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Guide to **Health Risk** **Assessment &** **Stratification**

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Guide to Health Risk Assessment and Stratification

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Executive Editor's Note

Welcome to the Healthcare Intelligence Network's *Guide to Health Risk Assessment and Stratification*. When we conducted our annual survey on health risk assessments in 2010, we found that more than 67 percent of healthcare organizations use health assessment tools to gauge health risk factors in their population and identify potentially high-risk, high-utilization individuals. Healthcare case managers are stratifying individuals to more effectively coordinate care and allocate case management resources. These tools are at work in health plan offices, the medical home, hospital emergency rooms (ERs), and nursing homes and long-term care facilities. Everyone wants to reduce avoidable healthcare utilization costs, and risk assessment is the gateway to these potential savings.

The *Guide to Health Risk Assessment and Stratification* describes how a carefully planned health risk assessment (HRA) effort can lead to targeted interventions and improved self-management, which can help to reduce avoidable hospital readmissions, ER visits and other healthcare utilization.

Each chapter in this guide delivers the guidance required by healthcare organizations to structure a comprehensive risk assessment and stratification program:

Chapter 1: Overview

Chapter 2: From HRA Participation to Payoff

Chapter 3: Targeting the High-Risk

Chapter 4: Stratifying for Case Management

Chapter 5: Matching Risks to Interventions

Chapter 6: ROI from Risk Reduction

Chapter 7: Care Management Connection

Chapter 8: Q&A

The *Guide to Health Risk Assessment and Stratification* will help your organization to identify your costliest populations and put them on the path to more appropriate and cost-effective use of healthcare resources.

Melanie Matthews, HIN executive vice president and chief operating officer

