

Touchpoint Reflection: Healthcare Systems Financial Environments

Understanding how your organization is reimbursed for services depends on several components. Assess your organization's payer mix and payer mix make up. Include percentages represented by each payer group. Identify the key people in your organization who manage this information. Perhaps it is your unit director, operational directors, financial officers, CNOs. Your direct supervisor might be in a different direction, Since the information required is often available to the public through public reports you might also access the information through internal systems or external internet searches.

Dr. Strong and Class,

The facility that I work for is a non-profit, integrated delivery system organization and the demographics for this organization consist of a diverse population that we serve as well as patients from the closest five surrounding counties, including Coweta, Fayette, Heard, Fulton, and Spalding. Our demographics are slowly changing, which can be attributed to an exit ramp opening directly next to the hospital entrance off of I-75. Our patients are elderly patients from the community with low income, our percentage of younger patients, ages 18 to 37, are slowly increasing. For elderly patients that we serve, our largest percentage of the payer mix comes from Medicare and Medicaid patients, or uninsured patients. The percentage of healthcare costs that are covered under government insurance versus private insurance versus self-pay. According to the Affordable Care Act resulted in the reduction of uninsured patients through the expansion of Medicaid, and as more patients become insured, patterns of patient hospitalizations have changed (Freedman, et.al., 2017. P. 2). Therefore, we have seen a rise in Medicaid patients.

organization. According to our Chief Financial Officer, John Miles, approximately forty-seven percent of the hospital’s revenue comes from government programs. See below for a breakdown of percentages for this organization. As you can see based on the information provided, we include Medicaid, Medicare, and uninsured patients.

NR533: Touchpoint Reflections Experience Table

Your Name's Healthcare Organization –	
Healthcare Delivery System (Type)	Integrated Delivery System
Payer Mix	Percentage
Medicare	15%
Medicaid	32%
Managed Care	17%(private – mix of managed care, HMO, PPO, and IPA)
HMO	17%(private – mix of managed care, HMO, PPO, and IPA)
PPO	17%(private – mix of managed care, HMO, PPO, and IPA)
IPA	17%(private – mix of managed care, HMO, PPO, and IPA)
Self-pay	36% (mix of self-pay and uninsured)
Uninsured	36% (mix of self-pay and uninsured)

Reflection –

Based on the data provided by the organization, while we have seen an increase in a younger patient population ages 18 to 37, the older and are receiving Medicaid or Medicare. This can impact the rate of admissions, and we could continue to see an increase in admissions.

Implications for the future –

Due to the amount of patients who are uninsured or use Medicaid and Medicare services, we could see an increase in admissions in primary care areas, therefore patients will continue to seek medical care within the Emergency Department, either leading to treatment or an increase in patient acuity due to lack of resources for primary care. I believe that we should focus on education and prevention of disease to decrease hospital costs as well as promote the health and well-being of the patients in the community and surrounding areas. Thank you.

References

Freedman, S., Nikpay, S., Carroll, A., & Simon, K. (2017). Changes in inpatient payer-mix and hospitalizations following Medicaid expansion: analysis of discharge data. *Plos One*, 12(9), e0183616. <https://doi-org.chamberlainuniversity.idm.oclc.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0183616>