

## Clinical Decision Support

“Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC)

## PAMA (section 218)

- Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014
  - Signed into law April 1, 2014
  - Implementation date ~~January 1, 2017~~...?
  - Mandates that physicians and other providers consult with appropriate use criteria (AUC) developed by medical specialty societies when ordering advanced diagnostic imaging (MRI, CT, NM, PET) for their Medicare Patients.
  - Rendering facilities and interpreting physicians must provide documentation that AUC was consulted in order to be paid by Medicare

## continued...

- PC, TC, Global and HOPPS claims effected
- Exclusions (inpt (part A) and significant hardship (determined case by case i.e. rural without internet)
- November 15, 2015 HHS will specify AUC from those developed or endorsed by national medical specialty societies or provider-led organizations
- April 1, 2016: HHS to identify initial list of “Qualified CDS Mechanisms”(QCDSM)
- ~~January 1, 2017~~: ordering professionals will be required to consult a QCDSM: the QCDSM will generate documentation that
  - 1) it was consulted
  - 2) whether the order adhered to AUC and
  - 3) NPI of ordering professional. The documentation could be in the form of a DSN.

## Special Note:

Ordering professionals identified as outliers versus their peers will be subject to prior-authorization in January 1, 2020

## How is Northern Michigan positioned for this change

- Pilot program with the NPO is ahead of many markets
- The tool used in the study was developed with the American College of Radiology and National Decision Support Company. This tool should have a high likelihood of being deemed a “qualified clinical decision support mechanism” (QCDSM)
- Leaders from the ACR and NDSC are working with CMS as they determine how to operationalize the legislation that was passed
- It would be beneficial to get more practice prior to “go live” for the Medicare population

## Opportunity for practice

- New contracts
- Educational opportunities
- Choosing Wisely topics linked to radiologists maintenance of certification.

## Ultimate goal(s) for the region

- **Reduce #1 pain point:** pre-authorization hassles, related expenses & administrative burdens
- Move region away from non-uniform payer driven pre-authorization processes to a **provider led universal** clinical decision support approach for imaging services which positively impacts **patient care** and creates the opportunity to develop new **quality** based **metrics** for imaging services

~~Preauthorization~~      CDS: Appropriate Use Criteria

## Unique opportunity in NM

- Well positioned
- Unique market
- Successes to date
- Practice prior to moving larger payer to CDS approach
- Stay tuned...

## Key Contacts

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