

# The Inside Look at the Boomer Healthcare Consumer

Google/Nielsen Online/Sterling U.S., September 2010

## Study Scope and Methodology

#### Survey Approach Developed by Nielsen and Google

Google/Nielsen Boomers Survey fielded August 2010, N=3,878

#### **Definitions**

Gen Y: 18-30 Gen X: 31-45

Boomers: 46-65

 Healthcare Boomer Consumer = Used the internet for health info within the last 12 months

G.L. Generation: 66-75

Silent/Lost Generation: 75+

#### **Qualitative Research**

Sterling Brands: Online focus group of 15 Boomers



# **Executive Summary of Insights**

Boomers are just as active and engaged in seeking health content in the digital space as all other adults (18+); and they are engaging as both patients & caregivers

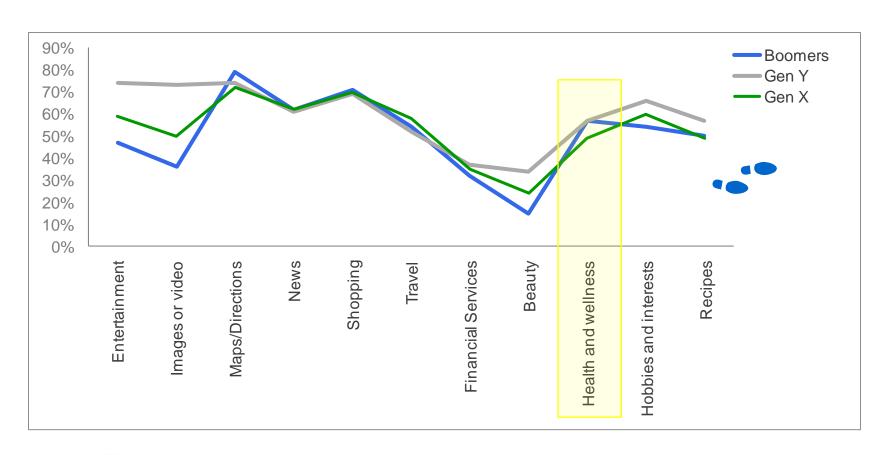
Boomers' health search queries indicate they are further along the patient pathway - queries focus on treatment, drug and remedy information; indexing highest for medication, medication efficacies, side effects & risks

Offline channels actively drive Boomers online – TV and direct response media drives search volume and online engagement, not call center volume



# Boomers are Just as Search Savvy as Gen X and Y, Especially in the Health Space

Type of information searched for on search engine





# 57% of Boomers Have Searched for Health and Wellness Information Online



# Boomer's are the Most Likely to Research Health Topics as a Caregiver, Specifically...



37%

More likely to look up medication benefits for a family member of friend

23%

More likely to look for medication side effects for a family member or friends

20%

More likely to research general info about medications and treatments for a family member or friend



# Boomers are "mid/lower" funnel in their search for health information; closer to treatment options, medications, and adherence



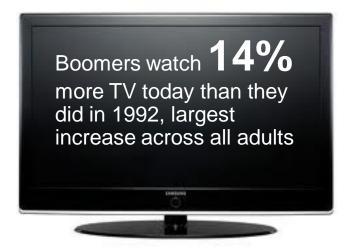
#### Search Drives Interaction with HCP

Boomers are **20% more likely** to find their research helped by providing info on a drug, remedy, or treatment that they were able to ask their physician about





## TV is an Effective Trigger to Search



78%

of Healthcare Boomer Consumers have searched after seeing something on TV

45% of Boomers co-consume television and internet media

Source: Google/Nielsen Boomer Survey August 2010:

Question 17 "Have you ever used a search engine to find more information on something that you . . .saw on a television commercial" OR "saw featured on a TV program?" Net those who responded ves.

Healthcare Boomer Consumer N=1315

Q24.1 How often do you engage in other activities at the same time you are using the Internet? Healthcare Boomer Consumer



# **Sponsored Links Speak to Boomer Healthcare Consumers**

73%

Heathcare **Boomers** click on sponsored links

65%

Healthcare **Gen Xers** click on sponsored links

60%

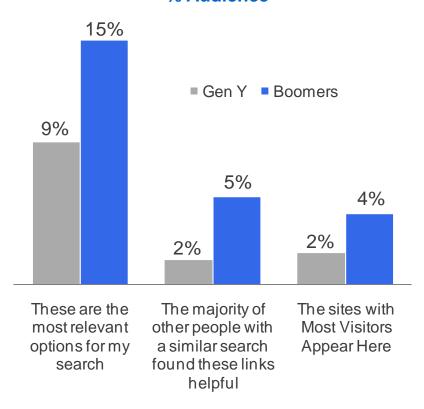
Healthcare **Gen Yers** click on sponsored links



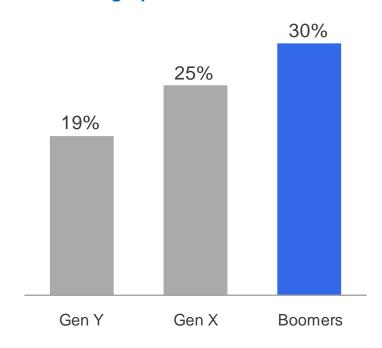
Source: Google/Nielsen Boomer Survey August 2010:
Q21: "Have you ever clicked on links that typically appear in the sections highlighted in red?" Respondents who answered 'Yes'.
Healthcare Gen Y Consumer N=217, Healthcare Gen X consumer N=483, Healthcare Boomer Consumer N=1683

# **Boomers Find Sponsored Links Relevant and Useful**

### Perceived Purpose of Sponsored Links % Audience



#### % Finding Sponsored Links Useful





## **Key Takeaways for Healthcare Marketers**

#### Meet the Boomers' need for "mid/lower funnel" content and information

 Boomers actively search for content such as drug/treatment options, medications and tools to help with adherence (e.g. lifestyle tips or value-based promotions)

### Speak to Boomers as Both Patients and Caregivers

- Design campaigns and creative executions that support patients and caregivers
- Pair creative targeting with precision targeting media

### **Use Surround Sound Marketing Strategies (Integrated** Offline and Online Tactics) to Help Engage Boomers

 Search and online advertising campaigns need to align (e.g. creative, timing, messaging) with traditional offline media strategies



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