# How Direct Primary Care Can Help Colorado Employers

An Affordable Health Benefit for Businesses of All Sizes

# What is Direct Primary Care (DPC)?

**Direct Primary Care** (DPC) offers unlimited primary care—check-ups, preventive care, chronic disease management, and minor procedures—for a flat monthly fee, typically \$50-\$150 per employee. By bypassing traditional insurance, DPC eliminates copays and deductibles, delivering:

- Predictable Costs: Fixed fees simplify budgeting for businesses of any size.
- **Healthier Employees**: Unlimited access encourages early intervention, reducing absenteeism.
- Enhanced Retention: Employees value personalized care, boosting satisfaction. For a Colorado business with 10 or 100 employees, DPC can save thousands annually by reducing costly emergency room visits and hospitalizations, making it a smart, scalable benefit.

### Cost Savings Backed by Research

A **2020 Society of Actuaries (SOA)** study highlights DPC's cost-saving potential compared to traditional healthcare models:

- 12.78% reduction in inpatient costs through proactive chronic care management.
- 49.81% reduction in outpatient emergency department costs by prioritizing timely primary care.
- 28.05% reduction in other outpatient costs by minimizing unnecessary specialist referrals.
- Total savings: Up to 20% on overall healthcare expenses.
- Access the full study: SOA DPC Study.

### DPC for Employers with 50+ Employees

Colorado employers with 50 or more full-time equivalent (FTE) employees are subject to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) employer mandate, requiring affordable, Minimum Essential Coverage (MEC) for 95% of employees. DPC helps by:

- **Meeting ACA Requirements**: Pair DPC with a high-deductible health plan (HDHP) to satisfy affordability (employee cost <9.83% of income) and MEC standards, avoiding penalties (\$2,970-\$4,460/employee in 2025).
- Lowering Costs: A \$100/month DPC fee per employee (\$120,000/year for 100 employees) reduces premiums and ER visits, saving thousands compared to traditional group plans.
- Simplifying Administration: No insurance claims, reducing overhead.

# DPC for Employers with 1–49 Employees

Smaller Colorado businesses (under 50 FTEs) are exempt from the ACA mandate but can still leverage DPC to enhance benefits and control costs:

- **Affordable Benefits**: DPC offers a high-value perk without the high premiums of group plans (e.g., \$22,463/year for a family of four in 2023).
- Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRAs): Use HRAs to reimburse employees for individual marketplace plans, paired with DPC for primary care, providing tax-advantaged flexibility.
- Attract Talent: DPC's unlimited access differentiates small businesses in competitive hiring markets, especially for younger, healthier workforces.
  - **Example**: A business with 20 employees at \$100/month per employee spends \$24,000/year on DPC, potentially saving 20% on overall healthcare costs while offering premium care.

# Navigating Colorado Regulations

DPC integrates seamlessly with Colorado's regulatory landscape for businesses of all sizes:

- Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI): Employers split a 0.9% payroll premium (0.45% each); those with <10 employees are exempt from the employer share. Covering the full premium (\$225/year for a \$50,000 salary) enhances retention.
- **Workers' Compensation**: Required for all employers; reduce premiums with safety programs like the Premium Cost Containment Program.
- **Colorado Continuation Coverage**: For <20 employees, ensures post-employment coverage without added employer costs.

• **Cost-Saving Tip**: Work with a broker (e.g., ColoHealth, 303-456-7967) to pair DPC with HDHPs or HRAs, ensuring compliance and savings.

### Why Choose DPC for Your Business?

- **Healthier Workforce**: Unlimited visits reduce chronic condition complications and absenteeism.
- **Employee Satisfaction**: Accessible care boosts morale and retention, critical for small and large businesses alike.
- Local Fit: Colorado providers like, Dragonfly Direct Primary Care, make DPC easy to implement.
- **Scalability**: DPC works for 10 or 100 employees, with fixed fees that grow with your business.

#### **Next Steps**

- **Contact Us:** Schedule a free consultation with us at **970-775-7045** or contact us through our website, at <u>dragonflydpc.com</u>.
- **Get Started**: Pair DPC with an HDHP (50+ employees) or HRA (1–49 employees) for maximum savings.