

Praxis Care Leadership Summit Risk Adjustment

Jason Siegel, FSA, MAAA



Agenda

- FFS vs VBC Environment Comparison
- What is a Risk Score?
- History of Risk Adjustment
- What Does this Impact?
- ACO Performance
- MA vs ACO Comparison
- What Should I be Doing?
- What if I don't have Time for all this?



FFS vs VBC Comparison

Reimbursement Basis	Coding System	Health System Role		
Services Performed	Procedures	Employee		
Managing Cost/Quality of Care	Diagnoses	Owner		

What is a Risk Score?

- Risk Score is a patients expected total cost of care relative to a population average
- Typical Inputs are Age, Sex, Diagnoses, and Enrollment Type
- Inputs can include Rx and SDoH but controversial
- Can be Concurrent or Prospective
- The ACO model includes diagnoses captured in the previous year so must be documented annually
- Can be recorded by a PCP, or most specialist and facilities. Lab / Rad generally do not count since include rule-out diagnoses
- Documentation based on MEAT criteria: Monitoring, Evaluation, Assessment, Treatment



History of Risk Adjustment

- Added to Medicare Advantage (then Part C) starting in the late 90s (e.g., to prevent cherry picking)
- Became part of state Medicaid programs as responsibility for cost of care has shifted to Managed Care Organizations
- Incorporated into the Individual Medical market since 2014 under the ACA
- Part of all ACO programs since inception



What Does this Impact?

- Benchmarks
- Quality Scores
- CCM eligibility



ACO Performance

Practice	Percent o	f HCC Gaps Cl	% Closed thru	Percent			
<u>Name</u>	May	<u>June</u>	July	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>Sept 2022</u>	Improved
Redacted 1	50%	55%	58%	61%	63.3%	62.6%	0.6%
Redacted 2	45%	49%	52%	56%	58.9%	55.3%	3.6%
Redacted 3	43%	46%	49%	52%	53.8%	53.6%	0.2%
Redacted 4	42%	45%	48%	51%	52.5%	51.6%	0.9%
Redacted 5	<u>39%</u>	<u>42%</u>	<u>45%</u>	<u>47%</u>	<u>48.4%</u>	<u>47.5%</u>	<u>1.0%</u>
Aggregate	44%	48%	51%	54%	56.0%	54.1%	1.9%

*Including months where HCC Gap list provided to practice Including all practices with at least 500 aligned beneficiaries



MA vs ACO Comparison

Medicare Advantage plans can also submit diagnoses outside claims with proper documentation, however it is a complex & expensive process:

- Suspecting models run to identify where diagnoses likely missed
- Use vendors to collect charts, potentially all around the country
- Pay clinics to provide records, etc.
- Have coders review charts, REMOVING any codes on a claim not supported
- Prepare submissions consistent with CMS file specifications
- Go thru RADV audits
- Potentially face legal liability if charts don't support submitted diagnoses

What Should I be Doing?

- Get patients in for preventive visits, especially those at high risk
- Use EHR problem lists and alerts
- Use new Health Endeavors tool or Face Sheets
- Monitor year-over-year chronic condition recapture
- Assure all claims use the most specific and accurate ICD10 codes (developing a new tool to help coder/biller with this)
- Potentially diagnosis suspecting



What if I don't have Time for all this?

- Risk adjustment is a foundational basis for most components of an ACO
- A lot of the work can be delegated to support roles
- Let's collaborate on how to work most efficiently