External Stakeholders; Their role and function

Author

Institutional Affiliations

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**Centers for Medicare and Medicaid**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid have a different set of measures for the improvement of health care quality. One of the most important aspects is the coordination of Medicare and Medicaid for the joint goals of providing full access to medical benefits to individuals who are eligible for both programs. By the coordination of these programs, individuals will be able to access products and long term services for improving the quality of care and eliminating the regulatory and cost conflicts (Chernof, 2019). The coordination office has many kinds of ongoing projects that are yet to be implemented. One such effort to improve the medical settings is the implementation of the New Medicare Ground Ambulance Data Collection System to improve the ambulatory services. This program will be effective by January 2020 and will continue through 2024. During this time duration, the ground ambulance service providers and suppliers participating in this study for data collection system will be responsible for collecting information. The important features that they must get information about the cost of services, utilization, revenue and other important characteristics that can be added in the Medicare Ground Ambulance Data Collection Instrument. This study will continue for 12 months (CMS, 2019).

The information collected by this study will be utilized for evaluating the extent to which stated costs relate to the payment rates that fall under the Medicare Part B Ambulance Schedule. It will also help in collecting and analyzing the information on the utility of capital equipment and the capacity of the ambulance. The study will also assist in finding out different kinds of Ground Ambulance Services that are properly equipped and provide services in various geographic locations along with rural and low population density areas (Medicare Interactive, 2019). The ambulances services will be subjected to severe examinations and will be entitled to share all the required information. The results of the study will eventually help in finding the gaps in the services and improving the cost-effectiveness and quality of services.

**Joint Commission**

The Joint Commission is a responsive organization to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Request for Information. It provides information and evaluator response related to the accrediting organizations that are approved by Medicare. It also provides the appropriate responsive fee-based consultative services to the health care providers and suppliers participating in the Medicare programs. The Joint Commission works on different measurements and one of those measures is based on its annual reports i.e., Improving America’s Hospitals. It was highlighted in the annual report for the year 2017 to improve the quality and safety in the hospital settings. According to the results of the report, it has been established that certain hospitals have effectively leveraged the implementation of Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQM) intending to improve the quality of care. The report also represented millions of opportunities for the provision of evidence-based health care services (Joint Commission, 2019).

The results of the annual reports and the evidence-based practice can help in continuing to improve the standards of public health care. With the collaboration of other stakeholders, health care organizations and federal regulatory agencies, further efforts can be made to ensure that the services provided to all people are extremely effective and safe. Thus, the implementation of information technology and other digital programs can help in storing the data without any discrepancies. The electronic health records help the physicians in making informed decisions and thus value the safety of the patients (LaBonte et al., 2019). These programs also help in improving the collaboration between Medicaid and Medicare while working on joint projects. It is imperative to ensure both the quality and safety of the patients and to achieve this goal, the hospitals must be accredited (Lam et al., 2018). The security of the data is another concern but bringing such innovations in the health care setting will have a positive impact on the overall performance of providers.

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