

BUNDLING BLUEPRINT



Home Health and BPCI: A Partnership That Works

By Jennifer Kotlarczyk, PT, Director of Clinical Strategies-Therapy, Infinity Home Care

Infinity HomeCare is a preferred home health provider that works with BPCI Participant Coastal Orthopedics in Bradenton, FL.

Infinity HomeCare has been partnering with Coastal Orthopedics since they began participating in BPCI in January 2015. Partnership has been beneficial to Infinity HomeCare in multiple ways. Collaborating with Coastal Orthopedics has allowed our team to "get ahead of the game" by gaining experience with bundled payments and being prepared for the upcoming Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CJR) model implemented in hospitals starting in April 2016. Collaborating with Coastal's team of professionals has allowed Infinity to build training for our clinicians while also refining outcome tracking for orthopedic patients. Commitment to quality care and the diligence of clinicians by both Coastal Orthopedics and Infinity has ensured positive outcomes for patients, providers, and payers.

Patients in the bundle we have cared for include post-operative hip, knee, and shoulder joint replacement. The length of stay for Coastal Orthopedics BPCI patients averaged 20 days as opposed to the 33.8 days for the non-bundled group, a difference of 13.8 days. As for total number of visits, there was a decreased average from 15.8 visits for the non-bundled patients to 11 for the bundled patients (following the group's bundled payment protocol), a difference of 4.8 visits. Finally, the hospital re-admission rate for patients receiving home health was less than 1 percent for the bundled group, compared to the national rate of 8.3-10% for joint replacements with major complications and 3.6-4% for joint replacements without major complications. Hospital readmissions for patients going to SNFs for both joint replacements with and without major complications are 16.9-18.9% and 7-8.3%, respectively. These outcomes support home health as the preferred post-acute partner for ensuring quality and financial success. The data

also alleviates initial fears that bundling would successfully reduce expenditures at the cost of patient outcomes. The key to a successful, bundling relationship is the initial selection of quality post-acute partners (for home health, check publicly reported STAR ratings), constant communication, and a commitment to intense outcome measurement, monitoring, and trending.

About Infinity HomeCare, L.L.C.

More than 600 Infinity HomeCare employees (including nurses, therapists, medical social workers, and home health aides) in 15 locations in eight districts of Florida help people navigate their unique health needs. From ensuring medication compliance to educating individuals on their personal care plans to helping manage chronic conditions and achieving personalized goals, Infinity delivers service excellence in every care moment, small and large. For more information, please visit www.infinityhc.com.

In January 2016, Infinity merged with Amedisys, Inc. a "health care at home" company delivering personalized home health and hospice care to more than 360,000 patients each year. For more information about Amedisys, please visit: <http://www.amedisys.com>.

Readmission statistics found here:

http://ahhqj.org/images/uploads/AHHQI_2015_Chartbook_FINAL_October.pdf

Article of the Quarter

"The Best Way to Improve Health Care Delivery is With a Small, Dedicated Team"

From the Harvard Business Review, Mar. 2016

The article highlights how small, full-time teams focused on care redesign and better care for specific patient populations can impact patient outcomes and financial returns on investments.