



2022 Clinical Challenges in  
Hospital Medicine  
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# Team Strategies for Inpatient Care Efficiencies

Robert G Good, DO, MACOI  
Carle Foundation Hospital  
Professor of Internal Medicine-CICOM

Carle Illinois  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



# Disclosures

NONE



# The Problem

- Entire health care system is under major financial stress
  - Hospitals
  - Clinics
  - Nursing homes
  - Independent providers
  - Insurance companies

# Payer changes

- Reduce fee for service
- Medicare reductions
- DRG payments
- Capitated care
- Payer mix shift
  - Increased Medicaid-MCO
  - Increased Medicare Advantage
    - Decreased Medicare
- Decreased insurance
- Increased SELF pay

# Health care system solutions

- Improved efficiency
- Create systems – combine physicians/hospital
- Increased risk sharing arrangements
- EMR updates
- Hospital at Home
- Hospitalists



**“The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team” – Phil Jackson**

# Everybody is on the TEAM



While we are all thinking of nursing, therapy Services, advanced practice providers, Case management – let's think of others that may not be traditionally Considered.



# Social Work



- Critical to evaluate social determinants
- Offers a softer side of medicine



# Specialty Physician Services



- Avoid unnecessary consultations
  - Add to delays in discharge
  - Often complicates hospitalizations
- Increases expenses
  - Increases testing – “one more test”
    - Then why did I order it
- Confuses patients

***You are not a referral machine but an internal medicine attending physician***

# Diagnostic testing – MRI/CT/PET/colonoscopy/etc.



- Obtain as outpatient when result will not change hospital care
- Increases cost to system – DRG payment does not pay
  - Probably reimbursed as outpatient
- Increases length of stay
- Non-clinically significant incidental finding

# Post Acute Care

- Nursing homes
  - Skilled
  - Custodial
- Long Term Acute Care hospitals (LTAC)
- Rehabilitation Centers
- Transition Care Clinics
- PCMH
- Medicare A-hospital/Skilled care; pay by DRG or per diem; paid by Medicare Taxes in employment
- Medicare B-physician services; Fee for service; paid by premium by patient
- Medicare C – Medicare Advantage; premiums
- Medicare D - Pharmacy

# Skilled Nursing Predictor

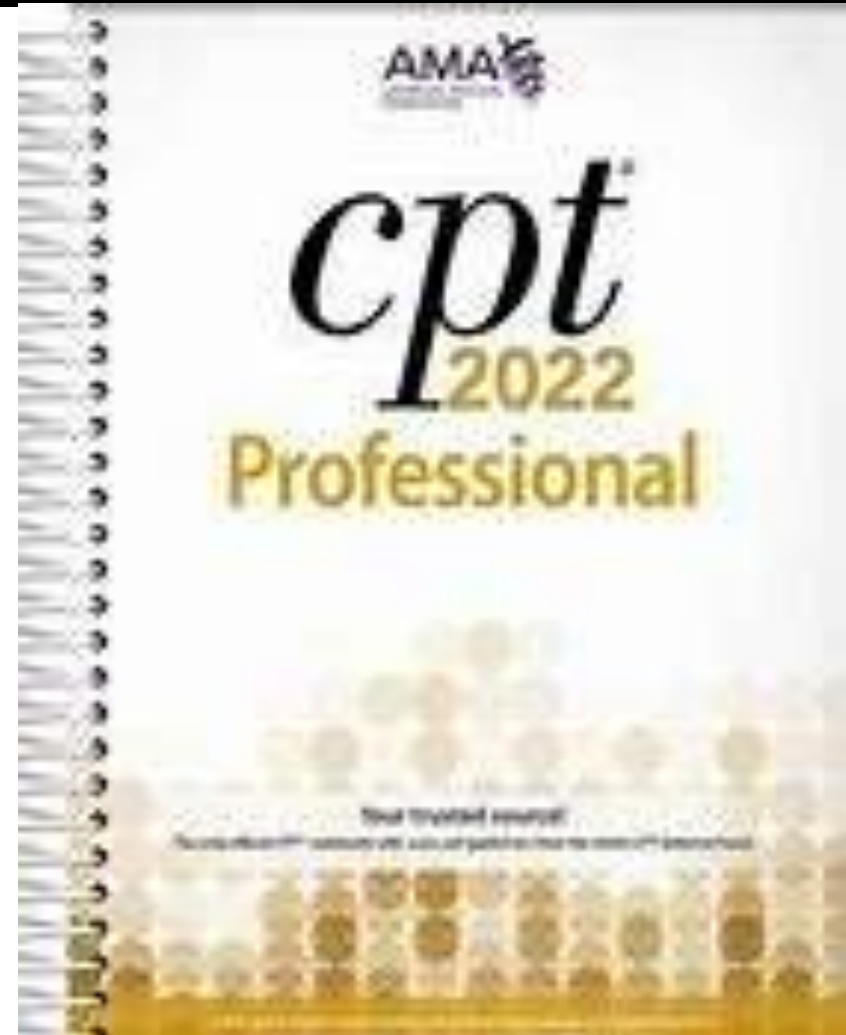
## Skilled Nursing Care Calculator

Criteria	Score	definition
Can tolerate daily skilled therapy		1-cannot tolerate therapy; 3-tolerates 2-3 days/wk; 5- 4 days; 9-10-Full 5-7 days
Have cognitive ability		10 normal to 1ar advanced dementia
Motivation		10 highly motivated to 1na interest
Significant change in level of function		10 major change to 1ar no change
Unable to ambulate 40 feet		0-unrestricted ambulation; 5 - 30-50 ft; 10 na ambulation
Needs greater assist than contact guard		0-unrestricted ambulation 100%; to 5- contact guard 50% of time to 9-90% CG
Complex wound care intensity		0-na dressing; 10-multiple daily dressing require RN
Wound vac		0-na wound vac; 10 + wound vac
Multiple IV therapy		0-na IV; 10- 2 or greater IV infusions requiring RN care
CADD pump		0-na CADD; 10-Cadd pump
New Ostomy, g-tube, trach		0-na tube; 10-new tube
Can care giver take care of ostomy,gtube		0-care giver capable; 10-care giver not capable
Hospice or palliative care		1-harpic; 2-5-various levels of Palliative care with limited rehab potential; 7-10 high potential for improvement
PT needed daily		10- PT needed >4 days/wk; 1-PT <5 days
<b>CMS TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	
Readmission potential	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>TOTAL Score</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>A score of &gt; 45 generally meets criteria</b>
Hb < 12 gms at discharge		1=Yes; 0 = No
Oncology Service		1=Yes; 0 = No
Sodium < 135 at discharge		1=Yes; 0 = No
Procedure performed during hospital		1=Yes; 0 = No
Admission type		1= Urgent/Emergent; 0 = elective
Number of hospitalization previous year		1= 0-1; 2=2-5; 3= >5
Length of stay > 5 days		1=Yes; 0 = No
		<b>% of readmission</b>

# Get the right CPT code



- For office and outpatient services, selecting CPT codes will depend solely on:
- **Medical decision making (MDM) as defined for each service.** The AMA provides extensive clarifications in their guidelines to help define the elements of MDM OR
- **Total time spent on the date of the encounter.** This includes non-face-to-face services. Make sure you know the time ranges for each code.



# Medical Decision Making



## Problem Complexity

- Number of issues
- Acute vs chronic
- Risk of Mortality / Morbidity

## Data reviewed

- Diagnostics
- Consultations
- Chart review
- Imaging

## Shared Decision Making

- Alternatives of care
- Social & cultural components

<b>MEDICAL DECISION MAKING</b>	<u>Description</u>
<b>Problem Complexity</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues or Diagnosis</li> </ul>	@PROBDIAG@
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mortality/Morbidity</li> </ul>	***
<b>DATA</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laboratory</li> </ul>	***
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultations</li> </ul>	***
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chart Review</li> </ul>	***
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Images/Radiology</li> </ul>	***
<b>Shared Decision Making (SDM)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternatives of Care</li> </ul>	***
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social / Cultural Components</li> </ul>	***
<b>SUMMARY</b>	***

- Discharge reviews to reduce error rate
  - 25% of hospital readmissions related to medications
  - Duplications
  - Beers list
  - Reduce polypharmacy
  - Patient education
- Clinical follow up
  - Hypertension, diabetes, anti-coagulation, COPD, CHF



# Patient Centered Medical Home



- Ambulatory team that services a center for primary care
- Involves social work, nursing care management, monitoring
- Likely has a registry of chronic disease patients to monitor and follow up.

- Improved efficiency of EMR systems
- Plan sessions with educators to improve your function and understanding of the benefits of EMR

# Insurance – including MCO (Medicaid) Medicare Advantage

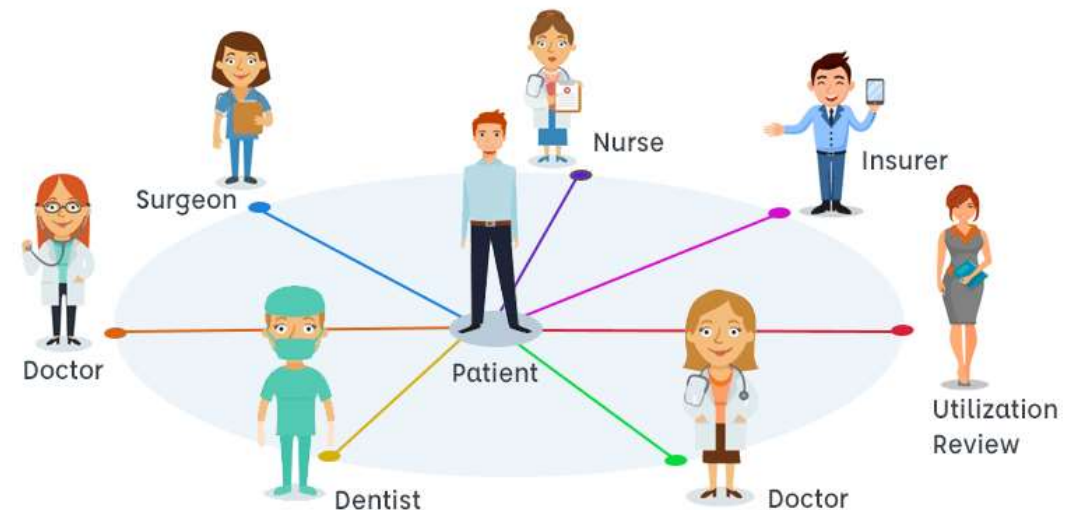


- Great resource that the patient is already paying for
- Often forgot
- Case management
- Difficult placement
- Follow up support – approvals for specialty services, CHF/Diabetes monitoring, etc.
  
- They are part of the team to support your patient

# THE PATIENT



- Patient-Centered Care
- Shared Decision Making
  - Many options and alternatives to care
  - Each patient situation is unique



# THE HUDDLE – White Board Rounds

- Experience with Team
- Time to share information, focused on discharge
  - 90% of health care occurs in the ambulatory world



# CASE STUDY – DAVID

78 y/o male

- Progressive chest pain – radiation to neck
- History of moderate-severe aortic stenosis
- Change in mental status & gait – abnormal outpatient MRI showing microvascular disease
- Diabetes, Coronary disease (prior stent 7 years ago) & Hypertension
- ASA 81 mg; Carvedilol 3.125 mg BID; linagliptin 5 mg QD; Metformin 1000 mg BID; Tamulosin 0.4 mg HS; Atorvastatin 20 mg HS; HCTZ 25 mg QD

## David's Team in prep for discharge

- Pharmacists to review medications and see patient in clinic in 2 days since Amlopidine was stopped during hospitalization
- PCMH – primary physician will see 7 days – Care manager already had conversation with inpatient case manager about chronic care management.
- Medicare Advantage Case Manager involved with diabetes care and getting time with dietician
- Therapy services will be working on gait and balance



“Teamwork is the secret that makes common people achieve uncommon results” – Ifeanyi Enoch Onuoha



