Perception Shift:

How Health Insurers Can Meet New Consumer Expectations During the Public Health Crisis

Ketchum recently conducted a survey of nearly 4,000 Americans to explore how the COVID-19 pandemic has changed consumer perceptions and expectations toward health insurers. We found health insurers have earned newfound levels of consumer trust as a result of the quick actions they took early in this public health crisis. This shift presents a long-term opportunity to maintain momentum and build brand reputation via sustained action and stakeholder engagement.

Our research insights can guide business opportunity:

The reputation halo.

How can this improved consumer perception convert to sustainable momentum?



Say their opinion of health insurance companies has improved since the start of COVID-19



Broad consumer permission.

What new roles will consumers allow and expect health insurers to play?



Look for health insurers to help members adopt or maintain healthy lifestyles





Expect health insurers to work directly with health care professionals to improve patient outcomes





Expect health insurers to analyze patient data to identify those at highest risk for health issues



The wellness imperative.

Do shifting priorities in mental health and wellness allow insurers to meet new consumer needs?



98%

Agree mental health is just as mportant as physical health



40%

Report struggling with mental health or substance abuse issues during the pandemic (Source: CDC)



89%

Agree wellness activities are just as important to health as regular doctor visits



83%

Of women have increased levels of depression, vs. 38% of men (Source: Mental Health Index)

Assessing Your Reputation:

Introducing Ketchum's Reputation Maturity Model

Reputation is how others perceive and choose to engage with your brand. With the right focus and action, a positive brand reputation can lead to a significant competitive advantage.

How can health insurers maximize the opportunity to expand brand reputation in this time of shifting consumer expectation? We believe it takes assessment, benchmarking, proactive action and thoughtful monitoring of the issues and stakeholders that matter most to your business.

That's why we developed the Reputation Maturity Model assessment. It's equal parts workshop and work plan to help you define where you stand—and where you can expand your reputation's impact on business success.

Ketchum's Health Services team has the dedicated, deep industry expertise to support and steer health insurers' reputation journeys.

How we secure competitive advantage:

- 1) Drive reputation from the top down
- 2) Eliminate silos
- 3) Ensure it is data driven and measured over time
- 4) Close the 'say/do gap'
- 5) Put customers and employees at the center

Assessing your brand reputation: Reputation Maturity Model



To understand your company's reputation maturity, contact:

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Visit ketchum.com/covid-healthsurvey for more information