Value-based health care (VBHC) may be expressed as a patient's episode of care (EOC) or the sum of a series of clinical services bundled together to treat a surgical condition. To represent value, defined as the relationship between quality and price, the EOC includes measurable quality and a risk-adjusted, single and predictable price. These complex episodes require a leader, an organized team, aligned incentives, and an implementation strategy. This project outlines considerations for implementing an episode of care for use in VBHC business models.

**RESULTS/OUTCOMES**

- First, the ACS Quality Model focuses on the proper structural elements and processes of care and links these to outcomes and safety measures (event rates).
- Price models use grouper logic to create a sum of the probable clinical services needed to deliver care.
- Delivery systems require a more in-depth knowledge of business models tied to care models to begin consideration for VBHC.
- Potential barriers to implementation: the need for culture change, the need for customization based on a given practice setting, and the impact on care and business models.
- We anticipate that the drive for change will be motivated by physician incentivizes (monetary and otherwise), seeking physician buy-in, and business incentives.

**CONCLUSIONS**

- Surgical care is becoming increasingly complex.
- Evolving business models offer bundles or EOC with payments distilled into risk-bearing contracts for a single price.
- The value for the care provided is expressed as the quality of care over the overall price.
- This expression requires accountability for the quality of care based on patients' clinical outcomes and value-directed goals.
- These quality outcomes are captured in verified quality programs.

**REFERENCES**


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