



Heart Disease

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in California, contributing to more than a quarter of deaths in the state.¹ As of June 2012, there were 2,640 of 12,523 individuals enrolled in the California Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan (PCIP)² that received treatment for heart disease or a heart-related disorder.

- ▶ **One in five PCIP subscribers received treatment for a heart-related disorder.**
- ▶ **Subscribers ranged in age from 9 to 89 years old; the average age was 52.**
- ▶ **Fifty-four percent were male and forty-six percent were female.**
- ▶ **Average monthly premium paid by the 2,640 subscribers that received treatment for a heart-related disorder was \$382.³**
- ▶ **Over \$28.9 million in payments to date were for heart-related claims (see Figure 1.).**
- ▶ **Coronary atherosclerosis and high blood pressure are the most common heart diseases/heart-related disorders diagnosed to these subscribers.**

Coronary atherosclerosis is the buildup of plaque (such as cholesterol) in an artery of the heart, reducing blood flow (see Figure 2.). Left untreated, coronary atherosclerosis can cause a heart attack or heart failure.

Figure 1. Distribution of heart-related claim payments by inpatient, outpatient, and pharmacy claims.

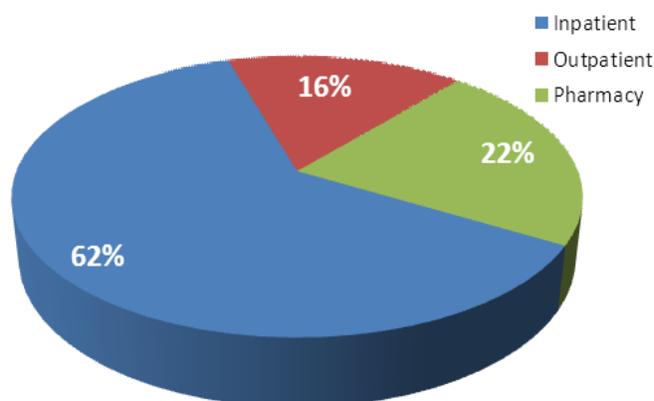
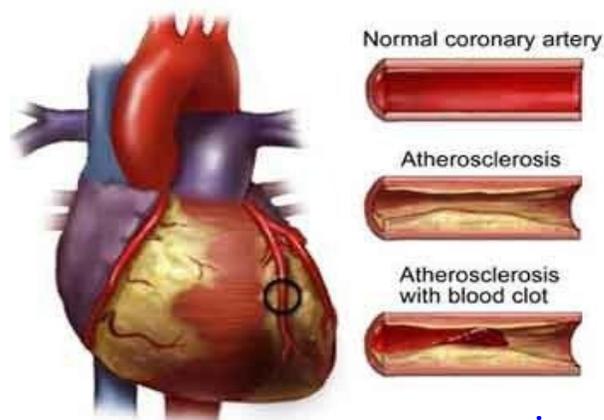


Figure 2. Picture of a normal coronary artery and an artery with atherosclerosis.



www.pcip.ca.gov
1-877-428-5060

¹ California Department of Public Health Death Statistical Tables, 2009
<<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/statistics/Documents/VSC-2009-0510.pdf>>.

² The PCIP is a health insurance program for Californians that have been previously denied health insurance coverage due to a pre-existing medical condition.

³ Premiums in the PCIP are based on the subscriber's age and county of residence, and range from \$107 to \$557 per month.