Factors Affecting Hospital Reimbursements

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In conclusion, reimbursements are essential in hospital settings, and they influence the levels of financial assistance to health institutions. The factors affecting payments include readmission, types of insurance policies held by patients, the medical conditions and past medical history of patients. The length of treatment is another factor that affects reimbursement, and it determines how the health facilities attend to patients and the expertise of the health practitioners in a hospital.

Professional fees affect reimbursements by affecting the cost of medical services for patients. When physicians and other healthcare providers provide their services to patients, there are significant variations in the fees they charge for their services. These variations affect the revenues obtained by hospitals and therefore have an impact on hospital reimbursements. The facility fees also affect reimbursements by altering the cost of service delivery in hospitals. Facility fees deal with operational costs such as those involved in purchasing stationery and doing other practices [1]. In prospective payment systems, DRG weight is an essential consideration in calculating the extent of reimbursement, and it is the government, which comes up with such rates.

From the cardiology clinic example, it is evident that some health conditions are considered for reimbursement more than others. There are severe ailments and health conditions in patients that should be managed promptly compared to others with requiring relatively less attention. Outpatient cases are not prioritized for reimbursements as compared to in-patient cases [2]. This is because; the costs related to inpatient cases are higher as compared with those of outpatients. The instances of insured patients are different from those who are not insured in calculating the levels of reimbursements. Most hospitals, which make more profits, serve commercially insured patients, and this means relatively higher payments. The types of insurance policies also matter in reimbursements and influence these rates.

In conclusion, reimbursements are essential in hospital settings, and they influence the levels of financial assistance to health institutions. The factors affecting payments include readmission, types of insurance policies held by patients, the medical conditions and past medical history of patients. The length of treatment is another factor that affects reimbursement, and it determines how the health facilities attend to patients and the expertise of physicians. Hospital-acquired conditions also affect reimbursement patterns and cause penalties to hospitals.

References
2. Deschenes S (2012) 5 market changes that will affect healthcare reimbursement.