Regulatory Burden Overwhelming Providers, Diverting Clinicians from Patient Care

Regulations are essential to ensure safety and accountability. However, the rapid increase in the scope and volume of mandatory requirements diverts resources from the patient-centered mission of health systems, hospitals and post-acute care providers.

\$39 BILLION Spent by health systems, hospitals, and post-acute care providers each year on non-clinical regulatory requirements

629 mandatory regulatory requirements

- Hospitals have to comply with 341 mandatory regulatory requirements.
- Post-acute care providers have an additional 288 requirements.



Percent & Number of Regulations, by Domain

7 - Billing & Coverage
8 - Program Integrity
26 - Health IT/ Meaningful Use
288 - Post-acute Care
96 - Hospital Conditions of Participation
78 - Privacy & Security
58 - Quality Reporting
52 - Fraud & Abuse
16 - New Models of Care



\$7.6 MILLION per community hospital spent annually to comply

- This figure rises to \$9 million for those hospitals with post-acute care.
- For the largest hospitals, costs can exceed \$19 million annually.
- The average hospital also spends almost \$760,000 annually on the information technology investments needed for compliance.

Patients are affected by excessive regulatory burden through:

- Less time with their caregivers
- Unnecessary hurdles to receiving care
- Higher health care costs.



Medicare conditions of participation; billing and coverage determinations are the most costly areas:

- The Medicare COPs are important to ensure that care is provided safely and meets standards.
- However, these requirements need to be evaluated carefully to ensure they actually improve safety.
- Existing guidance to simplify billing and coverage determinations should be adopted universally by payers and others to achieve savings.



Percent of \$7.6 Million per Hospital Spent on Regulatory Burden

 \$1.6M - Billing & Coverage
 \$340K - Program Integrity
 \$760K - Health IT/ Meaningful Use
 \$3.1M - Hospital COPs
 \$570K - Privacy & Security
 \$570K - Privacy & Security
 \$710K - Quality Reporting
 \$740K - Fraud & Abuse
 \$120K - New Models of Care



Regulatory burden costs \$1,200 every time a patient is admitted to a hospital

5 doctors & nurses per hospital for compliance

- 59 full-time equivalent staff are required in each hospital to meet the demands of regulations.
- Over one-quarter of these FTEs are doctors and nurses, who could otherwise be caring for patients.



FTEs Dedicated to Regulatory Burden per Hospital



Source: Data from the American Hospital Association Report: Regulatory Overload - Accessing Regulatory Burden on Health Systems, Hospitals and Post-acute Care Providers.

Reducing regulatory requirements will allow providers to focus on patients, not paperwork.

