

BELLIN HEALTH IMPROVES RAF SCORE BY 16 PERCENT WITH PHYSICIAN DOCUMENTATION IMPROVEMENT SOFTWARE

A health system's success in value-based care (VBC) models hinges on providing high-quality care at optimized costs while also enhancing the health of their population. It can seem like an impossible undertaking, but as Bellin Health found, successful hierarchical condition category (HCC) code capture can help turn what seems impossible into possible.

Bellin Health, an integrated healthcare system in Northeastern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, is a leader in VBC. They began their care transition to VBC in 2012 after participating in the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) Pioneer Accountable Care Organization (ACO) program. This participation drove Bellin Health to become the lowest-cost and highest quality ACO in the Pioneer program.

After optimizing their VBC offerings, they joined with the Next Generation ACO to ensure that patients get the right care, at the right time. Through this partnership, they found that their risk adjustment factor (RAF) score did not accurately represent their patient population. To bridge the gap in patient records, Bellin Health set their sights on improving their HCC coding initiatives.

QUICK FACTS

Health System Name:
Bellin Health

of Physicians:
More than 400 physicians and advanced practice clinicians

Impact Metrics:
Improves RAF score by 16%

Time Live using Solution:
Stanson Customer since October 2018 and live with Stanson HCC Solution as of January 2021.

“ **I either need to continue doing what I'm doing and performing at the level I'm performing, or I need to change something. For me the change was incorporating HCC capture into the workflow** ”

Dr. Shane Degen

Assistant Medical Informatics Officer and practicing physician at Bellin Health

SOLUTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

One key solution to improving HCC accuracy is an electronic health record (EHR) integrated tool that gives clinicians real-time HCC coding guidance utilizing information already documented on the patient's chart, then surfacing those recommendations up in the form of an alert. Bellin Health turned to Stanson Health, a PINC AI™ solution.

The Stanson Health HCC alerts are designed to be actionable and built to limit the provider's administrative burden. What drew Bellin Health to this tool was its collaborative implementation approach resulting in alerts that are tailored to Bellin's EHR system.

For example, when Bellin Health first began their HCC journey with Stanson Health, there were concerns that the alerts would become a nuisance to providers and cause alert fatigue. To get ahead of this potential problem, Bellin Health decided to approach HCC alerting in a “passive” manner by loading them in the navigator section of their EHR.



INTEGRATION GOALS

Through the Stanson Health analytics platform, Bellin Health can track how often the alerts are triggered and the overall performance of the alerts. Alert data insights are then used to determine “follow” rates of the alerts which indicates improved HCC coding capture at the point of care.

HCC coding can make the difference between having an incomplete picture of your patients’ health or a full view of the complexity of chronic conditions. An accurate picture enables a health system to stay competitive by fully accounting for the cost of patient care. These expenses will have an impact on your benchmark, creating a level playing field for calculating ACO cost savings. With accurate HCC coding, a healthcare organization is demonstrating the value of the care they deliver and earning shared savings. It also allows Bellin to know and manage populations, not just individual patients.

KEY INSIGHTS AND IMPACT

By implementing the switch from passive to pop-up alerts, **Bellin Health’s follow rate rose significantly. With this change, Stanson Health contributed to a 16 percent RAF improvement for Bellin Health’s target population as well as an 11 percent improvement for the CMS RAF score.**

Overall, HCC provided deeper insight to healthcare leadership about the performance of each physician, identify area that required improvement and ignited corrective and immediate action.

Bellin Health

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11% Improvement for CMS RAF score.

RESULTS

“The Stanson Health algorithms appear to be more aligned with the clinical algorithms that our clinicians use, than the previous ones that payers have implemented,” said Chris Elfner, Vice President of the Clinically Integrated Network at Bellin Health. “It really is all about helping to deliver better care to the populations we serve, not just getting higher reimbursement.”

Your organization might be missing out on shared savings if your healthcare organization does not have proper procedures in place for capturing HCC codes.

Stanson Health has proven methods and practical support to help healthcare organizations maximize their HCC coding opportunities. **Is your organization ready for a more efficient way to accurately identify and close HCC coding gaps in patient records?**

Connect with our experts today at stansonhealth.com/hcc

About PINC AI

PINC AI™ is the technology and services platform of Premier Inc. (NASDAQ: PINC). Made up of 20 years’ worth of cost, quality and operational data gleaned from 45 percent of U.S. hospital discharges, as well as 812 million hospital outpatient and clinic encounters and 131 million physician office visits, PINC AI provides actionable intelligence that improves outcomes, supports improved financial performance and enables success in new, alternative payment models. PINC AI offerings rely on advanced analytics to identify improvement opportunities, consulting services for clinical and operational design, and workflow solutions to hardware sustainable change. With a leading network of provider organizations, PINC AI accelerates ingenuity and serves as a large-scale innovation catalyst in healthcare. Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., PINC AI can be followed on Twitter and LinkedIn.



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