Improving Value Through Evidence Development

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May 1, 2007
Percutaneous Coronary Interventions
Chronic Wound Therapy

- $20 billion spent in US on care of chronic wounds
- NPWT in top 20 list for DME spending
- Is it better than standard wound care?
- HTA excludes all observational studies
- 6 RCTs, all low quality, 5 with N<25
- Same situation with HBO, e-stim, etc.
Why we know so little...

- **Evidence producers**
  - NIH: discovery and proof of concept
  - Industry: FDA and market focus
  - AHRQ: modest budget, broad portfolio
  - DERP / BCBSA / Cochrane: reviews

- **Decision makers have no significant influence in what evidence is created**
In evidence-based decision making, whoever controls the evidence controls the decisions.
Medical Necessity

- Adequate evidence to conclude that the item or service
  - improves net health outcomes
  - generalizable to the Medicare population
  - as good or better than current covered alternatives
Comparative Clinical Effectiveness

High Certainty

Limited Certainty

Low Certainty

Net harm

A
B
C
D

Potentially Promising

Unknown

Inferior Benefit
Comp. Benefit
Small net Benefit
Moderate net Benefit
Large net Benefit
Use of “CED” by CMS

- National Emphysema Treatment Trial
- PET for suspected dementia pragmatic trial
- ICD registry
- National Oncologic PET registry
Center for Medical Technology Policy (CMTP)

- Non-profit funded by CHCF, BSCF
- Create better evidence for decisions
- Replicate CED with private payers
- Pilot projects
  - CT angiography for coronary disease
  - Radiation therapy for prostate cancer
  - Gene expression profiling for breast cancer
Medicare CCTA Coverage

- No national coverage policy
- LCDs based on ACC appropriateness
  - CCTA can “reliably rule out CAD” in low/intermediate risk patients
  - CCTA can reliably replace angiography
  - Indications will be revised “as higher level evidence-based studies become available”
- No trials ongoing or planned for low/intermediate risk pts
CMTP CCTA pilot project

- **Workgroup**
  - GE, Phillips, Siemens, Toshiba
  - Aetna, Kaiser, United, (CMS)
  - ACC, ACR, AHA
  - FDA, AHRQ

- **Draft protocol under development**
  - low/intermediate risk pts
  - CCTA or usual care
  - Outcomes are utilization and MI / cardiac death

- **Possible CED funding mechanism**
Prospective studies: ROI

- NETT ($30M, 7 years)
- Swedish joint replacement registry
- CATIE ($42M, 6 years)
- Avastin – Lucentis NEI trial
- COURAGE ($33M, 8 years)
- CCTA pilot project
VBI D Implications

- VBI D depends on reliable evidence about comparative effectiveness
- Many innovative plan designs also depend on informed clinicians/patients
- Benefit design can be a potent lever in creating better evidence
More Information

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