

Surviving to Thriving: Cost Reduction & Service Line Optimization

Karl Rebay and David Kim May 18th, 2023 Hospital Association of Southern California Annual Meeting



Moss Adams Health Care Consulting

Innovative Solutions for the Complex Business of Health Care

FIRM

- 109 Year History
- 380 Partners
- 3800 Professionals
- \$1B Revenue

HEALTH CARE SPECIFIC

- 3,700 Health Care Clients
- 1,200+ Hospital Clients
- 285 Health Care Professionals
- 30 Health Care Partners



Top Reasons Keeping Hospitals CEOs up at Night

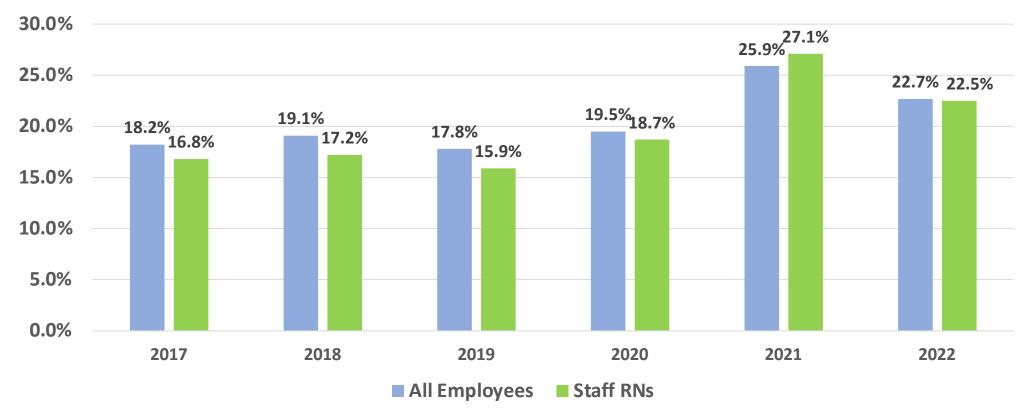
- 1. Workforce challenges including personnel shortages and staff burnout
- 2. Financial challenges
- 3. Behavioral health and addiction issues
- 4. Patient safety and quality
- 5. Government mandates
- 6. Access to care
- 7. Patient satisfaction
- 8. Physician hospital relations
- 9. Technology
- 10. Population health management
- 11. Reorganization M&A, partnerships and restructuring



Hospitals Staff Turnover Rate Trends

The reason workforce issues have become the top concern for CEO's is due to the rapidly rising turnover rate in hospitals.

Hospital & Staff RN Turnover



Source: NSI Nursing Solutions – 2023 National Healthcare Retention & Staffing Report

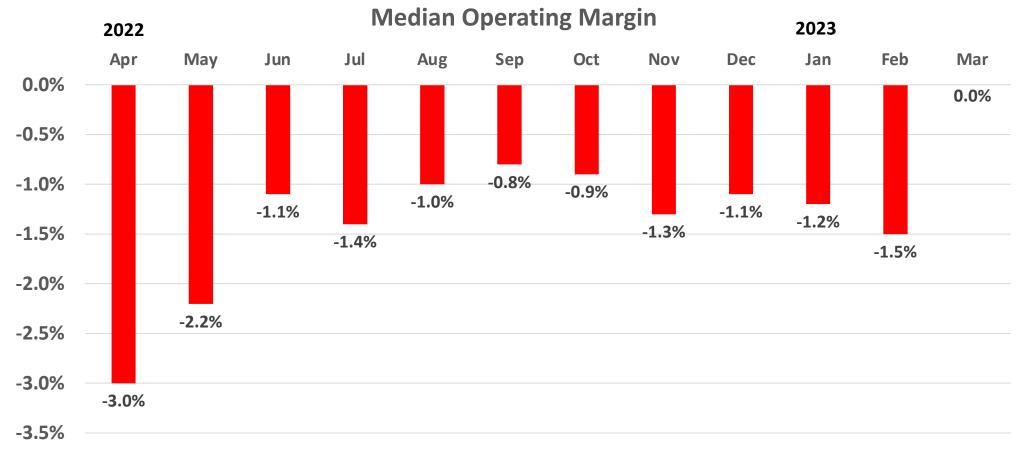
Cost of RN Turnover

Staff turnover is very expensive and especially RN turnover has cost hospitals millions of dollars annually. This has become the top cost driver for hospitals over the past few years as agency/travel RN costs have skyrocketed.

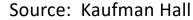
- 1. Average cost of turnover for a staff RN = \$52,350
- 2. Average hospital lost \$8.55M in 2022 due to RN turnover
- 3. Each percentage change in RN turnover could save the average hospital \$380,000 annually
- 4. Reducing travel RNs with full time RN saves \$210,000 per FTE per year

Source: NSI Nursing Solutions – 2022 National Healthcare Retention & Staffing Report

Hospitals Operating Margin Trend – 2022/2023



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Strategy & Solutions Discussion

- Assessment of where your organization stands
- Develop shorter-term solutions to shore up cash flow
- Explore longer-term solutions to create sustainable change
- Use a disciplined approach to manage the process

Strategy & Solutions

Near-Term Focus Areas:

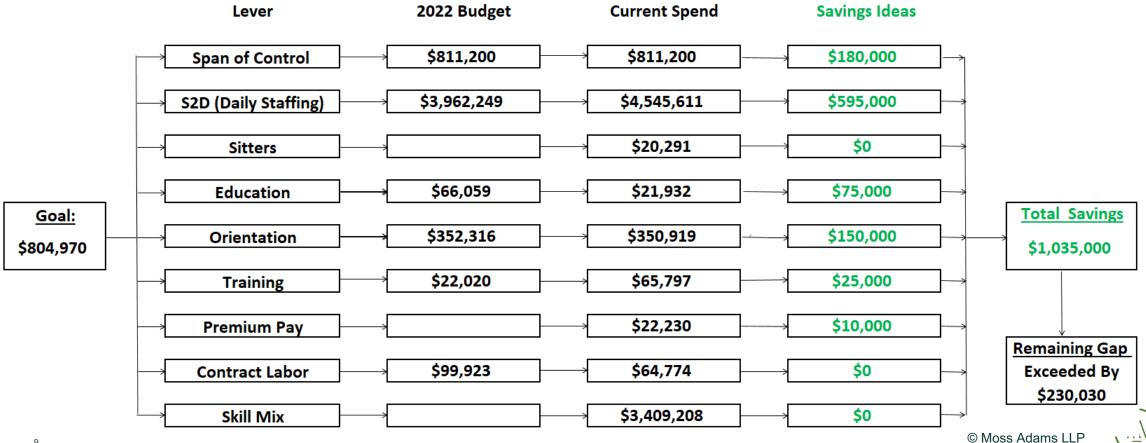
- Labor and Productivity
- Supply Chain
- Technology System Redundancy
- Information Flow Management
- Patient Discharge Management

Longer-Term Focus Areas:

- Care Variation
- Capacity and Length of Stay
- Technology System Integration
- Service Line Structure

Cost Reduction: Labor Cost Management Levers

Labor is still over 50% of a hospital's total cost structure so it's critical to evaluate it for efficiency opportunities. It is easier if you identify the key cost levers and break down each component for potential cost savings.



ILLUSTRATIVE

Cost Reduction: Non-Labor Cost Management Levers

For cost reduction opportunities, non-labor and purchased services costs should be evaluated and prioritized for rapid implementation as appropriate.

- Medical/Surgical Supplies
- Physician Preference Items
- Purchased Services
- Food & Nutrition
- Facilities and Energy Management

Why Hospitals Can't Just Rely on Cost Cutting

As hospitals attempt to get back to financial stability, they should look beyond just cost cutting as the major driver for long-term financial health.

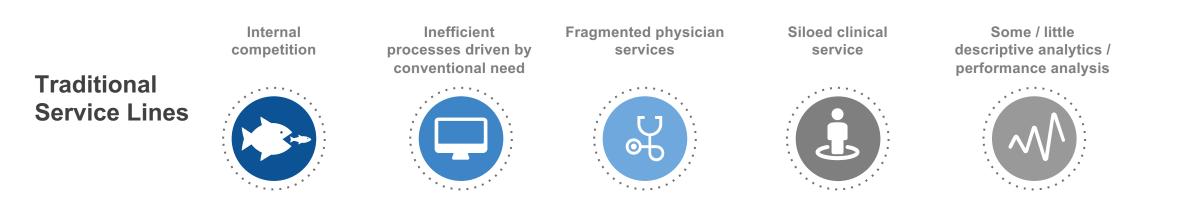
- There's only so much cost that can be cut and
 - Non-labor cost reduction opportunities should be prioritized for rapid implementation
 - Labor costs are still the largest cost category but finding areas to save costs are difficult and hospitals need to rigorously assess where true opportunities exist
- For long-term sustainability, hospitals need to embrace transformation of how they deliver care and how to optimize their service lines – this takes careful planning and time to implement



Comprehensive Service Line Continuum



Service Line Optimization Requires Focus and Dedication in Challenging Areas



Traditional service models are not strategic or coordinated...

...they are inadequate for sustained success

Best-in-Class Service Lines



Business model designed for Systemness



Scalability and Sustainability



proactive coordination



Fully coordinated care model / shepherded patient experience



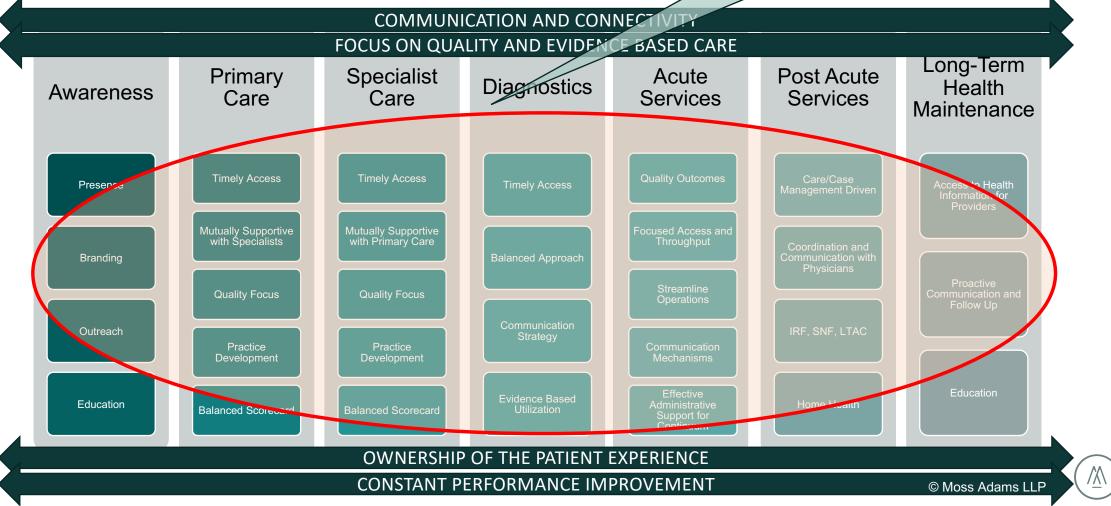
Analytics that provide actionable insights © Moss Adams LLP



Service Line Strategy Desired State

Major Segments of the Comprehensive Service Line

Desired Structure Incorporates the Preand Post-acute Environments



Service Line Strategy

Development

Service Line Strategy Sample Priorities

Service Line Strategy Sample Priorities

Service Line Strategy Sample Priorities

Care Variation

Care variation can be worth up to 30% costing the average hospital between \$50M and \$150M Annually. Some national estimates suggest \$750B or more annually.

It's complicated, but getting care variation under control is a long-term, sustainable part of controlling costs in a way that also fosters high quality

Cost	Clinical outcomes	Clinical efficiency	Systemness
 Cost spread Supply costs Pharmaceutical costs Lab/imaging costs Medication substitution costs 	 Readmission rate Complication rate Nurse sensitive indicators	 Length of stay (LOS) ED wait time Unnecessary or	 Standardized supply usage Clinical protocols and order
	(e.g., pressure ulcer rate, fall	duplicative tests Lab turnaround time Blood, pharmacy, lab,	set adherence rates Core measure
	rate, hospital acquired	imaging utilization Discarded or unused	adherence rates Variation across facilities Evidence-based care
	infection rate) Adverse event rates	supplies	adherence

Care Variation Analysis Sample Analysis Done by DRG

Simple Average Charge Per Encounter Variation						Charge Per Encounter Variation					
Service Item Summarized						Service Item Summarized	DR. A	DR. B	DR. C	DR. D	DR. E
	DR. A	DR. B	DR. C	DR. D	DR. E		\$5,743	\$5,692	\$7,161	\$7,817	\$6,676
ANESTHESIA	\$1,907	\$1,756	\$1,705	\$1,843	\$1,827	CARDIAC CATH	\$9,554	\$9,861	\$10,091	\$10,154	\$9,964
BLOOD PRODUCTS	\$2,289	\$565	\$1,383	\$1.013	\$647	LAB	\$2,551	\$5,001	4.0,021	¥10,101	
CARDIOLOGY	\$5,743	\$5,692	\$7,020	\$7,817	\$6,676	CARDIAC REHAB	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
DIAGNOSTICS	\$19,532	\$14,334	\$19,198	\$18,705	\$17,955	EP LAB	\$836		\$2,675	\$3,114	\$640
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT	\$619	\$310	\$383	\$710	\$509	H&V PROCEDURE	\$1,443	\$1,649	\$9,457	\$4,009	\$7,550
NURSING	\$29,244	\$20,125	\$24,078	\$25,017	\$24,235	INTERVENTIONAL	\$0				\$0
OUTPATIENT	\$375	\$178	\$253	\$226	\$210	RADIOLOGY					
PHARMACY	\$10,745	\$7,760	\$12,011	\$10,971	\$9,840		\$19,532	\$14.334	\$19,198	\$18,705	\$17,955
PHYSICIAN SUPPORT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	CT SCAN	\$3,296	\$1,429	\$3,286	\$2,230	\$2,524
STATISTICAL CODES	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4	DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY	\$1,720	\$1,264	\$1,488	\$1,547	\$1,592
SUPPLY	\$23,944	\$21,114	\$21,706	\$28,934	\$36,232	ECHOCARDIOLOG	\$3,275	\$2,385	\$3,136	\$3,006	\$2,766
SURGERY	\$35,681	\$27,719	\$28,240	\$28,792	\$32,436	EEG	\$1,037			\$1,037	
TREATMENT	\$6,034	\$3,039	\$6,628	\$4,806	\$5,876	EKG/ECG	\$776	\$731	\$765	\$888	\$733
Total	\$136,114	\$102,592	\$122,604	\$128,835	\$136,448	ENDOSCOPY	\$5,600		\$1,652		\$1,814
						LABORATORY	\$12,289	\$8,996	\$11,496	\$11,223	\$11,127
						MRI	\$2,599		\$1,745	\$2,386	\$2,161
The simple average charge analysis above compares physicians for a specific DRG. The breakdown by charge category allow for					NEURODIAGNOST ICS			\$627			
					NUCLEAR MEDICINE		\$6,924	\$6,924	\$6,924	\$6,924	
more detailed variation analysis.						PERIPHERAL VASC LAB	\$2,079	\$1,327	\$1,685	\$1,637	\$1,172
Access for trends and anomalies among the group to support						PULMONARY	\$18	\$14	\$47	\$97	\$28

FUNCTION

STRESS TEST

ULTRASOUND

Assess for trends and anomalies among the group to support collaborative discussions with physicians regarding reducing variation.

\$746

\$2,117

\$746

\$2,090

\$746

\$1,701

\$1,931

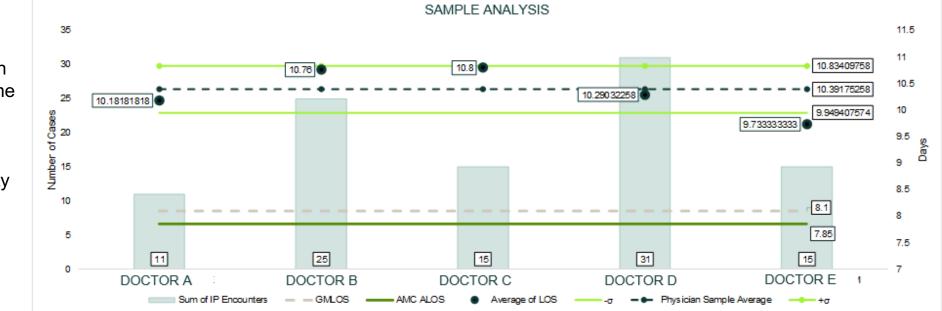
\$746

\$1,427

Care Variation Analysis Sample Analysis Done by DRG

We then compare physician specific information for each DRG using the same benchmarks.

Note, there is potential opportunity for physician comparison *and* overall LOS.

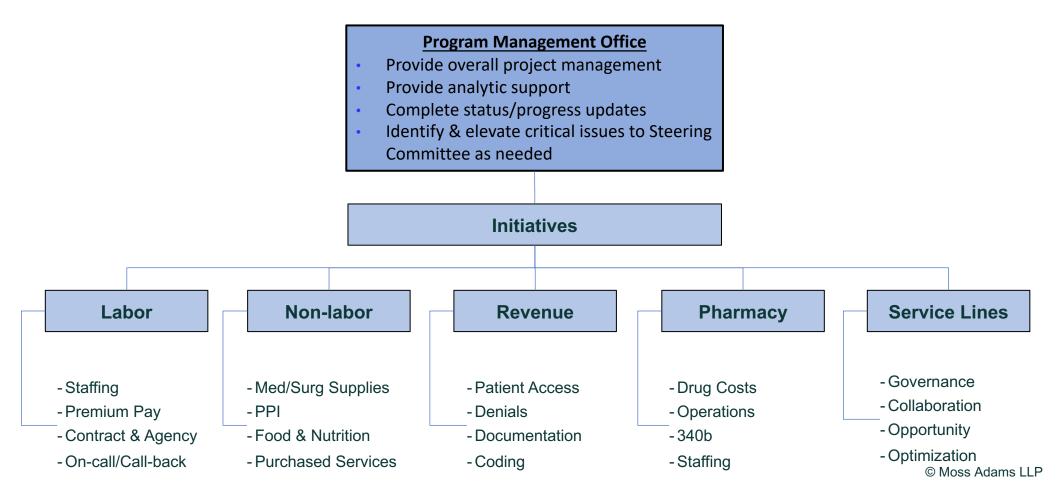


Actual LOS based on actual claims data provided by management; Long Term LOS is 80th Percentile



Governance & Management

Each major initiative needs to be carefully managed by a Program Management Office to ensure timely progress and coordination of the various workstreams



Key Takeaways

The situation for many hospitals and health systems is dire and solutions need to be achievable quickly, but also be sustainable in the long-term.

- Long-term change has to be a part of the solution and it's almost never too late to start.
- Candid assessment of areas of opportunity and an open mind to tough change is necessary.
- There is a LOT of opportunity if you know where to look but it's going to take courage and stamina to make it work.
- Most systems have very talented people but lack bandwidth and ability to step back and see the forest through the trees.
- Anything worth doing is going to require investment.

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