

Association of Community Cancer Centers Oncology Reimbursement Meeting

Federal Health Policy: How It May Affect Your Program

May 3, 2018



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Medicare and Medicaid Growth

About 3.6 million people age into Medicare every year, creating a greater impetus for the government and providers to rethink how care is delivered and funded.



Projected Spending

5% of Patients Responsible for 50% of Costs

In a fee-for-service (FFS) world, the top 5% of patients (by usage) drive margins; in a value-based world, the top 5% pose a financial challenge that must be well-managed.



Note: Figures may not be exact due to rounding.



U.S. Spending on Oncology

U.S. spending on oncology care is projected to grow rapidly, reaching nearly \$80 billion by 2020.



Estimated Annual U.S. Spending on Oncology

¹ Includes diagnosis, surgery, hospitalization, and palliative and end-of-life care. Source: "Global Oncology Trend Report: A Review of 2015 and Outlook to 2020," IMS Institute for Healthcare Informatics, June 2016.



U.S. Spending on Oncology (continued)

Average spending per commercial patient increased by 62% from 2004 to 2014. Chemotherapy¹ is a key cost driver and represents a growing share of total expenditures.



Source: "The Evolution of Oncology Payment Models: What Can We Learn from Early Experiments?," Deloitte Center for Health Solutions. ¹ Chemotherapy includes cytotoxic chemotherapy, other chemo and cancer drugs, and biologic chemotherapy.

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Overview

Savings from the 340B Drug Discount Program are used by participating hospitals to subsidize charity care or to offer nonreimbursable services such as cancer navigators, nutrition, and social support services to patients.

Since 1992, the program allows covered entities to purchase separately payable outpatient prescription drugs and biologicals at significantly discounted prices.

Drug manufacturers that participate in Medicaid are required to participate in the 340B program.

The mission of the program is to support participating hospitals' abilities to provide services to disadvantaged and underserved patients.

Proponents claim that without 340B operating margins, they would not be able to invest in capital improvements or offer critical nonreimbursable support services.

Opponents of 340B claim that the program lacks oversight and that many participating hospitals do not return the funds to the community as they should.

Notes: http://www.medpac.gov/docs/default-source/reports/may-2015-report-to-the-congress-overview-of-the-340b-drug-pricing-program.pdf?sfvrsn=0. https://s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2017-23932.pdf.

MedPAC Targets 340B Hospitals for Reductions

As the number of organizations participating in 340B and expenditures on the program have grown, MedPAC has focused on reducing spending.



Source: MedPAC Report to the Congress: Overview of the 340B Drug Pricing Program, May 2015.

340B Reimbursement Changes

CMS modified 340B funding for 2018. Medicare payments to hospitals for most separately payable drugs acquired through the 340B program will be subject to a payment reduction of approximately 30%.





Effects on Non-340B Hospitals

All hospitals participating in 340B except Critical Access Hospitals and Maryland waiver hospitals will need to use new claim modifiers to ensure the proper reimbursement. Hospitals are responsible for indicating when they are owed the non-340B reimbursement rate, which is still ASP plus 6%.

Increased Administrative Burden

- Hospitals billing Part B must add a modifier to claims indicating a drug was *not* purchased at 340B prices.
- Without the modifier, CMS will assume the drug was purchased at 340B prices and therefore reimburse at the reduced rate of ASP minus 22.5%.





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Source: https://www.advisory.com/research/care-transformation-center/care-transformation-center-blog/2017/07/pef-6-things-340b-and-non-340b.

II. 340B Drug Discount Program Exclusions

Several exclusions were included in the new rule, as listed below.

Exclusions

- Does not apply to most contract pharmacy arrangements
- Does not apply to Critical Access Hospitals
- Does not apply to Maryland waiver hospitals
- Does not apply to hospital departments excluded from OPPS under the 2015 Section 603 Site-Neutral Payments Provision (at least for now...)
- Currently excludes rural sole community hospitals (disproportionate share hospitals [DSHs]), IPPSexempt cancer hospitals, and children's hospitals, but that may change in the future



Litigation Activities

Although the reimbursement changes have gone into effect, legal activities are underway to contract the scope of the regulation.

Litigation

- Litigation to stop payment cuts was filed by hospital associations and 340B hospitals.
 - Case was dismissed on December 29, 2017.
 - Judge ruled that plaintiffs did not have standing to file the suit.
 - Judge did not rule on the merits of the case.
 - Appeal was filed in early January 2018.
- Expect continued litigation following payment of a claim at the reduced rate.
- Underlying legal issues are related to administrative law as well as the intent of the 340B program.

Recent Developments: March 2018

- Plaintiffs filed court papers detailing the significant impact of the 340B cuts.
- HHS filed a brief defending the cuts on March 20.
- The plaintiffs' response is due April 2 and oral arguments in the case are scheduled for May 4.

In Court Papers, 340B Hospitals Tell How Massive CMS Cuts Are Causing Irreparable Injury



Legislative Activities

Several legislative activities aimed at eliminating or slowing down Medicare cuts to 340B are also under development.

Legislation

- Multiple legislative efforts are in process, including the following:
 - HR 4392: This would prevent CMS from implementing the payment cuts; it has significant bipartisan support.
 - HR 4710 (340B PAUSE Act): This would impose a two-year moratorium on new 340B DSHs and locations and would also require for DSHs, cancer hospitals, and children's hospitals: (1) additional data reporting, (2) OIG study on charity care, and (3) GAO report on hospital/government contracts and 340B revenue.
 - S 2312 (HELP Act): It would also impose a two-year (possibly longer) moratorium on new 340B DSHs and locations. This law is similar to but more comprehensive than HR 4710.
- Areas of focus for new legislation include:
 - Strong focus on 340B-participating hospitals (not on grantees) and limitations on patient eligibility.
 - Limits on amounts that could be charged for 340B drugs.
 - Limits on contract pharmacies by number and location.
 - Required reporting of amount and use of 340B savings.

The uncertainty and risk currently associated with the 340B program is likely to continue in the foreseeable future.







Overview of the Final Rule

MACRA institutes a new payment structure that will place most providers that accept Medicare beneficiaries at risk for their value-based performance.

Key Provisions	
Two-Track System	 MIPS Advanced Alternative Payment Models (APMs)
More Consistent Rate Increases	 Rate increases have been standardized at 0.5% for 2016 through 2018 and 0.25% for 2019. Rates will remain constant from 2020 through 2025. Beginning in 2026, rate increases will be dependent on an eligible clinician's designated track (MIPS at 0.25% and APMs at 0.75%).
Integrated Quality Payment Program (QPP)	 The MIPS track combines the historical Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS), meaningful use (MU), and the VBPM program. The APM track includes similar performance categories, and metrics already incorporate value-based payment programs.



Comparison to Existing Incentives

Under MIPS, the range of upside/downside potential is substantially greater than it is for the existing programs MIPS replaces.





Payment Adjustments Summary

2015 and E	arlier	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Fee Scher Upda		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	0	0	0	0	0	APM 0.75 QAPMCE* MIPS 0.25 N-QAPMCE**
			QRS									
			BPM ncentives									
MIPS	۸	AIPS Payment	Adjustment (±)	4%	5%	7%	9%				
	Quality				60%	50%	30%					
Percentage of MIPS Payment	Cost/Resou	ırce Utilizatio	n (RU)		0%	10%	30%					
Adjustment Based on:	Clinical Pra	ctice Improve	ement Activiti	es (CPIA)	15%	15%	15%					
	Advancing	Care Informa	tion (ACI)		25%	25%	25%					
Certain Qualifying APM Participant				5%	6 Incentiv	ve Paym	ent					
APMs		e Payment T uded from N					E	xcluded	from MII	PS		

Source: CMS, "The Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015: Path to Value."

* Qualifying APM conversion factor. ** Nonqualifying APM conversion factor.



MIPS Scoring Overview





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III. Merit-Based Incentive Payment System Summary of 2018 Changes

The 2018 final rule extends and expands upon many of the transition features from the 2017 final rule. The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 also includes a number of revisions to MIPS.

Repeal of MIPS Payment Adjustment to Part B Drugs

The MIPS payment adjustment was limited to professional services only.

Physician Fee Schedule

The 2019 update to the MPFS was reduced from 0.50% to 0.25%.

Provider Minimum Participation

The Medicare low-volume threshold has been raised (<\$90,000 in Part B allowed charges or <200 Part B beneficiaries), meaning that more practices (32.5%) will be exempt from MIPS.

Performance Threshold

The performance threshold has been increased from 3 to 15 points.



Summary of 2018 Changes (continued)

No More "Pick Your Pace"

- In 2017, CMS provided several options to avoid a negative payment adjustment in 2019.
- Physicians must report fully in 2018 to avoid negative adjustments in 2020.

Quality Measures

- There is less credit given for quality measures with incomplete data (1 point vs. 3 points in 2017).
- Data completeness standard was increased to 60%.

Performance Period

- 12-month calendar year for quality and cost measures
- 90 days for ACI and improvement activities

Cost Component

- Cost measures will be assessed in 2018, weighted at 10% of the MIPS final score.
- For the second through fifth years of the program (2020 through 2023), the cost performance category "shall not be less than 10% and not more than 30% of the MIPS score."



Summary of 2018 Changes (continued)

Group Reporting Options

The option to report as a virtual group was added.

Bonus Points

- Bonus points are available in 2018 for demonstrating improvement in quality (10%) and cost (1%) compared to 2017.
- Up to 5 bonus points are available for practices with 15 or fewer clinicians.
- Up to 5 bonus points are available as measured by the Hierarchical Condition Category risk score and percentage of dual-eligible beneficiaries.
- There is an up to 25% bonus for high-priority measures and end-to-end reporting for ACI.

EHR Editions

Credit for 2014 edition certified EHR is allowed.

Submission Methods

- A different submission method can be used for each performance category.
- CMS may make the option to use different submission methods within each performance category available in future years.



Decision-Making Framework and Key Decision Points

There are three major categories of decisions that must be made: (1) at which level to report, (2) which measures to report, and (3) through which means the data should be submitted.





Levels of Reporting

New for 2018

	Individual	Group	Virtual Group
Definition	Single NPI tied to a single TIN	Set of clinicians (identified by NPI) sharing a TIN	Different TINs (with 1 to 10 MIPS- eligible clinicians) coming together with at least one other such TIN to form a virtual group
Reporting	Individual data	Group-level data	Virtual group–level data
Basis of Payment Adjustment	Individual performance	One payment adjustment based on group's performance	One payment adjustment based on group's performance
Common Submission Methods	EHR, qualified registry, QCDR	EHR, qualified registry, QCDR	EHR, qualified registry, QCDR
Unique Submission Methods	Medicare claims	CMS web interface (25 or more)	CMS web interface (25 or more)
CAHPS for MIPS Survey	Not applicable	Can include as one quality measure	Can include as one quality measure
All-Cause Hospital Readmission Measure	Not applicable	Applicable to groups of 16 or more	Applicable to groups of 16 or more



Reporting-Level Considerations

	Individual Reporting	Group Reporting
Flexibility/ Relevance	You have the ability to select measures relevant to your oncology practice.	You may forfeit the ability to select measures (CMS Web Interface, measures are preselected and primary care-focused).
Performance	If your performance is low, joining a group may help boost your scores.	Poor performers may bring your scores down; strong performers may bring your scores up.
Activity Participation	Each individual must meet all reporting requirements.	Only one clinician needs to participate in an improvement activity.
Minimum Thresholds	Each individual must meet the minimum case thresholds.	The same minimum case thresholds are applied to the whole group.
Additional Requirements	There are no additional reporting requirements.	Groups of 15 or more clinicians must report all- cause hospital readmissions.
Exempt Clinicians	Allows clinicians exempt from MIPS to avoid reporting their performance.	You must report on all clinicians in the group, including those who are exempt.

Performance Reporting Options

CMS has outlined several methods for an organization to report data; aligning the reporting method across the incentive categories can present an opportunity to gain efficiencies and earn bonus points.

Reporting Method	Description	Quality	СРІА	ACI
QCDR	Registries that meet CMS qualifications and can report more than just PQRS measures	~	v	~
EHR	EHRs that interface directly with CMS		~	
Qualified Registry	Registries that meet CMS qualifications but report only PQRS measures	~	~	~
CMS Web Interface	Reporting via QPP website (groups of 25 or more only)	~	~	\checkmark
Attestation	Attest via the QPP website		\checkmark	
CAHPS Vendor	CMS-certified CAHPS vendors (groups only)		, in the second s	
Claims	CMS has claims data; clinicians will need to add certain billing codes to eligible claims (individual reporting only)	 Image: A start of the start of		

Organizations can earn bonus points for end-to-end electronic reporting in the Quality category (up to 10% of the denominator).



Quality Measure Selection Strategies

Strategies to Use

Select Measures Relevant to Practice

- Pick measures relevant to your practice area (specialty-specific measures).
- Choose measures that impact outcomes for the patient and the practice.
- Select measures in areas in which the practice performs well.

Reduce Administrative Burden

- Look for opportunities to utilize measures already being reported under a previous program.
- Review your Quality and Resource Use Report to identify quality measures you have already reported and in which you performed well.

Maximize Performance Opportunities

- Evaluate availability of benchmarks (non-MIPS quality measures will receive a maximum of 3 points due to lack of benchmarks).
- Evaluate differences in benchmarks between submission methods.
- Avoid topped-out measures.
- Ensure you have enough patient volume to meet minimum thresholds.
- Consider whether the performance rate is achievable for the selected measures/submission methods.
- Consider bonus points for chosen measures (outcome, high priority, patient experience).
- Determine whether the manner in which you chose to report will meet end-to-end reporting bonus requirements.



Measure Selection Strategies





How to Avoid a Penalty in 2020 (Example)

For performance year 2018, the threshold has increased to 15 points. It is possible to avoid a penalty based on performance in a single category.

	Category	Activity	Category Points	Category Score	Overall Weight	Overall Points
Ø	Quality	 Report on six quality measures. » Data completeness standards <i>do</i> need to be met. » Case minimum requirements <i>do</i> need to be met. » Benchmarks <i>do not</i> need to exist. 	18	30%	60%	18
		— or —			-	
* *	СРІА	Attest to the maximum number of improvement activities (varies by group size and other criteria).	100	100%	15%	15
		— or —				
K	ACI	Attest to the base measures, plus achieve:» A maximum score on one performance measure.or	60	60%	25%	15
		» A less-than-maximum score on two or more performance measures.				

Achieving Exceptional Performer Status (Example)

The following is an example of how to earn the requisite 70 points for exceptional performer status through a combination of performance categories:

	Category	Activity	Category Points	Category Score	Overall Weight	Overall Points
Ø	Quality	 Perform, on average, at the seventh decile on quality measures: » Data completeness standards must be met. » Benchmarks must exist. » Case minimum requirements must be met. 	42	70%	50%	35
		— and —				
å.	CPIA	Attest to the maximum number of improvement activities (varies by group size and other criteria).	100	100%	15%	15
		— and —				
K	ACI	Attest to the base measures, plus achieve: » The maximum score on three performance measures.	80	80%	25%	20



Some Rough Numbers

While it is not possible to estimate MACRA's penalties and rewards with accuracy, we can make reasonable estimates based on information provided by CMS.¹







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Legislative Action

The Trump administration efforts over the past year to roll back the ACA have focused on weakening the law's provisions as opposed to fully repealing the law.

December 2017

• Eliminated the individual mandate by reducing the penalty to zero.

February 2018

- Proposed regulations making it easier for health insurers to sell short-term coverage policies, which are generally cheaper because they exclude key benefits mandated by the ACA. Under the regulations, shortterm plans:
 - Do not have to cover mental health and other "essential benefits."
 - Can have annual or lifetime limits on the bills the insurance company will pay.
 - Are available only to individuals with good health status.
- The proposal is currently in the midst of a 60-day comment period prior to being finalized.



Source: https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/trump-obamacare-insurance-rules_us_5a3d3cb5e4b06d1621b42a1b.

Insurer Participation in ACA Marketplaces

News of insurers exiting ACA health insurance marketplaces made headlines across the country through the latter half of 2017, and the trend is likely to continue as legislation rolling back Obamacare goes into effect.



Insurer Participation in ACA Marketplaces (continued)

In 2018, 48% of enrollees (living in about 18% of counties) have a choice of three or more insurers, down from 58% in 2017 and 85% in 2016.

Insurer Participation on ACA Marketplaces: 2014 versus 2018


IV. ACA Rollback

Expected Impacts

Eliminating the individual mandate is estimated to leave 4 million fewer people without insurance over the course of one year. Other anticipated impacts are listed below.

The insurance market is expected to continue to erode, as enrollment continues to drop and insurers exit ACA marketplaces.

Reemergence of short-term coverage policies will increase financial risk for consumers over the long term.

The higher risk profile of enrollees who remain on ACA exchange products will drive up insurance premiums.

Hospitals will see increases in bad debt due to growth of the uninsured population.

Note: Estimated increase of 10% according to *Health Affairs*: "Eliminating the Individual Mandate Penalty in California: Harmful but Non-Fatal Changes In Enrollment and Premiums." https://www.healthaffairs.org/do/10.1377/hblog20180223.551552/full/.





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Rising Costs

Patients, providers, and payors alike are experiencing significant financial pressures due to the cost of cancer care drugs. The sustained increases in costs over recent years have accelerated interest in industry-wide drug pricing reform.





³ http://www.ascopost.com/issues/march-10-2017/value-based-approaches-to-the-rising-costs-of-cancer-drugs/.

Pressure to Reduce Costs

CMS is exploring a number of strategies to reduce overall costs. Drug reimbursement methodology is under particular scrutiny because drugs represent such a significant portion of Medicare's annual benefit payments.



Medicare Benefit Payments by Type of Service, 2006 and 2016

Sources: Kaiser Family Foundation, "The Facts On Medicare Spending and Financing," 2016 (https://www.kff.org/medicare/issue-brief/the-facts-on-medicare-spending-and-financing); in 2016 Medicare represented 15% and Medicaid 10% of the total federal budget. Congressional Budget Office, June 2017, Medicare Baseline.
 Notes: Consists of Medicare benefits spending on hospice, durable medical equipment, Part B drugs, outpatient dialysis, ambulance, lab services, and other Part B services. Figures may not be exact due to rounding.

With pressures such as the projected depletion of the Medicare Part A trust fund by 2027, CMS has renewed its focus on reducing costs across the system.





Approaches to Reform: Challenges for Drug Price Reforms

Despite President Trump's outreach to industry leaders and declarations of support for reducing drug prices, any attempt at price reform will be hard fought.



Besides the challenge in crafting and implementing drug pricing reforms, there is much speculation about the actual impact any reforms may have.





Potential Drug Reforms

Several approaches for lowering drug costs have been discussed and may be included in reforms aimed at lowering costs.

Potential Approaches to Drug Reform



Import cheaper drugs.



Increase availability of generic drugs.



Allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices.



Increase use of value-based drug purchasing.



Establish reference pricing.



Reform the 340B Drug Discount Program.



Rebates

Earlier this year, several health insurers (including UnitedHealthcare) announced plans to pass on drug rebates to consumers for retail prescriptions. Of interest to cancer programs: Does this signal a trend that may expand to include injectable pharmaceuticals?







Impact on Providers

Absent broader payment reform, any efforts to reduce drug acquisition costs will have a direct and negative impact on the bottom line for oncology providers.



Most of the proposals discussed in this section target the supply cost of drugs.



In the current environment, providers are paid a "commission" for administering drugs to patients.



If the underlying cost basis decreases, all other factors being the same, the provider's margin will also decrease.





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Overview

This five-year CMS Medicare demonstration project is designed to improve care coordination, access, and appropriateness while lowering the total cost for Medicare beneficiaries receiving cancer treatment.

Program Aim

Promote whole practice transformation through the use of aligned financial incentives, including performance-based payments, to improve care coordination, appropriateness of care, and access for FFS Medicare beneficiaries undergoing chemotherapy.

Program Participation

187 practices and 14 payors are currently participating in OCM.

Source: CMS.







Episode Definition

Care episodes are six months in length and include all Medicare Part A and B services received by beneficiaries.

Episode Definition

- An episode is initiated when a beneficiary receives a qualifying chemotherapy drug (first Part B/D chemotherapy claim).
- Each episode lasts for six months.
- If a patient requires chemotherapy beyond those six months, they begin a new episode.
- Beneficiaries may initiate multiple episodes during the five-year model.

Included Services

- All Medicare Part A and B services received by Medicare FFS beneficiaries during the episode.
- Certain Part D expenditures: the Low-Income Cost-Sharing Subsidy (LICS) amount and 80% of the Gross Drug Cost above the Catastrophic (GDCA) threshold.

Source: CMS.

Although the OCM does not change *how* drugs are reimbursed, it incentivizes practices to select high-value options.



Payment Methodology

During OCM episodes, providers continue to bill for standard Medicare FFS payments. OCM incorporates two additional payment mechanisms: a Monthly Enhanced Oncology Services (MEOS) payment and retrospective Performance-Based Payment (PBP).

MEOS

- The MEOS payment provides OCM practices with financial resources to aid in effectively managing and coordinating care for Medicare FFS beneficiaries.
- The \$160 per member per month (PMPM) payment can be billed for OCM FFS beneficiaries for each month of their sixmonth episodes.

PBP

- PBP encourages OCM practices to improve care for beneficiaries and lower the total cost of care during the six-month episodes.
- PBP is calculated retrospectively on a semiannual basis based on the practice's achievement on quality measures and reductions in Medicare expenditures below a target price.



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Source: CMS.

Performance-Based Payment Methodology



Payments are calculated for the total cost for the episode of care (includes Part A, B, and D payments).



Lessons for Every Practice

While the OCM pilot includes only a small subset of U.S. oncology practices, the pilot is generating important information regarding opportunities to reduce the cost of cancer care.

- Active case management is needed.
- Utilization of standardized pathways is critical.
- Without data and analytics, it is impossible to manage or improve performance.
- Narrow networks are essential to ensure pathway compliance and cost management.
- Look for areas of innovation to drive cost reduction all over the practice.
- Provider engagement is critical; without it, change will be nearly impossible.
- Coding and documentation (HCCs) are critical to getting credit for the complexity of your patient population.
- Infrastructure, infrastructure, infrastructure: people, processes, technology, and so forth are vital to generating and managing the information needed to manage change.
- Patient retention is important in a risk-based environment.





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Increasingly Coordinated Care Models and Incentive Structures

To provide optimal patient care and to align with changing reimbursement mechanisms, providers must assume an increasingly large role in managing overall cancer care, which is becoming more complicated and requires greater integration.



Shifting of Risk to Providers



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Potential Savings

Commercial Bundled Payments

Commercial payors such as UnitedHealthcare and Humana are beginning to successfully experiment with new reimbursement models for oncology care.





Case Study: MD Anderson and UnitedHealthcare Bundled Payment

MD Anderson and UnitedHealthcare entered into a pilot program to test an oncology-focused bundled payment.



2018

Source: Spinks, et al., "Development and Feasibility of Bundled Payments for the Multidisciplinary Treatment of Head and Neck Cancer: A Pilot Program," JOncPract, December 2017.

Case Study: MD Anderson and UnitedHealthcare Bundled Payment (continued)

Feasibility

MD Anderson sees 2% of all US head and neck cancers, giving it a **well-understood** patient population with **predictable treatment pathways**.

MD Anderson Resources	UnitedHealthcare Resources
 Dedicated project teams: Bundle design Contract negotiation Pilot implementation Representing: Clinical operations Finance Legal Clinical support Compliance 	 Dedicated project teams: Contracting Customer service Claims processing Claim configuration Oncology line of service representatives
Institute of Cancer Care Innovation	



Source: Spinks, et al., "Development and Feasibility of Bundled Payments for the Multidisciplinary Treatment of Head and Neck Cancer: A Pilot Program," JOncPract, December 2017.

Case Study: MD Anderson and UnitedHealthcare Bundled Payment (continued)

Bundle Design

Primary cancer treatment (surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy) and one year of care, including:

- Inpatient care
- Surgical reconstruction
- Emergency visits
- Diagnostic imaging
- Internal medicine
- Preventive care



Note: Head and neck bundled payment pilot: four risk-adjusted bundles. The risk-adjusted payment bundles for head and neck cancer are shown with treatment plans included in each bundle. "Co-mor" stands for comorbidity (per the Charlson comorbidity index).

2018

Source: Spinks, et al., "Development and Feasibility of Bundled Payments for the Multidisciplinary Treatment of Head and Neck Cancer: A Pilot Program," JOncPract, December 2017.

Case Study: MD Anderson and UnitedHealthcare Bundled Payment (continued)

MD Anderson and UnitedHealthcare's bundle was deemed feasible, but presented operational challenges. Cost and quality outcomes are not yet clear.



Outcome

- After a three-year pilot, it was determined that a single bundled payment for head and neck cancer patients was feasible.
- UnitedHealthcare has not yet expressed interest in expanding the program.¹



Challenges

- Claims submissions were difficult to do and required manual workarounds. Many billing systems are not well equipped for bundled payments.
- Payments for newer technology (e.g., proton therapy) were not included in the bundle.



Next Steps

- The bundle's performance on quality and cost is still under evaluation.
- UnitedHealthcare is testing other bundles, such as a program with community medical oncologists.²

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¹ "In the End, It Will Be Episode Payment." *Managed Care,* May 1, 2017.

² "Study: New Cancer Care Payment Model Reduced Health Care Costs, Maintained Outcomes." UnitedHealth Group, July 8, 2014.



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Strategic Opportunities: Overview

To succeed in the changing healthcare environment, providers need to simultaneously evolve care delivery, align with new payment models, integrate across the care continuum, and improve technological capabilities while maintaining highly efficient operations.





Strategic Opportunities: Care Delivery Transformation

Care Delivery Transformation

- Analyze clinical and claims data.
- Develop protocols.
- Optimize the group's formulary.
- Outline and prioritize clinical care improvements.
- Oversee clinical teams to address variation and create tools for improvement.
- Evolve the framework for physician leadership, management, and accountability for protocol implementation.



Practice Operation



Strategic Opportunities: Payment Models



Payment Models

- Align the value-based reimbursement philosophy with clinical goals.
- Advance value payment models.
- Mitigate reliance on FFS by diversifying the portfolio and getting closer to the premium.
- Collaborate with payors.
- Update physician compensation structures to align with new methods of reimbursement.



Strategic Opportunities: Provider Network



Provider Network

- Provide and coordinate the clinical scope across the care continuum.
- Align the network financially and
- Ensure that the network follows protocols and facilitates in-network



Strategic Opportunities: Clinical and Business Informatics

Clinical and Business Informatics

- Develop reports of clinical and financial performance that reflect the priorities of value-based care.
- Incorporate tools that provide clinical decision support.
- Accomplish data exchanges across the care continuum.





Strategic Opportunities: Practice Operations



Practice Operations

Practice Operations

- Develop and adhere to clinical pathways.
- Develop a formulary and actively manage/enforce its use.
- Reduce waste associated with highexpense drugs.
- Ensure that overall ordering and inventorying of drug doses match the clinical requirements of the services offered.
- Ensure coding accuracy and compliance.
- Develop and optimize clinical care teams, ensuring all staff practice at the top of the their licensees.
- Standardize processes, roles, and expectations across work areas.
- Eliminate non-value-added operations.







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