

IRM Supported RMD Case Study

Brachytherapy Charge Panel – OR Time	
TOPIC/PROCESS	Brachytherapy procedures are performed in the OR via a charge panel. The charge panel was set up to charge 60 minutes of OR time per procedure. It was discovered that all procedures lasted longer than 60 minutes.
GOAL(S)	Correct the charge panel to reflect a more accurate quantity of OR time charged.
INITIAL FINDINGS: PLAN	Charge auditor noted that brachytherapy procedures were lasting longer than 60 minutes. The CA brought this to the RMD Director's attention. The OR computer coordinator researched past cases and found that the average procedure time was 90 minutes.
ACTIVITIES PERFORMED DO	The brachytherapy charge panel for OR time was modified to charge 90 minutes for all future procedures.
RESULTS/OUTCOMES CHECK	In FY03, 76 procedures were performed. Research done in Trendstar. The increase in OR time charged is \$990 per procedure. The annual impact is \$75,240 in gross charges and \$32,595 in net reimbursement. The net impact will be recognized over 12 months at \$2,716 monthly.
RECOMMENDATIONS/ FUTURE ACTIONS ACT	Charge auditors will monitor actual OR times for future cases. Any pattern of deviation from the 90-minute time will be reviewed and the appropriate changes made.
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM	We made the CDM changes and informed the OR staff.
CHECK WHICH JCAHO FUNCTIONS ARE ADDRESSED <input type="checkbox"/> Patient rights/Organization ethics <input type="checkbox"/> Patient Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Care of Patients <input type="checkbox"/> Continuum of Care <input type="checkbox"/> Patient/Family Education <input type="checkbox"/> Performance Improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Management of Information <input type="checkbox"/> Management of Human Resources <input type="checkbox"/> Management of Environment of Care <input type="checkbox"/> Infection Control	TEAM MEMBERS NAME/POSITION