Health Care Reform

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Objectives

• The participant will be able to:
  – Describe health care reimbursement assessment tools and payment systems for acute, postacute, and outpatient rehabilitation settings.
  – List the postacute care settings proposed for bundling with acute care.
  – Discuss potential benefits and challenges to the delivery of rehabilitation services to the aging population in the context of health care reform.
  – Describe APTA’s position on health care reform.

Lingo
Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act 2010 (HR 3590)

• Created ACO program administered by CMS (January 2012)
  – What is an “ACO Professional”?
• Medicare Shared Savings Program
• Bundling
• Domains for Quality Performance
• Preventative Services

Prospective Payment


APTA Positions

• APTA recommends that physical therapists and other health care professionals be identified as “ACO Professionals”
  – Outcome measures “must be risk adjusted to account for factors...that may influence the outcomes of care”
  – ACO should recognize “the independent clinical decision making of the physical therapist”
• APTA recommends rehabilitation and habilitation as “required minimum health care benefits”
• APTA does not support or oppose bundling proposals, but outlines minimum criteria recommendations:
  – Further research to determine feasibility/outcomes of bundling BEFORE implemented into law
  – safeguards for patient choice & access
• APTA supports comparative effectiveness research
• Member of National Quality Forum

Benefits & Challenges

- Manage health care cost
- Emphasize quality of care
- National uniform data sets for research
- Movement away from "compliance" and towards "best practice", "innovation", "clinical decision making"

- Distribution of reimbursement among all providers
- Resources in one setting associated with > use of multiple settings?
- Patient choice?
- Sufficient evidence to support clinical decisions?

Unknowns

- Will bundling force integrated health systems to provide both acute and sub-acute care?
- How will care be coordinated across acute & sub-acute settings?
- Pay for performance component?
- Ability to modulate amount of PT that each patient needs?
- Do we have sufficient evidence on which to base "best practice"?
- What uniform tool will be used (CARE tool?)

References

  Accessed October 18, 2011.