



Milliman IntelliScript® See more. Fear less.

# The History of Underwriting

Doreen Acampora & Carolyn McAvinn | October 4, 2023

#### Who Are We?

#### Doreen Acampora, FALU, FLMI, CLU, ChFC

#### **Carrier Experience**

- Chief Underwriter roles
- Strategy and Underwriting Innovation
- Product Development
- Insurtech

#### **Industry Engagement**

MUD Group- Board Member/Sponsorship Committee chair

#### Milliman Focus

- Clinical Services team
- Underwriting consulting services
- Underwriting training
- Product innovation

Milliman IntelliScript®
See more. Fear less.



**Underwriting Consultant** 

#### Who Are We?

#### Carolyn McAvinn, FLMI, AALU, ACS, RHU, HIAA, Series 6 & 26, PMC-IV

#### **Carrier Experience**

- Underwriting / Many Hats- <u>Six</u> Member Companies
- Mortality Assessment / Marketing Underwriter
- Automated Engines / Accelerated Underwriting

#### **Industry Engagement**

MUD Group- Board Member / Secretary

#### **MIB Focus**

- Sales/Member Engagement Team/Underwriting Consultant Services
- Medical Data Solutions Platform





Director, Underwriting Innovations

#### **Discussion Items**

- Early Days of Life Insurance (CM)
- The Early to Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century (CM)
  - Challenges & Solutions
  - Mortality Trends
  - Innovation
- The Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century- Present Day (DA)
  - Challenges & Solutions
  - Mortality Trends
  - Innovation
- What Does the Future Hold for Underwriting? (DA and CM)
  - Perspectives and Predictions
  - FAQs from our customers
- The Future of Underwriting / An Open Discussion:
  - The Role of the Underwriter
  - Al
  - The Regulatory Environment

# **Early Days of Underwriting**

Early 20th Century

# Early Days of Life Insurance Underwriting

#### The Presbyterian Ministers' Life Insurance Fund

- 1759- First recorded life insurance entity in the U.S.
- Intended for protection for widows and children of deceased ministers
- Early barriers to sales activity
  - Concept of putting monetary value on the life of a person
  - Legal constraints for women to enter contracts, including insurance policies or inheriting wealth or estates

Insurable Interest as we know today-A wife or spouse did not fit the definition

# Early Days of Life Insurance Underwriting

#### Life insurance was only for the healthy

- Insurance companies were locally organized & included a physician on BOD
- Underwriting medical risk was essentially pass/fail... very little documentation
- Applicants often required to appear in front of BOD to answer medicals questions

#### **Type of Questions**

Are you given to drink or other intemperance?

Are you subject to any disorder that might tend to shorten your day?

# **Challenges & Solutions**

Early & Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century

# **UW Challenges**

#### **Early 20th Century**

- Pressure, Opportunity and rationalization for a customer to lie when seeking coverage
  - Lack of availability of physicians in rural areas & rising fees to provide medical statements made obtaining medical status from MDs difficult
  - During the Depression era, insurers were having problems based on low interest rates, falling credit rating and overly optimistic mortality table assumptions
  - Policyholders needed funds and were cashing out
  - Most applicants were honest, but companies were losing money because of the dishonestly of some which were driving up premiums

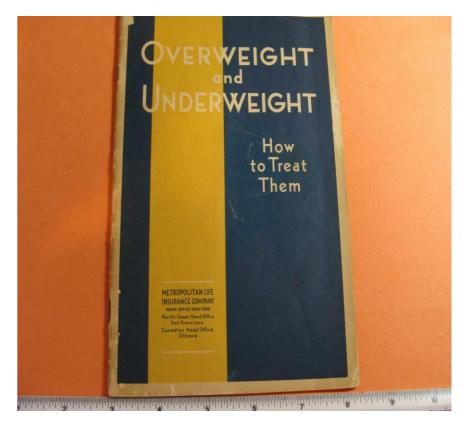
Some insurers requested statements regarding health and habits from the family doctor, neighbors, friends, relatives

#### **UW Solutions**

#### **Early 20th Century**

- Company profits were GOOD for healthy lives on the books... Desire to expand coverage for those not in perfect health
  - Use of lay underwriters to review applications
  - Health manuals first introduced during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century

- **1912-** Blood Pressure Readings
- **1918** First Medical & Actuarial Supported Mortality Tables



Source: SOA.org, Record, Volume 25, No.3, October 17-20,1999

#### **UW Solutions**

#### **Early 20th Century Advertisement**



pancreas are called upon to do.

Men and women over 45 who weigh 20% more than the average have a death rate that is 50% higher than the average for their age. Long continued overweight may lead to early heart disease or apoplexy. Nearly half the people who develop diabetes are very fat before the disease appears.

Too much fat usually comes from overeating, lack of exercise, or both. It is easier to avoid excess weight than to take it off. In most instances overweight can be controlled.

Even when present for a long period of years overweight often may be reduced with safety, but each case requires individual treatment. No effort to bring about a marked weight reduction should be attempted except on the advice and under the supervision of a physician.



themselves with reducing medicines, often suffer serious consequences. Some of these medicines contain dangerous drugs; others are practically useless for weight reduction. It may also be dangerous to begin suddenly a strenuous system of exercises in an effort to reduce. Such extreme measures may throw too great a strain on vital organs already impaired by the excess fat and cause a sudden

Aside from overeating, lack of exercise and hereditary factors, overweight may be caused by disease or improper secretion of certain glands. Even if it is caused by an abnormal glandular condition, medical treatment can often effect a complete cure or relief.

Do you know what you should weigh? Send for the Metropolitan's booklet "Overweight and Underweight" which tells the proper weight for your age and height. In it you will find a complete program of diet and exercise which may help you to keep your weight down, or-under your physician's guidance-to reduce safely. Address Booklet Department 537-X.

Keep Healthy-Be Examined Regularly

. 149 .

FREDERICK H. ECKER, Chairman of the Board ~ ONE MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. ~ LEROY A. LINCOLN, President

Source: SOA.org, Record, Volume 25, No.3, October 17-20,1999

#### **UW Solutions**

#### **Early 20th Century**

- Lack of availability of physicians in rural areas & rising fees to provide medical statements made obtaining medical status from MDs difficult
  - By 1925, U.S. insurers routinely began taking non-medical exams

The mortality experience was just as good!

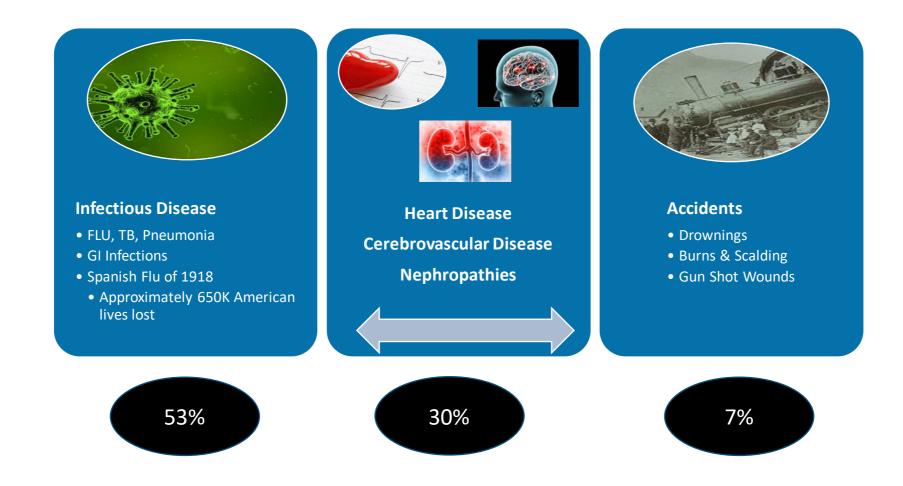
# **Mortality Trends & Innovation**

Early & Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Leader Causes of Death

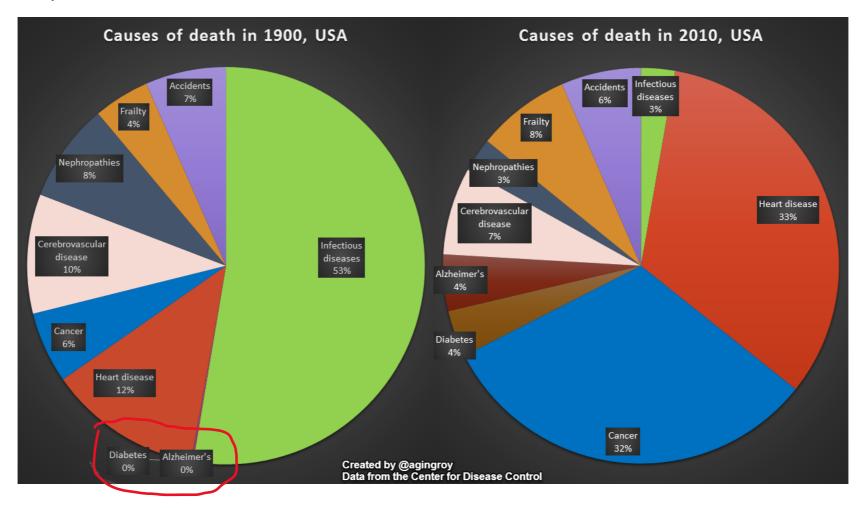


#### Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Leader Causes of Death



Source: CDC

#### Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Leader Causes of Death



Source: CDC

Social Issues Impact on Mortality



# Has Prohibition Brought Temperance?

The death rate from alcoholism in United States has risen 300 per cent since the first year of Prohibition.

—Dr. Fred L. Hoffman, Consulting Statistician, Prudential Life Insurance Company.

In the wage-earning population at least, the alcoholism death rate during the past eight years has been six times as high in the United States as in Canada.

-Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

Insanity due to alcoholism has steadily increased since 1920 and has now reached the 1917 level.

(According to table of alcoholic admissions to State Insane Asylums in New York and Massachusetts by John Gebhardt, Statistician)

"Since 1920 there has been a continuous increase so that in 1929 we treated more patients for liquor addiction than in any year since 1896, with the exception of 1906 and 1907."

-Official Report of the Keeley Cure.

Arrests for drunkenness in 1928 are estimated at 1,812,000 or 151 per 10,000 inhabitants—twice as high as 1920.

(Based on police records in 371 towns and cities tabulated by Moderation League)

ALL THE RECORDS TELL THE SAME TRAGIC STORY!

PROHIBITION HAS FAILED DISASTROUSLY!

REPEAL IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARD TEMPERANCE!

Join the
WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL PROHIBITION REFORM



#### **Innovation: Product Innovation**

MIB was born on July 1st... In what year?

1902

#4 Born in Germany Born in Ireland #5 #6 Born in Sweden or Norway #21 **Tailor** #28 Hotel keeper, not attending bar #29 Wine or liquor seller, abstainer Wine or liquor seller, non-abstainer #30 #45 Has taken cure for, or has reformed from, intemperance **#55** Has had blood-spitting Texas, Harris County #96

#### CLASSES OF RISKS.

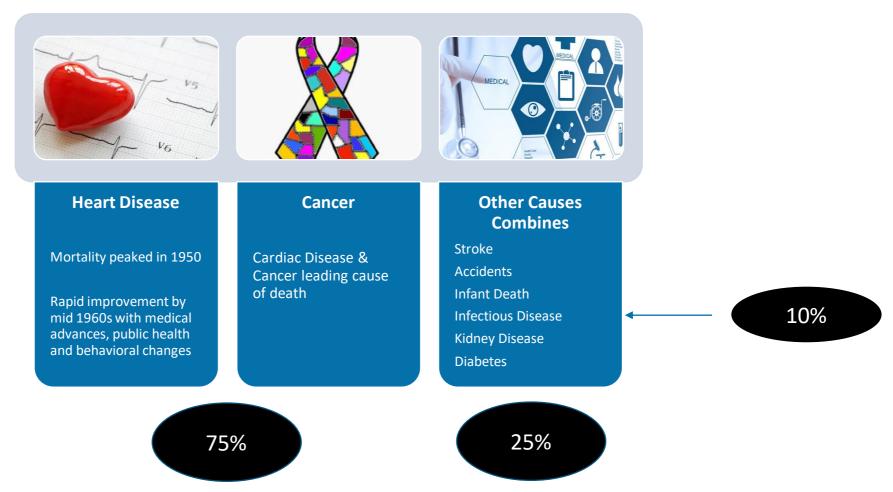
- 1. Amount \$20,000 or over on same applica-
- Amount applied for reduced by company.
- Granted on plan not applied for.
- Born in Germany.
- Born in Ireland.
- Born in Sweden or Norway.
- Colored.
- Officer in army. Exclude issued after 1896.
- Officer in navy.
- Marshal, sheriff, police, constable, etc.
- In city fire department.
- Physician.
- Exposed in occupation to electricity.
- In sawmill.
- Puddler, foundry or rolling-mill worker, etc., not machinist.
- Glass worker.
- Potter.
- House painter.
- Printer, not publisher.
- Butcher or meat dealer.
- Laborer.
- Contractor
- Theatrical occupation.
- Traveling salesman. Cattle dealer or drover.
- Hotel keeper, not attending bar.
- Wine or liquor seller, abstainer.
- Wine or liquor seller, non-abstainer.
- Brewer or employee. Distiller or employee.
- Railway passenger conductor.
- Railway passenger trainman. prior to 1890.
- Railway mail clerk.
- Railway express messenger.
- Railway locomotive engineer.
- Railway locomotive fireman.
- Officer of ocean steam vessel.
- Officer of sailing vessel on ocean or Great Lakes.
- Pilot.
- Seaman or fisherman
- Has intermittent or irregular pulse.
- Has pulse below 60.
- Has taken cure for, or has reformed from, intemperance.
- Has had asthma
- Has had inflammatory rheumatism once.
- Has had inflammatory rheumatism oftener
- than once. Has had gout.
- Has had syphilis.
- Has had otorrhea, or running from ear.
- 52. Has had hepatic colic, or gall-stone.

- 53. Has had renal colic, calculus or gravel.
- Has had inflammation of bowels, peritonitis or appendicitis,
- Has had blood-spitting.
- Has had hip-joint disease.
- Has had dyspepsia, with weight A, B or C.
- Has had dyspepsia, with weight D.
- Weight A: neither parent noted as dead below 70.
- Weight A: one parent, or both, dead below 70.
- Weight A: girth of abdomen greater than chest expanded.
- Weight B: neither parent noted as dead below 70.
- Weight B: one parent, or both, dead be-
- Weight B: girth of abdomen greater than chest expanded.
- Weight C: parent dead below 70 of consumption, phthisis or tuberculosis.
- Weight C: parent dead below 70 of kidney or Bright's disease.
- Weight C: parent dead below 70 of heart disease.
- Weight C: parent dead below 70 of apoplexy or paralysis.
- Weight C: both parents dead below 60.
- Weight C: both parents reached 75.
- Weight D: parent dead below 70 of any lung disease.
- Weight D: not included under 58 or 71.
- Height above six feet three inches.
- Height below five feet.
- Parent, brother or sister died of cancer.
- Parent, brother or sister has been insane. Place of Residence:
- Alabama, Mobile County.
- Alabama, Montgomery County.
- Arkausas, Jefferson County.
- Arkansas, Phillips County.
- Colorado, Arapahoe County.
- Florida, Duval County.
- Florida, Monroe County.
- Georgia, Chatham County.
- Kentucky, McCracken County.
- Louisiana, Orleans County.
- Mississippi, Adams County.
- Mississippi, Warren County.
- North Carolina, New Hanover County.
- New Mexico, Santa Fé County.
- South Carolina, Charleston County.
- Tennessee, Shelby County.
- Texas, Bexar County. 93-
- Texas, Dallas County.
- Texas, Galveston County.
- Texas, Harris County.
- 97. Texas, Travis County. 98. Virginia, Norfolk County

Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century Leader Causes of Death



#### Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century Leader Causes of Death



Source: The Cleveland Clinic & NAIC.ORG / August 2013

Early – Mid 20<sup>th</sup>
Century Annual
Mortality Statistics

**1900:** One in **40** Americans

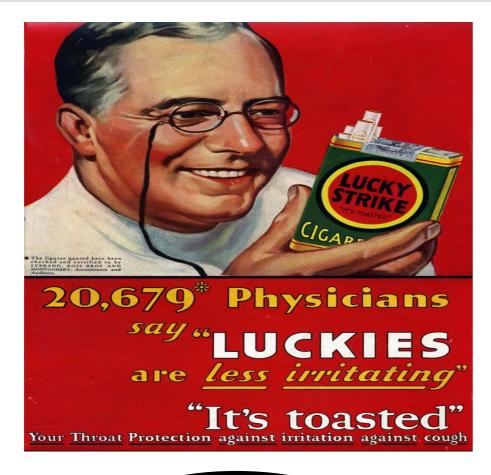
**2013:** One in **140** Americans

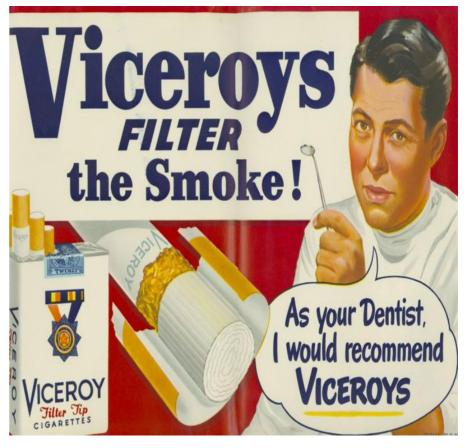
1990- 2013:
Life expectancy at birth rose by more than 30 years

#### Influencing Factors

- Demographic & Socioeconomic Group
- Educational Attainment
  - On average, individuals with college or advanced degree live more than 10 years longer than those without a high school degree
- Access to Better Nutrition
- Urban Sanitation / Water Filtration
- Development of Antibiotics

#### Innovation: Medical Innovation & Behavior Modification



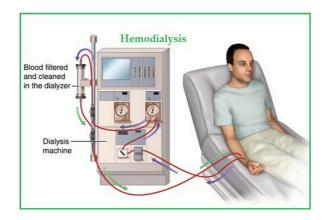


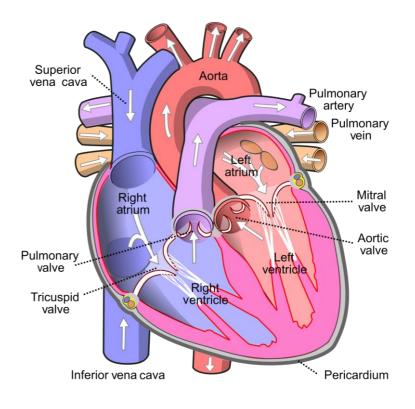
1930 Advertisement

1949 Advertisement

### Innovation: Medical Innovation

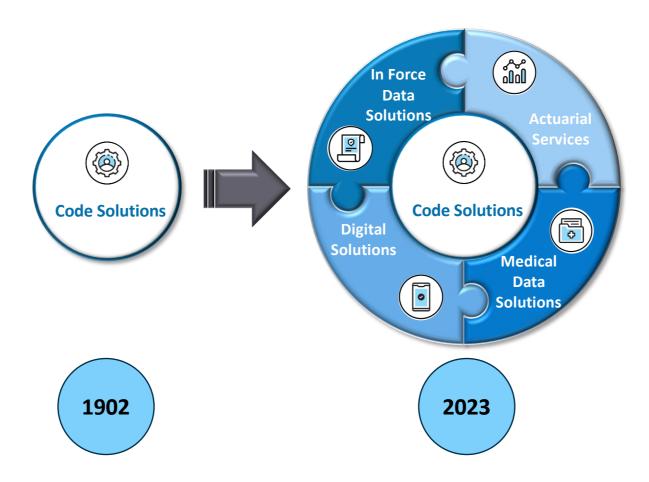






#### Product Innovation: MIB Transformation to Support Underwriting

MIB has evolved from a niche service provider to a diversified partner of choice within the insurance industry



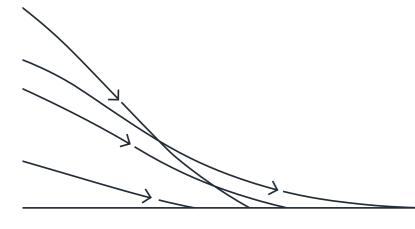
# The Underwriting Evolution

Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century to Present

#### **ELECTRONIC DATA HAS DISRUPTED UNDERWRITING**

#### **DECREASE**

- APS, labs
- Cycle times
- Costs
- Abandonment



#### **INCREASE**

- Electronic requirements (Rx, MIB, MVR, medical, credit, Medical Data, EHR, Risk scores)
- Decision engines driven by data
- Predictive models
- Al, machine learning
- Automation

#### **RESULT**

- Protective value/mortality savings
- Productivity and underwriting capacity
- Insight on health conditions



### **UNDERWRITING IN THE PAST: FEAR OF MISSING ANYTHING!**



### **UNDERWRITING TODAY: SEE MORE, FEAR LESS**

**Streamlined Processing** 



Still data analysis, just with different tools

### **HIV AND COVID: TWO DISRUPTORS**



#### **COVID**

- 2020 onset
- Decrease in exams/ blood
- Increase in regulations
- High mortality and morbidity impact

#### **HIV AND COVID: TWO DISRUPTORS**

#### HIV

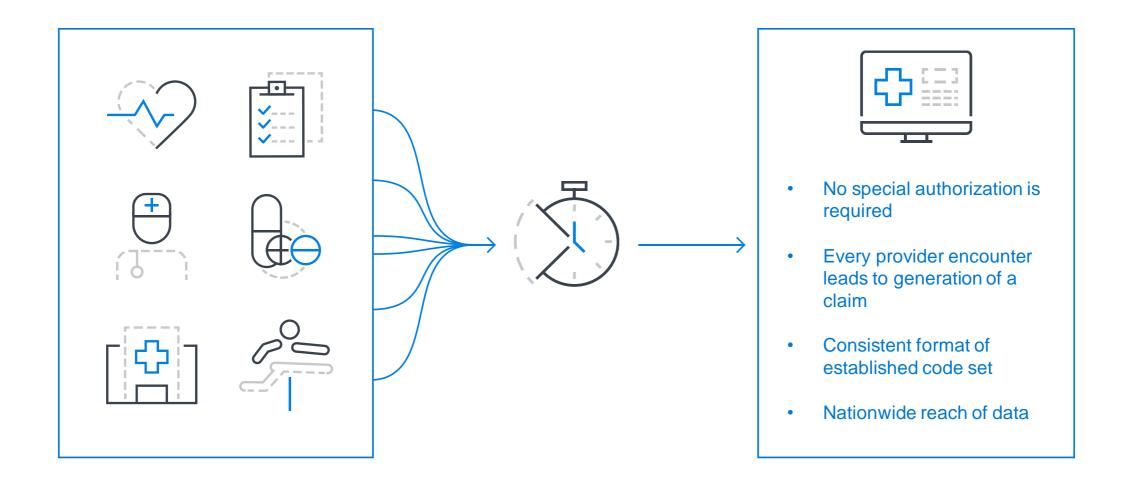
- Mid/late 1980's onset
- Increase in exams/blood
- Increase in regulations
- Moderate mortality and morbidity impact

#### **COVID**

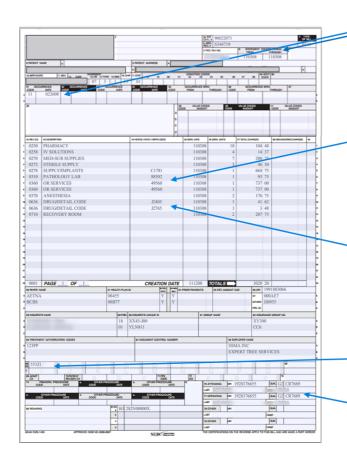
- 2020 onset
- Decrease in exams/ blood
- Increase in regulations
- High mortality and morbidity impact

# MEDICAL CLAIMS DATA

#### MEDICAL DATA PROVIDES REAL-TIME HEALTH INFO IN SECONDS.



#### SAMPLE HOSPITAL BILLING STATEMENT



Hospitalization or Treatment dates

Procedures billed to major medical

- C1781: Mesh (implantable)
- 88302: Surgical pathology level 2
- 49568: Implantation of mesh
- 49560: Repair incisional hernia
- Medications billed to major medical
- J2405: Ondansetron injection
- J2765: Metoclopramide injection

**Diagnosis Codes** 

553.21: Incisional hernia

Provider data including NPI

#### CLAIMS CODES REVEAL VALUABLE HEALTHCARE INFORMATION.



#### **ICD CODES**

Diagnosis codes | Procedure codes

#### **CPT CODES - CATEGORY I AND II**

Procedure codes (clinic visits, surgery, etc.)

#### **HCPCS CODES**

Facility-administered drugs | Medical equipment

#### **REV CODES**

Revenue codes (additional procedure details)

#### **PROVIDER**

Specialty | Contact information | Place of service



- Interpreted by Irix
- FCRA-compliant

#### INSTANTLY GET A COMPREHENSIVE PICTURE OF HEALTH STATUS.







#### **IDENTIFIES CONDITIONS**

- Tobacco
- Substance abuse/psychiatry
- Cancer treatment
- Morbidity-related conditions

#### **ADDS EFFICIENCY**

- Real-time data
- Interpreted by Irix
- Delivered instantly
- Fewer APS orders

#### **WIDELY ADOPTED**

- Life (FUW, SI, FE, accel.)
- Medicare Supplement
- Disability income
- Long-term care

# IRIX® – RISK SCORE

### MILLIMAN'S MORTALITY STUDY IS A RICHER SOURCE FOR INSIGHT.

Lives

Life years

**Deaths** 

**Application** years

**42**M

235M

1.9M

**2005- 2020** 

### **NEW MORTALITY INSIGHTS CLARIFY MURKY CONDITIONS.**

Relative Mortality by Dx Rule Messages in Age Bands								
	18–29	30–39	40–49	50–59	60–69	70–79	80–85	Total
9926 Dx - Chronic kidney disease, stage 3	1,006%	914%	677%	428%	261%	169%	120%	194%
9005 Dx - Cardiac conduction disorder, other	298%	260%	199%	208%	170%	137%	109%	148%
9089 Dx - Carotid artery disease	246%	254%	237%	261%	205%	151%	112%	158%
9101 Dx - COPD	247%	355%	407%	373%	278%	194%	135%	234%
9109 Dx - Coronary artery disease	285%	425%	363%	264%	191%	145%	112%	161%
9122 Dx - Diabetes w/ other / unspecified complications	813%	728%	547%	389%	261%	182%	130%	230%
9176 Dx - Hypertensive heart disease	501%	433%	302%	232%	185%	142%	112%	161%
9798 Dx - Alcohol use, abuse, or remission	293%	376%	404%	352%	269%	190%	118%	276%

#### RISK SCORE IS A RISK ASSESSMENT SUPERTOOL.

Stratifies risk within a given medical condition

Evidencebased and data-driven Detects unintuitive patterns

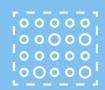
Quickly and consistently interprets large amounts of data

Facilitates
point-of-sale
decisions,
additional
distribution
channels, and
new product
offerings



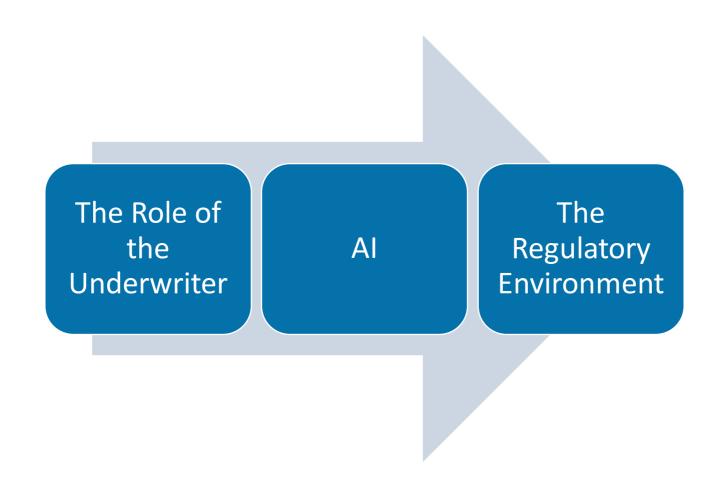








# The Future of Underwriting: An Open Discussion



# The Future of Underwriting: We Identify & Build Solutions Together

