Benchmarking for Outpatient PT/OT

Texas Association of Orthopaedic Executives

October 10, 2014 Cary Edgar



PT/OT Benchmarks

- > Procedures/Provider Work Hour
- ➤ Procedures/Day (8-hour day)
- > Procedures/Visit
- ➤ Visits/Day
- ➤ Visits/Patient
- ➤ Show Rate



PT/OT Benchmarks

- > Payments/Procedure
- > Payments/Visit
- ➤ Gross Payroll/Procedure
- ➤ Net Margin



Procedures/Provider Work Hour

- > Procedures/Provider Work Hour
 - Most relevant measure of productivity
 - PT
 - 4.8 weighted procedures (WPs)/hour (about 70 minutes of charges)
 - o2.06 wRVUs per work hour
 - HT
 - 04.3 WPs/hour
 - ○1.86 wRVUs per work hour



Procedures/Provider Work Hour

- ➤ Procedures/Provider Work Hour
 - Weighting = 1:1, except init evals and custom splints @ 3:1, re-evals @ 2:1, modalities @ 0.5:1, h/c @ 0.25:1



Procedures/8-Hour Day

- ➤ Procedures/8-Hour Day
 - PT
 - ○38.4 WPs/day
 - ○16.5 wRVUs/day
 - HT
 - ○34.4 WPs/day
 - ○14.8 wRVUs/day



Procedures/Provider Work Hour - Day

- Factors
 - Individual productivity
 - Charge capture
 - •Are patients being "dovetailed"?



Procedures/Provider Work Hour - Day

- Factors
 - OAppropriate use of aides?
 - Inadequate attention to scheduling
 - Compliance with billing rules (e.g., 8-minute MC rule)
 - Low patient volume



Procedures/Visit

- > Procedures/Visit
 - PT and HT
 - 3.5 WPs/visit, e.g., 3 timed units, 1 modality (about 45 minutes)
 - ○1.5 wRVUs/visit



Procedures/Visit

- Factors
 - Visit time
 - Skills
 - Charge capture
 - oMC v. other payers



Visits/Day

- ➤ Visits/Day
 - Compare providers using 8-hour day
 - PT 11 visits/day (after cx/ns)
 - HT 10 visits/day (after cx/ns)
 - Misleading measure of productivity
 - E.g., 16 visits @ 2.5 WPs/visit = 40
 WPs; 11.5 visits @ 3.5 WPs/visit=40
 WPS



Visits/Day

- Factors
 - Shorter than average visits (e.g., 2 procedures/visit)
 - More documentation time
 - Lower patient/provider satisfaction
 - Consistently high cx/ns rate (more than 15%)
 - Understaffed



Visits/Patient

- ➤ Visits/Patient
 - PT average: 8 (includes early discharges)
 - HT average: 8 less as custom splints increase
 - Exponential impact on total visits
 - Indirect indicator of patient satisfaction



Visits/Patient

- Factors
 - Importance of communication
 - Patient's perception of value
 - ODo patients help set/understand goals?
 - oCo-pays (e.g., 3 visits/week @ \$40/visit)
 - Affordability/demographics
 - Understaffed



Show Rate

- ➤ Show Rate
 - Track both eval and follow-up show rates
 - Initial evaluations 92%
 - Follow-ups 88% (excluding same day rescheduling)
 - Track for each provider



Show Rate

- Eval show rate factors
 - Importance of scheduling w/i 48-72 hours
 - Physician communication ("You can try therapy")



Show Rate

- Follow-up visit factors
 - Providers do not communicate value of therapy
 - Variation among providers



Payments/Procedure

- > Payments/Procedure
 - PT: \$26/WP (\$60.47/wRVU) about
 100% of MC allowable
 - HT: \$31/WP (\$72.09/wRVU)
 - Best measurement of payment rate because therapy typically paid by procedure



Payments/Procedure

- Factors
 - Geographic variation
 - Co-pay collection
 - Authorizations
 - Tracking authorized visits, payments, etc.
 - Billing/collection problems



Payments/Visit

- > Payments/Visit
 - Procedures/visit is an important factor so visit rate can be misleading
 - oE.g., 2.5 WPs @ \$26/WP = \$65/visit; 3.5 WPs @ \$26/WP = \$91/visit
 - PT average \$91/visit
 - HT average \$108.50/visit



Gross Payroll/Procedure

- ➤ Gross Payroll/Procedure
 - Important indicator of profitability trends because payroll is by far the largest cost
 - PT average is \$11.50/WP (\$26.74/wRVU) for therapists, assistants, aides and front desk (does not include benefits, employer taxes, billing staff)
 - HT average is \$15.00/WP (\$34.88/wRVU)



Net Margin

- ➤ Net Margin
 - Net income/revenue
 - Wide range due to reimbursement rates and productivity
 - At MC allowable rates, expect 15-20% profit margin





