# The Signal and the Noise!

Gurgaon, 25<sup>th</sup> August 2015



# Six trends disrupting health insurance

- The Chronic disease crisis
- The move to outcomes & value
- M–Health technologies
- The big data revolution
- Customer Centricity in insurance
- Pressures on underwriting

Source: The future of health insurance, E & Y



# The Writing on the Wall

- Insurance as we know today has an expiry date!
- Not if, but when
- What is driving this is certainly not linear progression!
- In what ways are the disrupters likely to influence the future state of health insurance?
- Are there any time lines?



### Agenda

- Non-core: Are there blind spots stopping us from growing healthcare beyond the current confines. Say, the area of tort?
- Major revolutions in life science
- Research: Plethora of developments around the world including China
- Challenge conventional wisdom and attempt transcend beyond the known mental barriers



# Is this a Signal or just another Noise?

"Investigating how we can distinguish a true signal from a universe of noisy everincreasing data. Many predictions fail, often at great cost to society, because most of us have a poor **understanding of probability and uncertainty.** We are wired to detect a signal, and we mistake more confident predictions for more accurate ones. But **overconfidence is often the reason for failure.** If our appreciation of uncertainty improves, our predictions can get better too. This is the **prediction paradox**: the more humility we have about our ability to make predictions – and the more we are willing to learn from our mistakes – the more we can turn information into knowledge and data into foresight."

Source: The Signal and the Noise, by Nate Silver





### Does that make us a health insurer?

- We offer Pharma Liability, Clinical Trials Liability and Medical Malpractice covers!
- Is travel insurance health insurance?

www.insurecancer.com

Death wish: Swimming with dolphins!



# What's Tort got to do with Health Insurance?

- Would Tort Reform Lower Healthcare Costs?
- Are Medical Malpractice lawsuits driving up healthcare costs?
- Curious case of childbirth in the Hawaiian Islands!
- If costs soar fewer people will insure!
- Bonesetters: Actuarial cannot work in isolation of the market realities!



# UK pulls up the physicians!

In a major clampdown on unnecessary use of antibiotics, Britain has now decided to penalise doctors who go soft and give in to patient's demands for the wonder drugs that are fast becoming ineffective.

The guideline recommends that prescribers take time to discuss with patients the likely nature of their condition, the benefits and harms of immediate antimicrobial prescribing, alternative options such as watchful waiting and/or delayed prescribing and why prescribing an antimicrobial may not be the best option for them.

Source: Times of India



### What would happen if we could all live to 300 years old?





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#### The key risk is our ability to fund an ageing population.

If life expectancies increase in a highly non-linear fashion as a result of a medical breakthrough such as the ability to slow cell ageing, it would turn society upside down. We are not equipped politically, economically or socially to handle the effects.

- If for example, it were possible to live to 300 years old, does that mean that one should?
- Should doctors be obligated to extend life if they have the wherewithal to do so?
- How long should a working life be?
- And what if the ability to live a very long life was determined only by your ability to pay for expensive treatments?
- These may be theoretical questions at the moment, but for how much longer?

Source: CURVE BALLS - GLOBAL POLITICAL RISKS IN 2015 AND BEYOND, CII with Cicero

<u>*Ray Kurzweil:*</u> "By the 2020s, most diseases will go away as <u>NANOBOTS</u> become smarter than current medical technology".



# IATROGENICS

Statins fail in their application the first principle of IATROGENICS (unseen harm); further, they certainly do lower cholesterol, but as a human your objective function is not to lower a certain metric to get a grade to pass a school-like test, but get in better health. Further, it is not certain whether these indicators people try to lower the cause or manifestation that correlate to a condition-just as muzzling a baby would certainly prevent him from crying but would not remove the cause of the emotions. Metric-lowering drugs are particularly vicious because of a legal complexity. The doctor has the incentive to prescribe it because should the patient have a heart attack, he would be sued for negligence; but the error in the opposite direction is not penalized at all, as side effects do not appear at all as being caused by the medicine.

The same problem of naive interpretation mixed with intervention bias applies to cancer detection: there is marked bias in favour of treatment, even when it brings more harm, because the legal system favours intervention.

Source: Antifragile by Nassim Nicholas Taleb



### **Defensive Medicine**

"As a case study, consider mammograms. It has been shown that administering them to women over forty on an annual basis does not lead to an increase in life expectancy (as best; it could even lead to a decrease). While female mortality from breast cancer decreases for the cohort subjected to mammograms, the death from other causes increases markedly. We can spot here simple measurable iatrogenics. The doctor, seeing the tumor, cannot avoid doing something harmful, like surgery followed by radiation, chemotherapy, or both – that is, more harmful than the tumor. There is a break-even point that is easily crossed by panicked doctors and patients: treating the tumor that will not kill you shortens your life-chemotherapy is toxic. We have built up so much paranoia against cancer, looking at the chain backward, an error of logic called affirming the consequent. If all of those dying prematurely from cancer had a malignant tumor, that does not mean that all malignant tumors lead to death from cancer."

Source: Antifragile by Nassim Nicholas Taleb



## **Research: The China Way**

Conference Schedule of China International Conference on Insurance and Risk Management 2015 2015 中国保险与风险管理国际年会日程

July 15-18, 2015 Hangzhou, China 2015年7月15日-18日 中国・杭州





# **Research – The China Way**

Parallel Oral Session III-D:	Life and Health Insurance	(in Chinese)
(Liyi Meeting Room (A), the fou	urth floor of Sanli New Century Grand Hotel	Zhejiang)
Moderator: ZHANG Daijun, Profe	essor, Zhejiang University of Finance and Ec	conomics, China
<u>16:20-16:50 Optimizing of Loss</u>	Distribution Fitting and Pricing for Critical	Illness Insurance in China: Using
Extreme Value Theory and Real	Option Pricing Model	
Authors: ZHANG Ying*, Assistan	t Professor, Southeast University, China	
LIU Jin, Warwick Bu	siness School, UK	
Discussant: CHEN Lulu, Zhejiang	University of Finance and Economics, China	a
16:50-17:20 Empirical Analysis	on the Demand of Commercial Health Insu	irance in Zhejiang
Authors: CHEN Lulu*, Zhejiang I	University of Finance and Economics, China	
YE Xiaolin, Associate	Professor, Zhejiang University of Finance an	nd Economics, China <u>Discussant:</u> HE Yujia,
Tsinghua University, China	III	
17:20-17:50 Dynamic Optimized	d Asset Liability Management the Participa	ating Life Policy Case in China
Authors: HE Yujia*,Tsinghua Uni	versity, China	
Discussant: <u>YANG Xin</u> , Beijing Te	echnology and Business University, China	
17:50-18:20 New Cooperative N	Aedical Insurance's Effect on Rural Residen	nts' Medical Treatment Selection
Authors: XU Minmin, Associate	Professor,Beijing Technology and Business U	Jniversity,China
YANG Xin*, Beijing Te	echnology and Business University, China	
Discussant: ZHANG Ying, Assista	nt Professor, Southeast University, China	



# **Research – The China Way**

	Parallel Oral Session II-C: Pension and Social Security (II) (in Chinese)
	(Liye Meeting Room, the fourth floor of Sanli New Century Grand Hotel Zhejiang)
	Moderator: LIU Suchun, Professor, Shandong University of Finance and Economics, China
•	14:00-14:30 Raising Retirement Age: the Effects on Financial Sustainability of Old-age Insurance In China
	Authors: WANG Xiaojun, Professor, Renmin University of China, China
	SHAN Ge*, Renmin University of China, China
	Discussant: WANG Shuheng, Beijing Technology and Business University, China
•	14:30-15:00 Supplement of House-for-pension Scheme to Old-age Security in China
	Authors: XU Minmin, Associate Professor, Beijing Technology and Business University, China
	WANG Shuheng*, Beijing Technology and Business University, China
	Discussant: WANG Wen, Lecturer, Beijing Technology and Business University, China
•	15:00-15:30 Analysis on National Pooling of Basic Old-age Social Insurance
	Authors: WANG Wen *, Lecturer, Beijing Technology and Business University, China
	Discussant: YANG Fuyi, Zhejiang branch, China insurance company, China
•	15:30-16:00 Studies on Long-Term Care Insurance Pricing Based on Multiple State Markov Model
	Authors: ZHOU Haizhen, Associate Professor, Zhejiang university of Finance & Economics, China
	YANG Fuyi*, Zhejiang branch, China insurance company, China
	Discussant: SHAN Ge, Renmin University of China, China



# So, let's talk HEALTH INSURANCE...

# NOW!



## Road map to the future:

- Recognizing the risk inherent in standing still
- Use the right metrics : "What gets measured gets done"
- Experiment using pilots: Allow companies to experiment on a smaller scale and get to proof of concept
- Build a learning map

Source : The future of health insurance , E & Y



# Thank you

