Assessing Billing Practices For Routine HIV & HCV Tests In Philadelphia's Clinical Settings



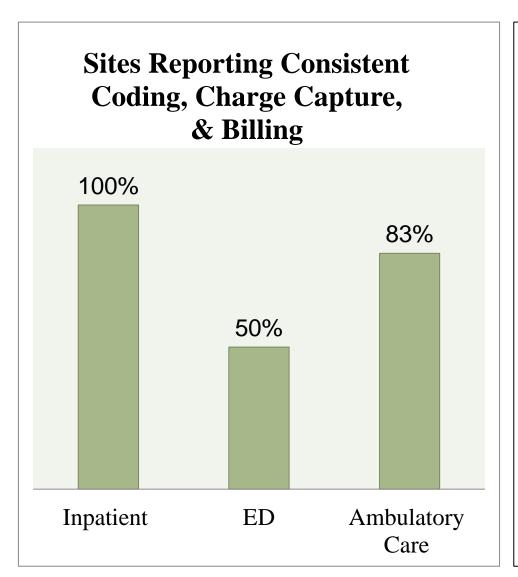


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Billing & Sustainability Assessment

- Assessed pertinent billing practices, reimbursement models, and programmatic information
- HIV (n=9) and HCV (n=2) testing sites included:
 - Inpatient (n=2)
 - Emergency department (n=2)
 - Ambulatory care (n=7)
- Provided intensive individualized technical assistance to complete assessment tools

Results



Reimbursement Findings

- All setting types received bundled payments for clinical services
- Ambulatory care settings reported potential for fee-for-service reimbursement
- Remittance for point-of-care HIV tests often "covered under capitation"
- Sites reported fewer denials and less departmental expenditures for laboratory-based tests

Conclusions

- 1. Laboratory-based testing is economically sound across clinical setting types
- 2. Consistent coding, charge capture, and billing practices are closely associated with laboratory-based testing, integrated workflow, and use of primary charting/coding processes
- 3. Third-party payer coverage does not guarantee net revenue
- 4. Reimbursement and sustainability need to be clearly defined
- 5. Clinical, administrative, and financial staff should perform internal assessments for programmatic decision making