Diagnostics:
Step Outside the Box Instead of Just Checking It Off!

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Objectives

• To explore a different view of the role diagnostics may play in clinical treatment decisions, acute transfer decisions, and antibiotic stewardship initiatives.

• To discuss the capabilities, limitations, and factors that can affect certain radiography, sonography, and laboratory tests, which may have a direct impact on decision-making to transfer a patient or treat a patient in the facility.

• To review how improved knowledge of diagnostic testing, including improved understanding of Federal regulations, may lead to improved clinical, financial, and customer satisfaction results.
PRE-TEST
True or False?

. Skeletal x-rays have an efficacy of 100% when confirming a hip fracture.

. Hip x-rays resulted as “negative for fracture” always exclude fracture as a diagnosis.

. Postural Pseudoanemia is a physiologic phenomenon explaining all low hemoglobin and hematocrit levels.

. Instrument Errors are a frequent Analytic variable that must be considered when interpreting Hemoglobin and Hematocrit results.

. Radiologists can always easily determine if a DVT is acute or chronic.
PRE-TEST
True or False?

6. Radiologists can always easily determine if a fracture is acute or chronic.

7. According to multiple medical studies, venous ultrasonography has the same efficacy in confirming symptomatic DVTs both proximally and distally.

8. Portable x-ray companies can advise nursing facilities on which specific x-ray views should be ordered.

9. Laboratory service providers can provide ICD-10 codes for specific tests.

10. All Clostridium difficile tests are the same.
Skilled Nursing Facilities: 2017

5-Star Rating

Volume to Value

Hospital Readmission Reduction Program
New CMS Regulations
Bundled Payments
Impact Act
Quantity to Quality
Value-Based Purchasing

ACO
Antibiotic Stewardship
CJR
MCO
How do DIAGNOSTICS play a role?
Don’t let paperwork or electronic documentation get in the way of COMMUNICATION!
Let’s put the pieces together...
Diagnostic Data

- Ordering Practices
- Utilization Management
- TAT Expectations
- Result Interpretation
- Result Utilization
- Medical Record Documentation
Radiology Diagnostics


Property of TridentUSA Health Services, LLC
Understanding the Capabilities and Limitations of Radiographs in the Diagnosis of Pneumonia
Understanding the Capabilities and Limitations of Radiographs in the Confirmation of a Hip Fracture Diagnosis
Understanding the Capabilities and Limitations of Duplex Venous Doppler Ultrasound in the Confirmation of Deep Vein Thrombosis
Laboratory Diagnostics


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Understanding Variables in Hemoglobin and Hematocrit Testing
Understanding Variables in Potassium Testing (K+)
Understanding Differences in Brain Natriutetic Peptide Testing
A Laboratory’s Role in Antibiotic Stewardship
Understanding the Capabilities and Limitations of *Clostridium difficile* Testing
Understanding the Capabilities and Limitations of an Antibiogram
Conclusion

• Healthcare in the United States is moving from “Volume to Value” and includes a variety of important initiatives.

• Reducing *avoidable* Acute Transfers and *avoidable* Hospital Admissions / Readmissions will continue to be a focal point in all Acute and Post-Acute Care entities.

• Collaboration and open communication amongst all health care providers / suppliers is needed in order to effectively address these matters.

• Understanding more about the role diagnostics play in the pathway of resident care can lead to improved efficiencies and efficacy impacting Clinical, Financial, and Patient Satisfaction Outcomes!
Questions?
Thank you,

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