US Health Care Reform
Week Three:
Promoting Better Value and Quality of Care

Bill Scanlon
For
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
November 2010
• Issues with Quality and Value
  – Health Outcomes
  – Appropriate Care
  – Medical Errors
  – Unnecessary Services

• Purchaser/Payer Driven Initiatives
  – Quality Reporting
  – Pay for performance
  – Bundled payments

• Profession Driven Initiatives
  – Processes of care—Checklists/Technology
  – Maintenance of certification
Infant Mortality Rate
Per 1,000 Live Births
2007

- United States: 6.4
- Australia: 4.6
- Canada: 4.6
- Denmark: 4.5
- Finland: 3.5
- France: 4.2
- Germany: 4.1
- Italy: 5.7
- Japan: 3.2
- Norway: 3.6
- Sweden: 2.8
- Switzerland: 4.3
- UK: 5.0

November 1, 2010

Health Care Reform Week Three OLLI
Life Expectancy at Birth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Life Expectancy at Birth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>80.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>80.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>78.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>79.9</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
<td>79</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
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<td>UK</td>
<td>78.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comparison countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, and the UK.
Recommended Care Received About 50 percent of the Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Care</th>
<th>Percent Receiving Recommended Care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preventive</td>
<td>54.9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute</td>
<td>53.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic</td>
<td>56.1 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cataract</td>
<td>78.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast Cancer</td>
<td>75.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>64.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cong. Heart Failure</td>
<td>63.9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>58.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osteoarthritis</td>
<td>57.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asthma</td>
<td>53.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>45.4 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pneumonia</td>
<td>39.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atrial Fib.</td>
<td>24.7 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Medical Errors

• Hospitals
  – Studies in 3 states estimate
    • 3-4 percent of hospitalizations involve a medical error
    • 9-14 percent of errors result in death
  – Extrapolated to nation
    • 44,000-98,000 deaths annually due to hospital medical errors

• Medication Errors
  – Estimate 7,000 deaths annually

Institute of Medicine, *To Err is Human*, 1999.
Medicare Spending per Beneficiary Varies 167 Percent
States with higher spending per Medicare beneficiary tended to rank lower on 22 quality of care indicators. This inverse relationship might reflect medical practice patterns that favor intensive, costly care rather than the effective care measured by these indicators.

**Relationship between quality and Medicare spending, as expressed by overall quality ranking, 2000–2001**

**Overall quality ranking**

1 (Highest)          51 (Lowest)
11
21
31
41

**Annual Medicare spending per beneficiary (dollars)**

3,000  4,000  5,000  6,000  7,000  8,000

Source: Medicare administrative claims data and Medicare Quality Improvement Organization program data, as analyzed by Baicker and Chandra (2004). The solid line shows that for every $1,000 increase in Medicare spending per beneficiary, a state’s quality ranking dropped by 10 positions. Adapted and republished with permission of Health Affairs from Baicker and Chandra, “Medicare spending, the physician workforce, and beneficiaries’ quality of care” (Web Exclusive), 2004. Permission conveyed through the Copyright Clearance Center, Inc.
Purchaser/Payer Driven Initiatives

- Public Quality Reporting
- Pay for performance
- Bundled payments
Public Quality Reporting

• Spotlight creates an incentive for providers to improve
  – Professionalism/Pride
  – Economics—Market Share

• Spotlight enables patients and purchasers to get better value
  – Better outcomes, more safety
  – Lower cost
Public Quality Reporting

• Early Examples
  – Medicare Hospital Mortality 1986–93
  – NY State Cardiac Surgery Reporting 1991—present
  – Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council—1994--present
  – HEDIS—H___ E___ Data and Information Set
    • HMO Employer—1991
    • Healthplan Employer--- 1993
    • Healthcare Effectiveness---2007
Public Quality Reporting

• More Recent Data Collection Initiatives
  – Reporting Hospital Quality Data for Annual Payment Update Program—50+ measures
  – Physician Quality Reporting Initiative—200+ measures

• Public Reports
  – Hospital Compare
  – Nursing Home Compare
  – Home Health Compare
  – Plan Compare
Public Quality Reporting
Example
New York State Cardiac Surgery Reporting System

• Publication of risk adjusted mortality for cardiac bypass surgery by hospital and surgeon starting in 1991
  – 34 hospitals/ 160+ surgeons
Public Reporting
New York State Cardiac Surgery Reporting System

• Initial differences between top and bottom 10 percent
  – Hospitals—Mortality 60 percent higher in bottom 10 percent
  – Physicians—Mortality 100 percent higher in bottom 10 percent

• Hospital performance narrowed some over 10 years---Mortality 42 percent higher in bottom 10 percent

• Surgeon differences persisted, but 20 percent of bottom quartile stopped operating in NY State
  – About 1/3 of those operate in other states
New York State Cardiac Bypass Surgery

Observed Mortality Rates (%): 1989-1998
Public Reporting
New York State Cardiac Surgery Reporting System

• Little change in rankings among hospitals or surgeons
  – Best stayed the best
  – Worst remained the worst

• No change in market shares
  ?????????
Improving Payment Policies

• Pay for Performance
  – PPACA—Value-based Purchasing
    • Hospitals starting in October 2012
    • Proposals to be developed for:
      – Skilled nursing facilities
      – Home health agencies
      – Ambulatory surgery centers
    • Medicare Advantage Plans
      – Bonus payments for 4 or 5 stars
      – Hospital never events

• Bundling instead of fee for service
  – Hospitals, home health, dialysis
  – Episodes
Medicare Advantage Quality Ratings

• 5 percent bonus for 4 or 5 stars starting 2014

• Stars based on:
  – Customer service and satisfaction
  – Complaints
  – Delivery of selected services (e.g., annual visits, screenings)--HEDIS
  – Selected health outcomes
Issues with Reporting and Pay for Performance

• Measures
  – Validity—does it make a difference
  – Comprehensiveness---no opportunity to teach to the test
  – Inclusive—all types of patients treated uniformly
  – Accuracy—reported data are accurate and verifiable

• Severity adjustment
  – Health status adequately measured
  – Relevant non-health factors controlled
# Never Events

No Additional Medicare Payment for Complications Arising in the Hospital

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object Left in After Surgery</th>
<th>Air Embolism</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blood incompatibility</td>
<td>Catheter related urinary tract infection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressure sores</td>
<td>Vascular catheter infection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical site infection</td>
<td>Injuries—fractures, burns, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood infections</td>
<td>Blood clots in legs or lungs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ventilator acquired pneumonia</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Bundled Payments
to Replace Fee for Service

• Existing bundles
  – Hospital stays
  – Home Health episodes
  – ESRD services (monthly)

• Bundle in progress
  – Hospital admission and readmission

• Bundles under study
  – Hospital stay and physician care in hospital
  – Hospital stay and post-acute care in nursing home or home health
  – Ambulatory episodes
Bundled Payment
Issues

• Is the bundle homogeneous enough?
  – Patient’s needs require essentially same type and amount of service

• Are the appropriate contents of the bundle known?

• Is what the patient received known or did the patient have an appropriate outcome?
Variation in Expected Hospital Profits From Different Medicare Patients

Source: MedPAC
Rehospitalizations

Reduced Medicare Payments for hospitals with more than expected rehospitalizations

- 20 percent of Medicare hospital stays result in a readmission within 30 days

- Discharge instructions (medications, follow-up care, etc.) perceived as frequently inadequate

- About 50 percent of non-surgical patient readmissions have not seen a physician since discharge
Profession Driven Initiatives

• Processes of care

• Maintenance of certification
Link between Reporting and Changes in Processes of Care

NY State

- Possible causes of reduced mortality
  - Treatment and Timing of Surgery for Shock/AMI Patients
  - Monitoring of Post-Op. and ICU Care
  - Reduction of Return to Surgery for Post-Op. Bleeding

There is at least anecdotal evidence that these changes would not have occurred without the public release of data

Source: Donna R. Doran, NY State DOH
Checklists

Example

• Preventing infections when inserting venous catheter
  – Wash their hands with soap.
  – Clean the patient’s skin with chlorhexidine antiseptic.
  – Put sterile drapes over the entire patient.
  – Wear a sterile mask, hat, gown and gloves.
  – Put a sterile dressing over the catheter site

Peter Provonost, MD—Johns Hopkins
Proven Care
Geisinger Health System
Danville PA

• Bypass surgery
  – 40 steps reflecting consensus of surgeons, other professional staff
  – Computer monitored
  – Care for complications or readmissions is free

• Pre-implementation
  – Steps performed about 60 percent of the time
  – Now—90+ percent
  – 17-55% reduction in complications

• Expanded to angioplasty, hip replacement, cataracts, perinatal care, bariatric surgery, and low back pain
Assuring Physician Competence

• Licensure and continuing medical education (CME)

• Board Certification
  – Re-examination
  – Maintenance of Certification

• Credentialing
Maintenance of Certification

• 24 Specialty Boards agreed in 2000 to implement programs of maintenance of certification

• Core competencies
  – Medical knowledge and practice based learning
  – Patient care
  – Interpersonal skills and communication
  – Systems based practice
  – Professionalism

• Certification requirements
  – Licensure and no disciplinary actions
  – Lifelong learning and self assessment
  – Cognitive expertise
  – Practice based assessment
Questions