

BIG COSTS

DELIVERED WITH PRETERM BIRTHS

Average First Year Medical Cost of a **Full Term Baby**:

\$5,085¹

Average First Year Medical Cost of a **Preterm Baby**:

\$55,393¹

Preterm births cost employers **\$12.7 billion** in **excess health care expenses** in a year.²



The Impact of Multiples

With increased use of assisted reproductive technologies, there has been a **growth in the birth rate of multiples**.

Although just **3% of births are multiples**, they account for **nearly 20 times the amount spent for singleton births**. Having **twins costs nearly five times** that of a single delivery.³

DID YOU KNOW? The March of Dimes has given the United States a “C” grade for its preterm birth rate of 9.6%, which is higher than that of most high-income countries.⁴

What Can Employers Do?

As they face the potential for paying higher claims for preterm births, employers play a critical role in prevention.

The following can be used to help improve outcomes:

- ✓ Maternal wellness programs
- ✓ Educational resources regarding pregnancy risk factors
- ✓ Proactive medical management practices, including screenings and care coordination
- ✓ Discouraging unnecessary early deliveries scheduled for convenience



Preterm births are not easy to predict or control.

However, self-funded employers should be aware of the statistics and potential costs so they can protect themselves financially. Stop Loss coverage helps to protect against catastrophic loss. **Contact your HM Insurance Group sales representative to find out more.**

HM STOP LOSS
AN HM INSURANCE GROUP PRODUCT

¹Prematurity Campaign Progress Report 2013, March of Dimes; ²Premature Babies Cost Employers \$12.7 Billion Annually, March of Dimes, February 7, 2014; ³Lemos EV, Zhang D, Van Voorhis BJ, et al. Healthcare expenses associated with multiple vs singleton pregnancies in the United States. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2013;209:586.e1-11; ⁴2015 Premature Birth Report Card, www.marchofdimes.org/reportcard, accessed June 22, 2016.