CABG Complications and Mortality

CABG Procedures: Complications & Mortality Rates

Based on Competion Hospital ratings
Healthcare Potholes are not Hopeless!
**Actions for Employers and Plan Sponsors**

- Consider a Centers of Excellence Program
  - Most effective will be with mandated engagement (Wal-Mart example for spine surgery)
  - Back Care

- Provide tools to support better decisions
  - Price and Quality metrics
  - Surgeon assessments are available and improving

- Create incentives for better decisions
  - Instead of 80/20 plan, consider alternatives
The Healthcare System: Phase 1
The Healthcare System: Phase 2
The Healthcare System: Out of Control
The Warning Signs are posted: Time to Act!
The Alternative: The Welland Canal
• “There is so much variability in making a (back) diagnosis that this initial step routinely introduces inaccuracies which are then further confounded with each succeeding step in care.”

• The diagnosis “is the fundamental source of error … faced with uncertainty, physicians become inventive.”

When given the opportunity to be evaluated using MDT, several studies report that from 32-52% of disc surgical candidates are responders, that rapidly reverse and can easily avoid surgery.

Most would have otherwise undergone surgery.....unnecessarily!!

Rasmussen et al: Rates of lumbar disc surgery before and after implementation of multidisciplinary nonsurgical spine clinics. Spine. 2005
In 1996, MDT care was introduced to physicians in one Danish county. All back patients were referred for MDT.

Disc surgery rates were cut in half as compared to the rest of Denmark.

*Rasmussen et al, Spine 2005
MDT is seeking an effective diagnosis!
There are better solutions than....

"Heads, you get a quadruple bypass. Tails, you take a baby aspirin."
Supply Sensitive Care

Proportion of Medicare attributable to Category

- Supply Sensitive care
- Preference Sensitive care
- Effective care

John Wennberg, MD, Dartmouth Atlas
Rx Example of Improving Quality, Lowering Cost and increase income

- 30% of outpatient Prescriptions are not filled
  - 40%+ do not continue after first Rx is gone
  - 125,000 deaths/year from noncompliance
  - 10 Million hospital admissions from nonadherence
  - Total cost of $300 Billion/year
- Direct Dispensing of generics increases compliance by 17%
- Can be a source of added income for hospitals and doctors savings to plan sponsors for use of generic Rx.
Recommended Actions for Providers

• Focus on Quality
  • Value Based Purchasing
  • MACRA/MIPS
  • ACO’s
  • Rx Compliance

• Assume Risk
  • Primary Care tools needed to manage populations
  • Rx Direct Dispensing Strategies
An Economic Driven System

[Cartoon image of a doctor saying, "Removed a big lump from your posterior!" while a patient, dressed as Uncle Sam, lies on a gurney with money floating nearby.]
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