viable

# US large employer segment

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- **Historically, large US employers provide health benefits to their employees through either insurance or self-funding**
  - prevalence of self-funding increases with employer size
  - when self-funding, the employer typically contracts with a major insurer to gain access to provider contracts and adjudicate the benefits
  - when self-funding, the employer may or may not “reinsure” its risk via a stop loss contract (with the insurer administering the benefits, or with another insurer)
- **How do the nuances of this segment impact the viability of the core model?**
  - employee churn
  - employer churn
  - employee choice (‘private exchanges’)
  - traditional self-funding model doesn’t give the insurer participation in the upside from long-term employer morbidity improvement
  - no regulatory risk adjustment (but, risk adjustment via ‘private exchanges’?)
  - data monetization may remain viable