

The Menges Group

Strategic Health Policy & Care Coordination Consulting

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Subject: Distribution of Admissions of Frequently Hospitalized Medicaid Beneficiaries by Major Disease Category
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In follow-up to a request from the Senate Finance Committee, we have tabulated information on the clinical distribution of inpatient admissions for Alaska Medicaid beneficiaries with frequent hospitalizations during the timeframe 2012-2015 (with 2015 being a mostly complete - but not fully complete -- data year). The data source used in our tabulations is a report on each Alaska Medicaid inpatient hospitalization provided to us by Alaska's Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS). Our analysis excludes persons who are dually eligible for Medicare coverage, and also excludes admissions that are pregnancy/newborn related.

Exhibit 1 conveys the distribution of admissions for the roughly 650 persons with 5+ hospitalizations during this four-year timeframe. This information shows that the frequently hospitalized persons' admissions were widely dispersed across clinical areas. Behavioral health was the most common disease category, but accounted for only 18% of all these individuals' admissions.

The key takeaway is that the concerted coordinated care effort we are recommending to support frequently hospitalized persons and help prevent continued clinical crises going forward, will require an *individually tailored* case management effort.

Exhibit 2 presents the more detailed distribution of admissions within the behavioral health admissions. Exhibit 3 presents similar information for the second most common diagnostic category (respiratory conditions). Exhibit 4 presents similar information for the next most common category (gastro-intestinal conditions).

Exhibit 1. Admission Distribution of Frequently Hospitalized Persons, 2012-2015

Distribution of Admission Type for Individuals with 5+ Admissions (Excluding Pregnancy and Newborn Admissions)		
Admission Type	Number of Admissions	% Total
Behavioral	814	17.8%
Respiratory System	608	13.3%
Digestive System	503	11.0%
Endocrine	405	8.9%
Injury and Poisoning	354	7.7%
Circulatory System	309	6.8%
Infectious Disease	285	6.2%
External Causes	224	4.9%
Ill-Defined Conditions	196	4.3%
Musculoskeletal	156	3.4%
Neoplasms	153	3.3%
Genitourinary System	151	3.3%
Nervous System	141	3.1%
Blood Diseases	122	2.7%
Skin Diseases	103	2.3%
Congenital Anomalies	36	0.8%
Sense Organs	7	0.2%
Perinatal	6	0.1%
Total	4,573	100.0%

Exhibit 2. Admission Distribution of Frequently Hospitalized Persons Within Behavioral Health Admissions

Primary Diagnosis for Admission	Number of Admissions	% of Total
Depressive Disorder	128	15.7%
Schizophrenia	106	13.0%
Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder	93	11.4%
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	89	10.9%
Bipolar Disorder	60	7.4%
Alcohol-Induced Disorder/Withdrawal	57	7.0%
Intermittent Explosive Disorder	52	6.4%
Psychotic Disorder NOS	50	6.1%
Mood Disorder NOS	21	2.6%
Borderline Personality Disorder	15	1.8%
Adjustment Disorder	13	1.6%
Autistic Disorder	12	1.5%
Reactive Attachment Disorder of Infancy or Early Childhood	10	1.2%
Cognitive Disorder NOS	8	1.0%
Unspecified Mental Disorder (nonpsychotic)	8	1.0%
Anxiety Disorder	6	0.7%
Dysthymic Disorder	5	0.6%
Cyclothymic Disorder	5	0.6%
Impulse-Control Disorder NOS	4	0.5%
Substance Withdrawal/Delirium	3	0.4%
Affective Psychoses	3	0.4%
Drug Dependence/Abuse	3	0.4%
Acute Stress Disorder	2	0.2%
Conversion Disorder	2	0.2%
Disruptive Behavior Disorder NOS	2	0.2%
Oppositional Defiant Disorder	2	0.2%
Substance-Induced Sleep Disorder	1	0.1%
Delusional Disorder	1	0.1%
Pervasive Developmental Disorder	1	0.1%
Child Psychos NOS-Active	1	0.1%
Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder	1	0.1%
Psychogenic Respir Dis	1	0.1%
Feeding Disorder of Infancy or Early Childhood	1	0.1%
Communication Disorder NOS	1	0.1%
Conduct Disorder, Childhood-Onset Type	1	0.1%
Mild mental retardation	1	0.1%
Unknown	11	1.4%
Total	814	100.0%

Exhibit 3. Admission Distribution of Frequently Hospitalized Persons Within Respiratory Admissions

Primary Diagnosis Code for Admission	Number of Admissions	% of Total
Pneumonia	225	37.0%
Bronchitis	104	17.1%
Respiratory failure	76	12.5%
Asthma	71	11.7%
Bronchiolitis	49	8.1%
Upper respiratory infection	16	2.6%
Influenza	16	2.6%
Other diseases of respiratory system	15	2.5%
Bronchiectasis	7	1.2%
Bronchopneumonia	4	0.7%
Pleural effusion	3	0.5%
Other pneumothorax	3	0.5%
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	3	0.5%
Croup	2	0.3%
Hypertrophy of tonsil with adenoids	2	0.3%
Pulmonary congestion and hypostasis	2	0.3%
Acute edema of lung	2	0.3%
Respiratory complications following trauma/surgery	2	0.3%
Deviated nasal septum	1	0.2%
Sinusitis	1	0.2%
Emphysema	1	0.2%
Pneumonitis	1	0.2%
Pleurisy	1	0.2%
Pulmonary fibrosis	1	0.2%
Atelectasis	1	0.2%
Total	608	100.0%

Exhibit 4. Admission Distribution of Frequently Hospitalized Persons Within Gastrointestinal Admissions

Primary Diagnosis for Admission	Number of Admissions	% of Total
Intestinal obstruction	44	8.7%
Hepatic coma	36	7.2%
Pancreatitis	34	6.8%
Gastritis	32	6.4%
Hemorrhage of gastrointestinal tract	27	5.4%
Hematemesis	25	5.0%
Ulcer	24	4.8%
Hernia	21	4.2%
Cirrhosis	19	3.8%
Diverticulitis of colon	16	3.2%
Persistent vomiting	13	2.6%
Hepatitis	12	2.4%
Crohn's disease	11	2.2%
Intestinal or peritoneal adhesions	10	2.0%
Gastroesophageal laceration	9	1.8%
Postsurgical nonabsorption	9	1.8%
Colostomy and enterostomy complication	9	1.8%
Esophageal stricture/stenosis	8	1.6%
Blood in stool, melena	8	1.6%
Constipation	8	1.6%
Gastroesophageal reflux	7	1.4%
Spontaneous bacterial peritonitis	7	1.4%
Gastroenteritis	7	1.4%
Cholecystitis	7	1.4%
Appendicitis	7	1.4%
Abscess	7	1.4%
Portal hypertension	6	1.2%
Gastroparesis	5	1.0%
Ileus	5	1.0%
Hepatic failure	5	1.0%
Pancreatic cyst, pseudocyst	4	0.8%
Fistula of intestine	4	0.8%
Complication of gastrostomy	4	0.8%
Ulcerative colitis	4	0.8%
Ulcerative proctitis	3	0.6%
Obstruction of bile duct	3	0.6%
Calculus of gallbladder	3	0.6%
Esophagitis	3	0.6%
Stomatitis and mucositis	2	0.4%
Ischemic bowel disease	2	0.4%
Other sequelae of chronic liver disease	2	0.4%
Cholangitis	2	0.4%
Diseases of lips	1	0.2%
Duodenitis	1	0.2%
Acquired hypertrophic pyloric stenosis	1	0.2%
Dieulafoy lesion of stomach and duodenum	1	0.2%
Vascular insufficiency, intestine	1	0.2%
Rectal prolapse	1	0.2%
Bleeding, rectal	1	0.2%
Angiodysplasia, intestine	1	0.2%
Hepatorenal syndrome	1	0.2%
Cholelithiasis	1	0.2%
Other specified disorders of biliary tract	1	0.2%
Other specified diseases of pancreas	1	0.2%
Unknown	17	3.4%
Total	503	100.0%