Physicians' Role in Patient Engagement and Patient Activation

Judith H. Hibbard, DrPH Health Policy Research Group University of Oregon

© 2015 University of Oregon



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Why Focus On Engagement and Patient Activation?

- Why is Patient Engagement Key to ACO success?
 - What is the Evidence that it is linked with outcomes
 - Key insights from research
- What can Physicians do to promote patient engagement and activation?

© 2015 University of Oregon



Patient Role is Central to ACO Challenges

- Retain members
- Improve patient outcomes
- Restrain costs

Growing evidence that it is patient choices and behaviors which significantly determine these outcomes

© 2015 University of Oregon



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Patient Engagement and Activation

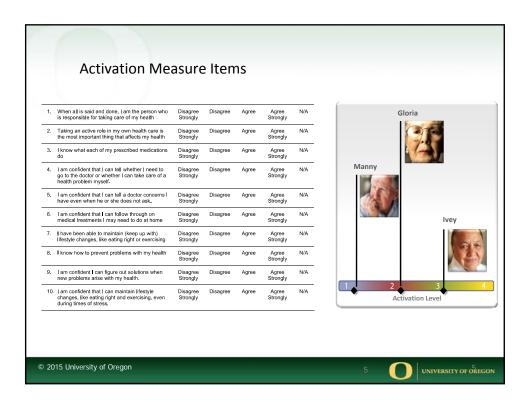
An activated consumer:

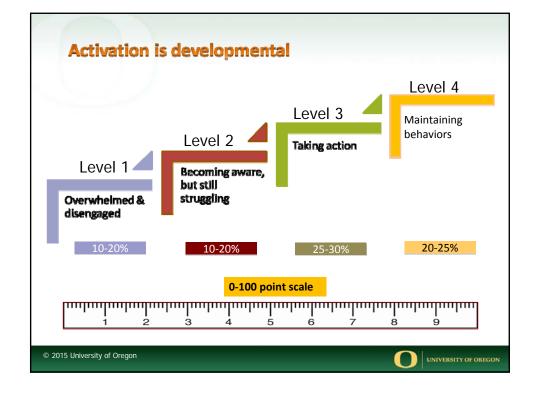
- •Has the motivation, knowledge, skill and confidence to take on the role of managing their health and health care
- •Full range of activation in any population group
- •Demographics tend t account for 5% to 6% of PAM score variation



© 2015 University of Oregon







Why is Patient Activation Important?

- Findings from over 220 peer-reviewed studies, indicate that:
 - Higher activated individuals are more likely to engage in positive health behaviors and to have better health outcomes
 - Activation also linked with better care experiences

© 2015 University of Oregon

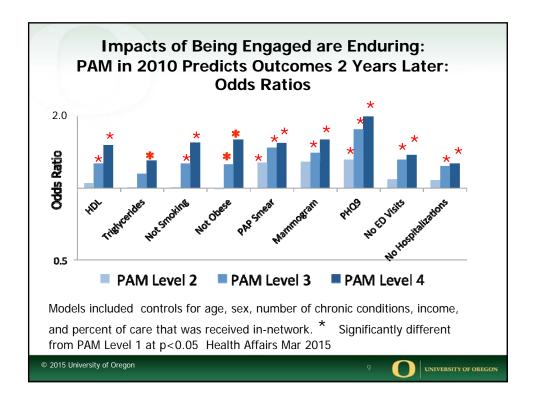


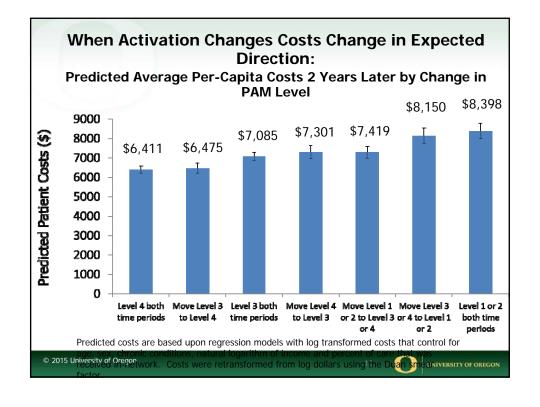
By Measuring Patient Activation...

- We can quantify how much patient engagement contributes to outcomes and cost
- Findings from a Pioneer ACO where they measured PAM-- shows that activation is predictive of clinical outcomes over time
- And when activation changes, costs also change in the expected direction

© 2015 University of Oregon



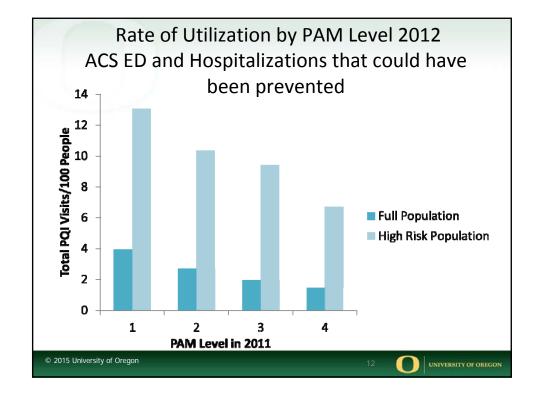




Less Activated Patients have Higher Total Healthcare Costs

 After controlling for demographics and health status, \$1987 per patient annual cost differential between those patients who stay high in activation and those who stay low in activation over time. That represents a 31% difference.

© 2015 University of Oregon



Patient Role & Outcomes

- Study Findings indicate the importance of the patient role in outcomes and cost
- As payments become more closely linked with patient outcomes, understanding how to increase patient activation will become a priority



© 2015 University of Oregon



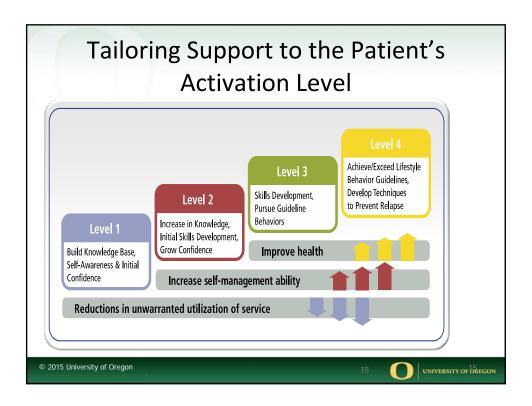
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Summary of Key Insights from Research

- When activation changes multiple behaviors change in the same direction
- Least activated gain the most when appropriately supported
- It is the higher activated that show up when selfmanagement resources are offered
- The benefits of greater activation are enduring— 4 year followup

© 2015 University of Oregon

O



Physician Role

- There is a great deal of variation among PCP's in terms of how well they support patient engagement and activation
- Paying PCPs to achieve better clinical outcomes does not result in greater efforts around patient engagement

© 2015 University of Oregon

It takes a Whole System

- PAM score is a Vital Sign for clinical team
- Tailored coaching/ support
- More efficient use of resources: target those who need more help
- Used as an intermediate outcome of care measure
- Used as a way to assess provider performance

© 2015 University of Oregon

17



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Meeting Patients Where They Are as a Way to Achieve:

- Improved patient experience and retention
- Improved efficiencies—more targeted use of resources
- Improved outcomes and reduced costs

© 2015 University of Oregon

O