

The strategic impact of outpatient documentation: Outpatient CDI and its impact on RAF scores

In today's value-based care environment, accurate outpatient documentation is becoming more and more essential. With most patient encounters now occurring in ambulatory settings, a strong clinical documentation improvement (CDI) program is no longer a luxury – it's a strategic necessity.

As more healthcare organizations move to value-based care, an outpatient documentation program can have a positive impact on capturing documentation for RAF scores, quality metrics and reimbursement outcomes.

Current challenges

Capturing the full complexity of patients in outpatient settings remains a challenge that can result in:

- Missed hierarchical condition categories (HCCs)
- Understated patient acuity levels
- Fragmented care coordination
- Revenue loss
- Compliance risk

What is an RAF score?

Risk adjustment factor (RAF) scores are numerical values that estimate the expected healthcare costs for an individual based on their health status and demographic characteristics.

A structured and comprehensive approach to outpatient documentation enables healthcare providers to develop a complete picture of patient complexity for accurate risk adjustment and appropriate reimbursement.

Benefits of accurate RAF scores

Accurate and appropriate reimbursement

- Reflects the true complexity and resource utilization of patient care
- Prevents revenue leakage from undocumented conditions
- Supports financial sustainability for healthcare organizations in value-based payment models

Quality measurements

- Provides context for outcome measures by accounting for patient complexity
- Prevents unfair penalties for providers caring for higher-risk populations
- Enables more accurate provider performance comparisons

Care coordination

- Identifies high-risk patients who may benefit from enhanced care management
- Supports appropriate resource allocation across the care continuum
- Facilitates effective population health management strategies

The strategic value of outpatient CDI

A well-designed outpatient CDI program ensures chronic conditions are appropriately and consistently documented, resulting in accurate RAF scores. RAF scores are used to predict future cost of care and appropriate reimbursement. Strengthening documentation capture can better represent a patient's chronic condition(s) and the patient care delivered.

Transforming documentation accuracy: Solventum™ Outpatient CDI Solution

Solventum Outpatient CDI Solution leverages artificial intelligence (AI) to analyze clinical notes in real time, identifying a patient's chronic condition(s) that might otherwise be missed. It prioritizes patient data with the greatest impact on risk adjustment, enabling CDI teams and providers to focus their efforts efficiently.

In addition, features such as automated clinical insights, pre-reviewed encounters, and intelligent prompting help to reduce the documentation burden. This can ensure RAF scores more accurately reflect patient risk by using AI to identify potential conditions or those lacking specificity, flagging potential HCCs, and suggesting more specific, risk-adjusting diagnoses.

Real results

Solventum partners with organizations to effectively capture patient complexity, improve RAF score accuracy, ensure compliance and secure appropriate reimbursement – ultimately supporting stronger clinical and financial performance in value-based care.

The impact of Solventum Outpatient CDI Solution:



15.4%

average improvement in RAF
2023-2024 scores for managed
care patients reviewed



12 months

impact review
period



Contact Solventum today

For more information on how our software and services can assist your organization, contact your Solventum sales representative, call us at 800-367-2447, or visit us online at [Solventum.com](https://www.solventum.com).



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