May 2nd 2017 Infoline

HI Happy May!  Yes, spring is here in Idaho.  We survived a pretty harsh early winter and now too darn much rain..since we are a drought state historically.  \*I love the weather folks who told us that last year's flooding was the '100 year rain' - a couple different times..HA  I wonder what this year's description is!  Just a bit of humor!\*

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*YES! 5th National Physician Advisor and Utilization Management Boot Camp's Agenda is posted!  YAHOO!\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**This year's focus:  "Attacking Payer Denials - Creating a Collaborative Dream Team. Turning anguish and aggravation into action."   Love it!**

**Both in person and live streaming are available.  Same costs and group discounts as in year's past.  No increase.**

**Date:    July 19-21,2017**

**Location:  Bonita Springs,  FL   (Fort Meyers airport)**

**Meet the Dream Team members/agenda:  Regulatory updates, Why I love the 2 MN rule, Contracting, Payer relations, Provider challenges, Appeal and Denial prevention team and when all else fails, the legal team.   Each will share an operational approach to their 'anguish' while outlining a pathway to action. Very cool!**

**PRE-CON:  "Telling an enhanced pt story -from the eyes of CDI, auditor, payer and appeals."  WOW!**

**We would love to have you join us -either in person or thru live streaming. Tons of networking available - 'famous' case study discussions, breakfast table talk with the faculty, dutch dinner with the faculty while participating in the panel discussions and audience response system.  All geared toward tons of education and life -long learning.**

**Go to our partners - RAC SUMMIT webpage or ours for more information and to receive the early bird discount. THANKS A TON** [**www.RACsummit.com**](http://www.RACsummit.com)

**PS:  don't forget to check out our physician advisor onsite training program.. us to you or you to the PA's site.   Exciting!**

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***PLUS  A  FREE WEBINAR ON MAY 9th  \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*  Preview for the BootCamp \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Yes - on Tues, May 9th at 1:00 pm EST Dr Maria Johar, PA for ProMedica Health System in Ohio will join me as I present the class:" Creating a new collaborative payer and provider pathway..Turning anguish into action."  It is a preview for the bootcamp including Dr Johar outlining the pathway she took to a new relationship with Aetna.  Appeal Academy is hosting this great 1 hr training.  Plz go to** [**http://appealacademy.com/from-anguish-to-action/**](http://appealacademy.com/from-anguish-to-action/)**.    Thanks !  Love having you join us!**

**UPDATES**

RACS ARE BACK:  Be sure to get comfortable with their webpages so you can 'see' the issues they are auditing.    There are multiple areas they are auditing.  Get back into the habit of reviewing ALL records prior to submission.  Yes, you can state - we will just send and then deal with the denial/appeal..but that strategy was dangerous in the past and now we know that appeals take 3-4 years /Medicare- a very bad strategy.  Learn and revise for ALL payers..    Also remember- no inpt status auditing is allowed without a referral from the QIO...and that 'referral' process is still unclear.  The MACs are not to give guidance on the 2 MN rule since the QIOs took over.  Two QIOs for the country. \*\*\***GOOD NEWS- we have KePro 's Medical Director, Dr Richards participating in the BootCamp\*\*\*\*\***

DRG audits are the biggest focus now:    DRG 193, 177  (Thanks, Jessica P/MI)

DRG 377, 193  (Thanks, Karen R/Ohio)

Some hints:  When reminding the physician to include all dx related to the care of the pt, be sure to also remind the physician to include ALL of them in to course of treatment, or considered in the notes when evaluating/caring for the pt  or like documentation.  Just listing and 'assuming' they were all used in the assessment/ongoing care is going to result in DRG Downgrades..  and of course, Sepsis is always a hot topic for internal audit and education.  We may not like what ALL the payers are doing to us in audit, but we can certainly learn and adapt. Until we have a single payer in this country, EVERY payer gets to write their own rules for payment... EVERY PAYER!  Wow - how much does that cost us in healthcare waste?

**CMS Delays the expansion of the bundle payment** pilot/Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement and the implementation of its bundle payment initiatives for cardiac care from July 1st to Oct 1, 2017 according to an interim final rule posted in the Federal Register.  It also delayed, for the 2nd time, the effective date of the FINAL RULE laying out the implementation of CJR  and other bundle payment programs from March 21 to May 20, 2017.  \*www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20170216/news/170219921\*   These initiatives were part of ACA with a focus on addressing the very high cost of healthcare in the US with one of the lowest positive outcome stats.  Many hospital - approx 800- are in full rollout of the CJR --with great information for us to learn from.  Another wasteful cost if it is a full reversal or readjustment.  There is excellent information available on the 'cost of healthcare in the US' and the value based attached to the cost.  Be the educator.

**CMS releases new version of ABN:** the new ABN is found at:   [www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-general-information/BNI/downloads/ABN-forms-english-and-spanish.zip](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-general-information/BNI/downloads/ABN-forms-english-and-spanish.zip)

A better method with forms to ensure you always get the most current - <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-general-information/BNI/ABN.html>

(Thanks, Dr Hirsch, R1 \***who is also faculty for the Boot Camp)**

**Who owns what??** Recently, some changes with who owns what clinical guidelines were made. WOW!

Hearst Health owns MCG.   Interqual has been diversted to Change Healthcare  \*McKesson still owns part of Change Healthcare.

Dr Baker/SC  \***who is faculty for the Boot Camp** noted on 3-30: "Interesting since Change Healthcare is auditing for United using MCG guidelines /per United's definition of an inpt/clinical guidelines."

NOTE:  See March 2, 2017 announcement: McKesson Corporation and Change HealthCare Holdings form a new company called;  Change Healthcare and combines all of the CHC's business and the majority of McKesson technology solutions.  CHC use to be Emdeon/2015

**United:  Justice Department Joins Lawsuit Alleging Massive Medicare Fraud by UnitedHealth,  March 28, 2017**

**Go to :** [**http://kaiserhealthnews.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/unitedhealthcare**](http://kaiserhealthnews.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/unitedhealthcare)**.**

Justice joins CA whistle blower lawsuit that accuses insurance giant United of fraud in its populat Medicare Advantage health plans.

Whistleblower accused the insurer of 'gaming' the Medicare Advantage program by 'making patients look sicker than they are'.  \*\*Justice joining drives up the credibility and value of the case.\*\* (Thanks, Dr Johar/Ohio)

**HEALTHCARE BUZZ**

In April, we were thrilled to launch our new not-for-profit foundation: **Patient Financial Navigator Foundation, Inc**.  It has 3 unique components with a focus on living our mission statement:  "**Transforming the hassle factor in healthcare- one patient, one family, one employer, one community at a time."  I will be speaking a great deal more about its mission and scope but for now, take a look at our first 'HealthCare Buzz' article that is posted on the webpage : PFNFInc.com.  Or you can jump over to the webpage from the AR  System's webpage.  Additionally, our first community boot camp: "Turning 65"  powerpt slides are also available.  An  overview of the Foundation is available for anyone to use..  Do it!**

**TITLE THIS MONTH:  "What is out of network and what it means to the patient's out of pocket?"**

**We are thrilled to be contributing to both the local educational efforts thru 'boot camps' and articles. It is humbling to 'give back  to my community and soon we will begin doing FREE national audio education to any hospital, organization, group who would like to make the transformation.   It is doable!**

**LOCAL NEWS:**

I hope you had the opportunity to watch '60 Minutes" April 9th show with Chobani founder, Hamdi Ulukaya, an immigrant from Turkey 23 yrs ago.  Idaho has the largest yogurt factory in the world now.   Please take the few minutes to listen to the interview including the interview with the Idaho Gov.   Regardless of your politics, this was the kind of interview that made me proud to be from Idaho and renewed my 'beat up 'faith in the greatness of what 1 person can do..for no other reason than 'it was the right thing to do' with his hiring practices (70% are american born/30% are immigrants and refugees) and sharing of his company with his employees.  He has the original factory in NY but came to  Idaho about 10 years ago for the 2nd factory.  I loved his quote: "The minute they get a job, they stop being a refugee."    Felt good on many fronts.

**NEED HELP WITH REMOTE CODING?  We are thrilled to offer 'just in time' coding, all pt types, no limit volumes, large thru critical access hospitals.   Just let me know and we will get connected.  THANKS A TON**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Come and say hi \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*and join us for the FREE Compliance 360 webinar in May \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**FREE Compliance 360 webinar                      May 25th            "Combating Managed Care Denials"            noon Mtn time       Register thru 360**

**May 4th                    SDHIMA                                  Finding lost inpts,  Attacking Mgd Care denials**

**May 5th                    SD/Rushmore AAHAM               same classes**

**May 16 & 18th        Idaho UR Workshops          A day of training on inpt vs obs and mgd care denials.  In Pocatello and Sand Point**

**May 23rd                 Vizient webinar                      Managed care denials**

**June 16th                ARK HFMA/LittleRock          Day with Baptist- Finding lost inpts and Mgd Care denials**

**Would love to have you join us!   Happy to you all!**