

PA/UR BOOT CAMP 2014

Documentation to Avoid Denials: A Case Study

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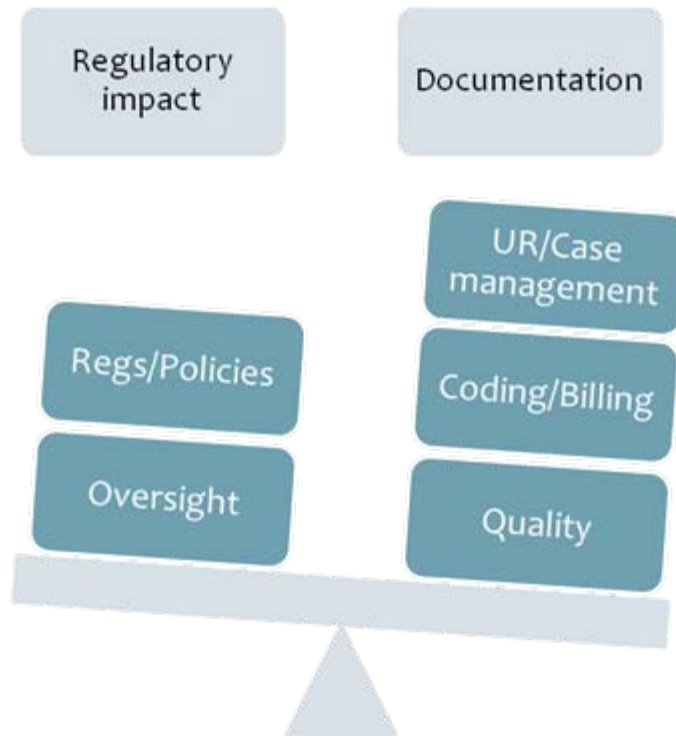
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Where is the burden?



DOCUMENTATION!!!



Study

- * Purpose: Improve physician documentation to positively impact the overall quality of clinical information in the medical record while preparing for ICD-10
- * 8 – Small to medium sized acute care rural hospitals; 80-150 beds
 - * Hospitalist group
 - * Community Physicians - round
- * 2 – Small critical access rural hospitals; 10-20 beds



Results

- * Better understanding of writing clinical information
- * Increased understanding of what is needed for quality and billing
- * Understood why they were being asked the question
- * Allowed physician to better utilize his clinical knowledge
- * Gave CDI and coders an improved understanding of what to look for and how to query
- * Set ICD-10 framework



Documentation Challenges

- * No or limited clinical documentation improvement
- * Utilization Review with multiple hats
- * Physician engagement
- * Training and development
- * Regulatory requirements
- * Financial resources

Meeting the Challenge...

THE 5 Ws FOR DOCUMENTATION/AUDITING

What are we treating?

- Diagnosis
- Procedure (if relevant)

Where is treatment needed?

- Inpatient
- Outpatient
 - Observation
 - Surgery

Why is treatment needed?

- Why is this diagnosis acutely requiring attention
- Relationship to chronicity
- References to requiring testing, drugs, or other interventions
- References in variation from baseline to current state
- Potential for adverse outcome

HOW are we treating it?

- What are we actively doing requiring our level of care
- Implications if not performed

When do you think they'll get better?

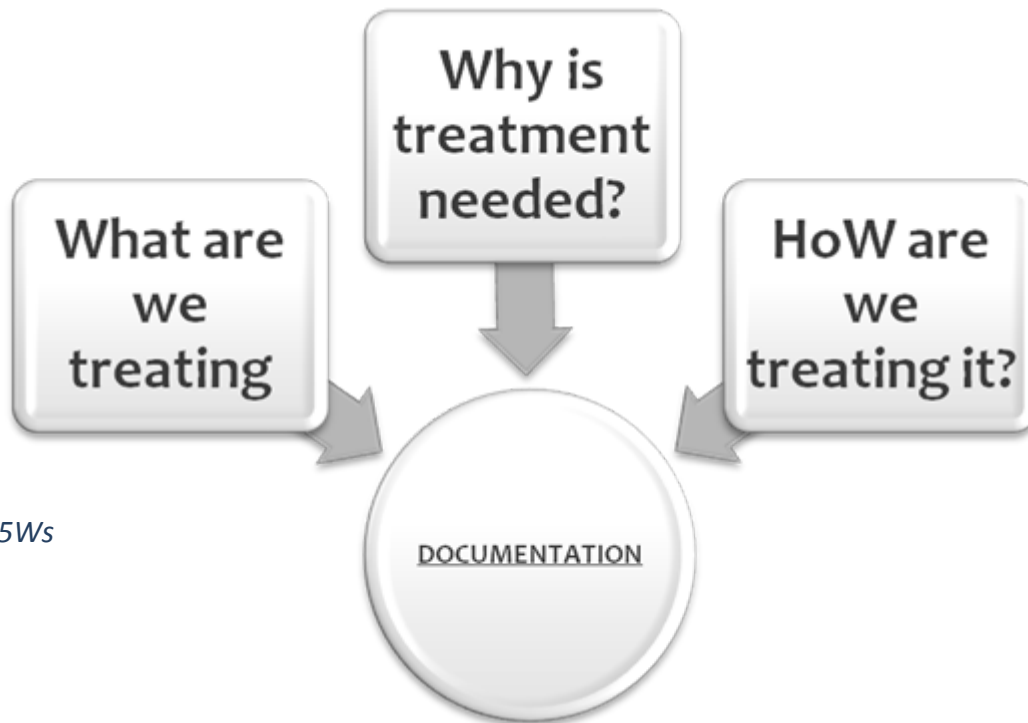
- Expectation for stay
- Plan for discharge



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APPEAL ACADEMY 

Core Components



Taken from Sharon Easterling's 5Ws

Basic Documentation Facts

Diagnoses

▪ Foundation

- Acuity
- Chronicity
- And
- With
- Due to
- Relationships in the disease process



What Are We Treating?

- What past, current, and possible/probable conditions are you treating
- No longer valid condition, say so
- Status of condition; acute/chronic/exacerbation
- Chronic conditions that effect other organ systems; hypertensive heart and renal disease
- Cause of condition, pathological or traumatic
- Site/organ



Why Is Treatment Needed?

- Related to assessment of risk
- Patient has underlying cardiac disease impacting new MI
Due to-helps ensure coding of relationship of disease process
- Complications associated with common disease processes
- Complications following surgery
- Adverse effect



Basic Documentation Facts

Procedures – PCS

- Standard medical language for procedures
- Paint a visual picture with your words
- We weed out what we don't need-you do your job-we follow that mirror image
- Tell us what you are doing and EXACTLY how you are doing it
- Include all descriptors for organ, arteries, vessels, cartilage, bone, tendons, joints



How Are We Treating It?

- Approach
- Path/route
- Method
- Technique
- Access location and method of access important
- Tools utilized
- Extent of procedure such as discontinued or failed
- Sites/organs used for transplant, transposition, fusion, or grafts



Thank You!!!



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References

- * *Sharon Easterling's 5Ws for Documentation and Auditing*



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